

**PUTNAM VALLEY
CENTRAL SCHOOL
DISTRICT
PUTNAM VALLEY, NY**

**MS4PY5 STORMWATER
PROGRAM**

**FACT SHEET # 2
DECEMBER 2014**

**ONGOING STORMWATER
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
UNDER MS4 PERMIT
GP-0-15-003**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
YOUR STORMWATER COORDINATOR:**

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1. The Current MS4 Permit

In March 2003 the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) initiated the Phase II Stormwater Program for all municipalities and public entities. The purpose of the program was to control stormwater pollution to our waterways. To implement the program the State issued a State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) Permit which requires permittees to develop a Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) and to submit annual reports to the Department. The current permit for the District extends from May 1, 2010 to April 30, 2015. Under the State mandated program, the District must initiate and implement a storm water management program by educating the school community about the storm water program and soliciting their participation in the control of pollution from storm water runoff. The program also requires District to prepare storm sewer maps of the District stormwater facilities, conduct a field survey of illicit discharges and develop a pollution prevention training program for Operations and Maintenance Staff.

**2. Continuance of Permit Coverage
for Covered Entities**

The new stormwater MS4 Permit extends from May 1, 2015 to April 30, 2017. A covered entity authorized under the old permit GP-0-10-002, as of the effective date of the new MS4 Permit GP-0-15-003, shall be permitted to discharge stormwater in accordance with the renewed permit GP-0-15-003, upon submission of their Annual Report, unless otherwise notified by NYSDEC. A review of the new permit shows no changes from the old permit GP-0-10-002.

3. Shift to Green Stormwater Practices

Since the initiation of the program, there has been a full-scale shift to green stormwater practices. The traditional stormwater management practices have focused on end-of-pipe systems, which collected stormwater and discharged the runoff to a nearby drainage ditch or to an offsite municipal stormwater conveyance system. As reported by USEPA, testing has shown significant amounts of pollutants are being discharged offsite.

Therefore USEPA and state agencies, under Pollution Prevention (MCM6) requires MS4s to adopt onsite treatment practices (green infrastructure management practices) that not only reduce the quantity of offsite stormwater runoff but also minimize the off-site long-term impacts of stormwater pollutants. Typical green stormwater practices that include onsite treatment and reduction consist of:

- Rain Gardens
- Biofiltration /Retention Systems
- Cisterns for Rain Harvesting
- Green Roofs
- Stormwater Planters
- Porous and Permeable Pavements
- Select Proprietary Products

Accordingly, the best way to control contamination is at the source, where contaminants can be identified, reduced and contained before being conveyed to surface water.

4. District Ongoing Stormwater Program under MS4PY6

For the MS4PY6 ongoing program under the new MS4 Permit GP-0-15-003 , the District intends to undertake the following actions:

- A number of Newsletters and Fact Sheets will be prepared for placement on the Stormwater Website
- The District will explore how students and staff can participate in stormwater program
- The District will undertake a field survey of illicit discharges that may exist at the school property
- The District will review and update mapping of storm sewers, as required
- A Pollution Prevention Training will be provided to Operations and Maintenance Staff
- A Draft Annual Report will be placed on the stormwater website in May 2015, for the community to review and comment
- A SWMP Annual Report will be submitted to NYSDEC in June 2015, on current and future implementation goals

5. How Can You Help?

While the administrative portion of the program has been initiated by your District, public participation/involvement is vital to the success of this program. You can help by:

- Visiting your Storm Water Website to review Newsletters and Fact Sheets on your storm water program
- Becoming involved in the school community environmental and conservation projects
- Having an open dialogue on how storm water pollution affects your environment
- Establishing volunteer student groups to actively engage in promoting student outreach and education on storm water activities
- Encouraging your peers (administrators, staff and students) to engage in an aggressive outreach and education program on storm water pollution control