

**MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM
SEWER SYSTEM PROGRAM
(MS4)**

Brockway Township

STEARNS COUNTY, MINNESOTA

PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY

PURPOSE

This booklet is to educate Brockway Township residents on the MS4 stormwater program.

WHAT IS AN MS4?

A municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) is a conveyance or system of conveyances (roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, storm drains) that is designed or used for collecting or conveying stormwater. **For Brockway Township this primarily means our ditches and culverts as well as management of stormwater ponds that are in the Township's care. It further means managing new construction in developments that are created in the Township.**

OVERVIEW

Minnesota's lakes, rivers, forests and farms all depend on replenishing water from annual precipitation. However, when rain falls on land and impervious areas such as paved streets, parking lots and building rooftops it can wash away soil and sediment. Stormwater runoff can change both water quality and quantity affecting our water resources physically, chemically and biologically. Polluted runoff containing oil, grease, chemicals, nutrients, metals, litter, and pathogens, can severely reduce water quality. If left unmanaged, runoff stresses our streams, ages our lakes, and degrades and eliminates our wetlands.

Mandated by Congress under the Clean Water Act of 1972, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Stormwater Program is a comprehensive national program for addressing polluted stormwater runoff. Minnesota regulates the disposal of stormwater through State Disposal System (SDS) permits. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) issues combined NPDES/SDS permits for construction sites, industrial facilities, and municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s). The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (MPCA) Stormwater Program is designed to reduce the pollution and damage caused by stormwater runoff.

IMPLEMENTATION OF MS4 PROGRAM

Since 2003, Brockway Township has been classified as a small MS4. Brockway Township and its residents are responsible for implementing the MS4 program for systems owned by the township. Implementation is an ongoing process but began with the submission of a permit to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). Brockway Township has just recently gone through a renewal of their permit in 2014 which is good for five (5) years.

Implementation includes developing a program as per the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Permit No. MN R 040000. Implementation also includes the development of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program (SWPPP), including Best Management Practices (BMPs) for administrative, monitoring, construction, and maintenance of the program and BMPs.

Recording keeping of all MS4 activities is part of the permit process.

For Brockway Township we must: **Develop and implement a stormwater program to include Six Minimum Control Measures (MCMs)**

1. Public Education and Outreach
2. Public Participation/Involvement
3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
4. Construction Site Stormwater runoff control (one acre site or more)
5. Post-Construction Stormwater Management (one acre site or more)
6. Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

MONITORING OF MS4 PROGRAM

The Brockway Township Board of Supervisors are the parties responsible to monitor and keep records of stormwater activities. Monitoring, at a minimum, includes an annual inspection. Routine inspections may also be required in the event of an unusual storm event or due to receiving a report of potential accident or contamination of a river, pond or stream. Record of all inspection activities must be kept.

In addition to the Township, all residents of Brockway Township are asked to assist in the monitoring and reporting of incidents. This can be done by simply be aware of what is happening in your Township as you drive and do your normal activities.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Stormwater facilities are to be designed with reasonableness, balancing the cost of construction and the total environmental impact of the actual construction against the prevention of adverse environmental consequences.

Storm waters can create problems of various degrees of severity depending upon factors such as: the intensity of the storm, location of the run-off, destination of the run-off, time of year of run-off, impact to vehicular traffic, damage potential to nature, wildlife, historic or cultural concerns, man-made structures/facilities, and other impact to sensitive environmental resources.

Stormwater problems from the above can result in spring run-off and heavy rains that may: overflow a roadway, cause flooding, create fast flows of water, erosion of soil, silting of ditches, plugging of storm sewer pipes or other disruptive occurrences. Other significant problems can be created by spills or intentional dumping of toxic or hazardous materials in areas that drain into stormwater facilities. Any type of upsets and mishaps such as the above should be reported to appropriate authorities.

REPORTING OF INCIDENTS

Any Township official, business owner or individual has the responsibility to report a condition or incident of hazardous nature. It is everyone's responsibility to preserve our Township and State waters.

Reporting of incidents can be done by contacting the following in order of precedence:

1. Any Brockway supervisor:
 - George Fiedler: 320-333-2509
 - Duane Douvier: 320-290-4853
 - Dave Friedrich: 320-333-3714(If unable to contact any of the above)

2. The Stearns County Sheriff: 911

(For a very serious event)

3. Minnesota Duty Officer: 1-800-422-0798. The Minnesota Duty Officer Program provides a single answering point for local and state agencies to request state-level assistance for emergencies, serious accidents or incidents, or for reporting hazardous materials and petroleum spills. The duty officer is available 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

4. For stormwater and additional homeowner information, you can go onto the Brockway Township website at www.brockwaytownship.govoffice.com

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

As you go about living your daily lives in Brockway Township look for these kinds of things:

- Litter in the ditch that you think may contain hazardous chemicals in them.
- Any type of material in a yard or farm field that you think might be or contain toxic material such as: oil, toxic metals, nitrogen, phosphorus, bacteria, or sediment.
- Unusual smells or drainage that does not look normal flowing into the Township's road ditches