

# NYC Stormwater Management Program



## 2025 MS4 Annual Report - DRAFT



Municipal Separate Storm  
Sewer System of New York City  
SPDES Permit Number: NY-0287890

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Appendix 2 – Public Comments on the Draft Annual Report, Appendix 3 – SPDES Outfall Listing, and Appendix 4 – Municipal Compliance Certification will be included in the final submittal of this annual report, released in September 2026.





A public engagement event at the bluebelt on Olympia Blvd and Slater Blvd, Staten Island.

# Executive Summary

When precipitation (rain, snow) falls on impervious surfaces like rooftops, streets, and sidewalks, and the ground cannot absorb all the precipitation naturally, stormwater runoff results. This runoff flows over streets and sidewalks, potentially collecting pollutants such as oils, chemicals, sediment, debris and pathogens before entering the sewer system through catch basins. In municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) areas, the runoff flows into local waterways without receiving treatment.

To reduce potential stormwater pollution in MS4 areas, the City developed the NYC Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) Plan. This Annual Report describes the activities the City performed throughout calendar year 2025 to implement the SWMP and to comply with the City's MS4 permit to manage urban sources of stormwater runoff, both to protect overall water quality and to improve water quality in impaired waters.

## 2025 Major Accomplishments

- Completed and timely submitted to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) the MS4 Permit deliverables due in 2025, including certification of the completion of the *Floatables Loading Rate Study* and the second *Urban Stormwater Quality Model Development Interim Report*.
- Reviewed 536 Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs) for new development and redevelopment projects citywide, ensuring they included proper practices for the control of stormwater runoff during construction activities and, where applicable, effective strategies for long-term runoff reduction and stormwater management post-construction.
- Expanded and introduced new public engagement, education and outreach programs to inform various stakeholder groups about the NYC sewer system, stormwater and stormwater's impacts on water quality, including a new DEP virtual tour.
- Began implementing customized and enhanced non-structural best management practices (BMPs) for two waterbodies, Bergen Basin and Thurston Basin, which have been found to meet the Special Conditions for Impaired Waters criteria of the MS4 Permit.

# 2025 Program Updates

- **Public Education and Outreach (PEO).** This program includes initiatives to inform the public about the MS4.
  - » Using ArcGIS StoryMaps, DEP designed a new Stormwater Resilience Virtual Tour for students, educators, and community members to explore best practices for managing stormwater and reducing flooding and harbor water pollution in New York City.
- **Public Involvement and Participation (PIP).** This program includes initiatives to get the public involved in MS4-related activities.
  - » The City implemented six stewardship programs, which collectively included more than 990 events citywide.
- **Mapping.** This program includes identifying and mapping the MS4 outfalls and drainage areas.
  - » The City provides an interactive, public map – view the map here [nyc.gov/dep/ms4map](https://nyc.gov/dep/ms4map)
- **Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE).** This program includes finding, abating, and preventing illicit discharges.
  - » The City detected and abated more than 170<sup>1</sup> illicit discharges in 2025.
- **Construction and Post-Construction (C/PC).** This program includes managing pollution risks from development and redevelopment projects in MS4 and combined sewer areas draining to the city-owned sewer system.
  - » The City reviewed SWPPPs for 536 unique projects citywide (of which 224 are in the MS4, 287 in the combined sewer area and 25 connected to both the MS4 and the CSS) and issued 275 Stormwater Construction Permits (146 within the MS4 and 129 in the CSS). The total number of active Stormwater Construction Permits citywide was 454.
- **Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping (PP/GH) for Municipal Operations and Facilities.** This program includes managing pollution risks at the City’s own facilities and during its operations conducted off-site, including in the right of way (ROW).
  - » The City assessed 73 municipal facilities and off-site operations to evaluate their stormwater pollution potential and the stormwater controls associated with the facilities’ operations.
- **Industrial and Commercial (I/C) Stormwater Sources.** This program includes managing pollution risks from industrial and commercial facilities that engage in certain activities that may cause stormwater pollution.

DEP staff at a community outreach event.



1 The City tracks illicit discharges in both the MS4 and combined sewer system areas. In the 2024 MS4 Annual Report, the citywide number for abated illicit discharges was mistakenly reported as the MS4 number in the Executive Summary. The correct number of abated illicit discharges in 2024 within the MS4 was 229.

- » The City assessed 7 unpermitted facilities for potential permitting under the NYSDEC State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) program. Additionally, the City inspected 25 facilities permitted under the NYSDEC SPDES Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) to evaluate their implementation of stormwater controls.
- **Control of Floatable and Settleable Trash and Debris.** This program includes measures taken to reduce NYC’s litter and keep trash and debris from reaching waterbodies.
  - » The City timely submitted to NYSDEC certification of the completion of the study to determine the loading rate of trash and debris from the MS4 to floatables-impaired waterbodies.s.
- **Monitoring.** This program includes analyses that will facilitate development of Urban Stormwater Quality (USWQ) models and evaluation of long-term trends in water quality to demonstrate how water quality is being impacted by the City’s structural and non-structural BMPs.
  - » The second *Urban Stormwater Quality Model Development Interim Report* was timely submitted to NYSDEC. The report details how USWQ models will further the City’s goal of reducing the discharge of pollutants from stormwater.
- **Special Conditions for Impaired Waters.** This program includes identifying any impaired waterbody with an approved Combined Sewer Overflow Long-Term Control Plan (CSO LTCP) that does not predict compliance with applicable water quality standards, where stormwater pollution from the MS4 is expected to significantly contribute to the impairment.
  - » Upon NYSDEC’s approval of the Jamaica Bay LTCP, the City determined that Bergen Basin and Thurston Basin met the criteria for inclusion in this program. For the MS4 areas of these two waterbodies, the City has identified the priority source categories for the pollutants of concern (POCs) causing the impairments, as well as customized non-structural BMPs and opportunities for green infrastructure (GI) projects.

## Plans/ Goals for 2026

- **Public Education and Outreach (PEO).** Continue to implement programs both in-person and online, including environmental education events and targeted outreach to various stakeholder groups.
- **Public Involvement and Participation.** Continue to offer opportunities for the public to get involved in stormwater management and water quality protection through public meetings, stewardship, volunteerism, and more.
- **Mapping.** Continue to update GIS datasets for the next MS4 map due August 1, 2027.
- **Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE).** Continue implementing the Shoreline Survey, Harbor Survey, Sentinel Monitoring, and Emergency Response Unit programs, including abatement of confirmed illicit discharges.
- **Construction and Post-Construction.** Continue outreach efforts to the construction community providing guidance on SWPPP preparation the review and approval of SWPPPs, and inspections of sites that have Stormwater Construction permits.
- **Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping (PP/GH) for Municipal Operations and Facilities.** Continue to self-assess facilities and off-site operations and provide appropriate training to staff; inspect and maintain municipally constructed green infrastructure (GI).
- **Industrial and Commercial Stormwater Sources.** Continue the assessment of unpermitted facilities and inspection of permitted facilities and take necessary enforcement actions.
- **Control of Floatable and Settleable Trash and Debris.** Continue to develop a proposed methodology for selecting, sizing, and siting the BMPs and controls that will be implemented to reduce floatables from the MS4, and continue implementation of existing floatables control programs, including PEO efforts, street sweeping, catch basin inspections and cleaning, and booming/netting.
- **Monitoring.** Report on progress in development of Urban Stormwater Quality (USWQ) models.
- **Special Conditions for Impaired Waters.** Continue to implement and refine enhanced BMPs for Coney Island Creek, Bergen and Thurston Basins, including associated GI projects for each waterbody.



# Introduction

Pursuant to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit (No. NY-0287890), first issued to the City of New York (City or NYC) in 2015 and renewed as of August 1, 2022, the City implements a Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) Plan.<sup>2</sup>

The SWMP consists of the City's measures to reduce pollution in stormwater runoff discharging into and from the MS4. Through proper management and increased awareness, the City works to keep our streets and facilities well-maintained to reduce the risk of their contributing pollution to stormwater runoff. As most waterbodies in NYC receive stormwater from both the combined and separate sewer systems, the SWMP is an important component of the City's comprehensive integrated planning approach to protecting and improving our waterbodies.

New York City's iconic waterfront and beloved waterbodies are cleaner and healthier than they have been since the 1860s. Whales and seals have returned to the harbor, wetland and mussel restoration projects are thriving, and New Yorkers are enjoying recreational activities on our local waterways. These improvements are in no small part a testament to the City's substantial investments in upgrading our wastewater infrastructure over the last five decades.

Building on these investments, fourteen City agencies

implement the SWMP in the areas served by the City's MS4, which carries stormwater runoff directly to nearby waterbodies instead of to a wastewater resource recovery facility (WRRF) for treatment; water that flows on the streets and into catch basins or directly into waterbodies may carry pollutants such as pathogens and debris.

Each year, the City prepares an MS4 annual report, as required by Part IV.M of the MS4 Permit, to inform NYSDEC and the public of the City's progress in implementing the SWMP and the status of its compliance with the MS4 Permit. This MS4 Annual Report, covering January 1 through December 31, 2025, includes a brief description of the SWMP activities completed during the 2025 reporting year, measurable goals, and the associated reporting requirements included in the MS4 Permit. This report also includes activities planned for the 2026 calendar year and any changes made to the SWMP, as applicable, during the calendar year (which are included in the final report, submitted to DEC and provided to the public in September of each year).

Each component of the SWMP Plan includes best management practices (BMPs) and associated measurable goals, which the City reports on annually. The City periodically refines the measurable goals based on lessons learned from implementation of the programs, as well as on input from interagency working groups and the public. Continuing to refine and update the measurable goals allows the City to better quantify and more accurately represent the effectiveness of the SWMP. The City bases its assessment of the effectiveness of the SWMP on the achievement of the stated measurable goals for each program.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.nyc.gov/assets/dep/downloads/pdf/water/stormwater/ms4/nyc-swmp-plan-full.pdf>

As needed, the City updates the SWMP to reflect the status of program implementation and the City's compliance with the MS4 Permit. In the fall of 2025, the City made revisions to the SWMP, which are detailed in the final draft of the 2024 MS4 Annual Report, which was submitted to NYSDEC in September 2025 and is available on DEP's website. Details on revisions to the SWMP made in 2026 will be included in the final draft of this 2025 MS4 Annual Report.

## Administration of the SWMP

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) coordinates the implementation of the SWMP with the assistance of and contributions from the Stormwater Controls Working Group (aka Interagency Team). The Stormwater Controls Working Group is a team of representatives from the following New York City agencies that collaborate on MS4 programs (as noted below, a subset of these agencies has obligations under the MS4 Permit):

Agencies with MS4 Permit Obligations	Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS)
	Department of City Planning (DCP)
	Department of Design and Construction (DDC)
	Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
	Department of Buildings (DOB)
	Department of Correction (DOC)
	Department of Education (DOE)
	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)
	Department of Transportation (DOT)
	Department of Parks and Recreation (Parks)
	Department of Sanitation (DSNY)
	Fire Department (FDNY)
	Police Department (NYPD)
Department of Small Business Services (SBS)	
Collaborating Agencies	NYC Law Department (LAW)
	Economic Development Corporation (EDC)
	Mayor's Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
	Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice (MOCEJ)

## MS4 Annual Reports

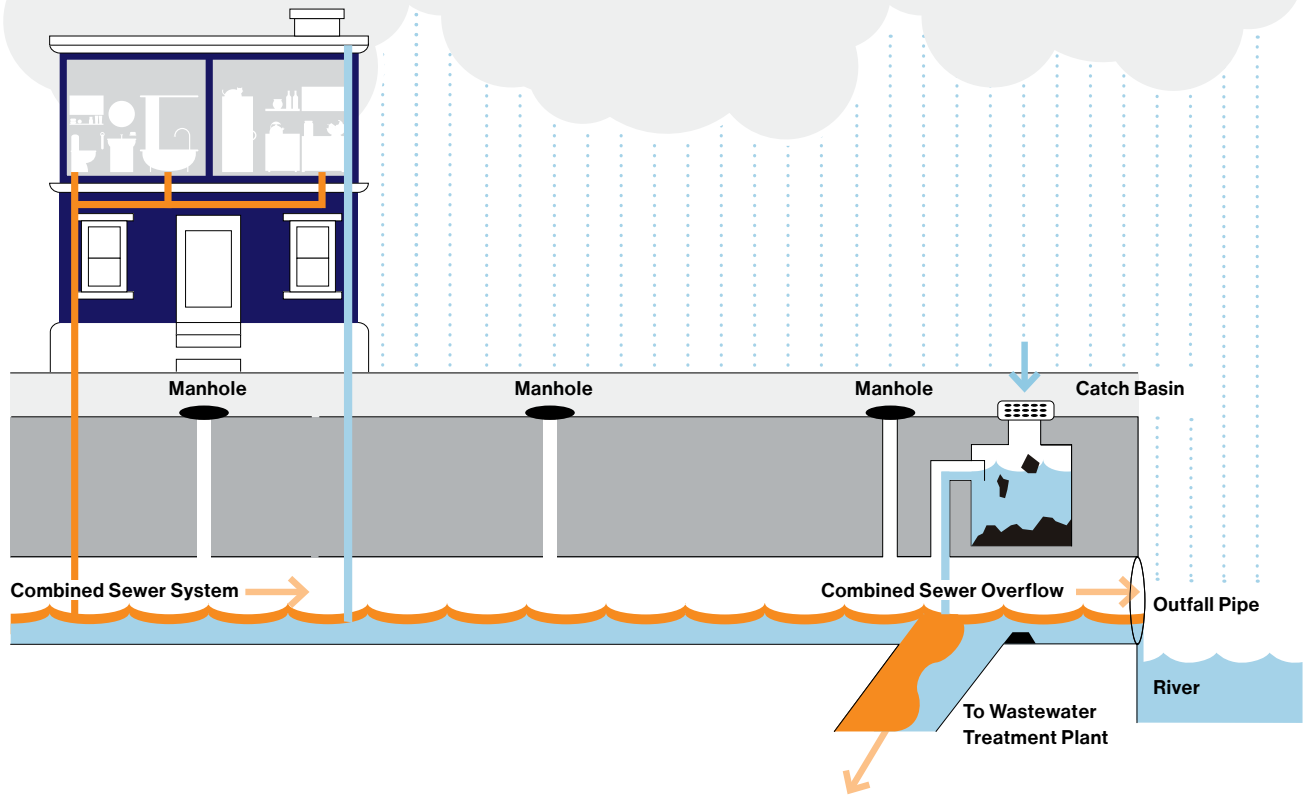
Each year, the City reports on SWMP implementation and MS4 Permit compliance. Reporting years are full calendar years (January 1 to December 31). The MS4 annual reports reflect the structure of the City's MS4 Permit and the SWMP Plan, both of which are organized by program. For each program, these MS4 annual reports include the following sections:

- **Introduction.** This section includes an overview of the program and context for the activities completed within a reporting year. For more information on the programs, refer to the SWMP Plan.
- **Program assessment.** This section includes information on activities completed during the reporting year. Tables that present the measurable goals and measures of a program for the reporting year are complemented by a narrative that highlights and explains important activities.
- **Goals for the next reporting cycle.** This section includes the City's objectives for the ongoing implementation of applicable programs during the next reporting cycle.
- **Program updates.** This section includes information on SWMP updates that the City is proposing as part of refining and adapting its program. The Program Updates section does not appear if no substantive changes are required for a program. The City updates the SWMP Plan text annually but implements as soon as practicable any necessary changes identified during the reporting year.

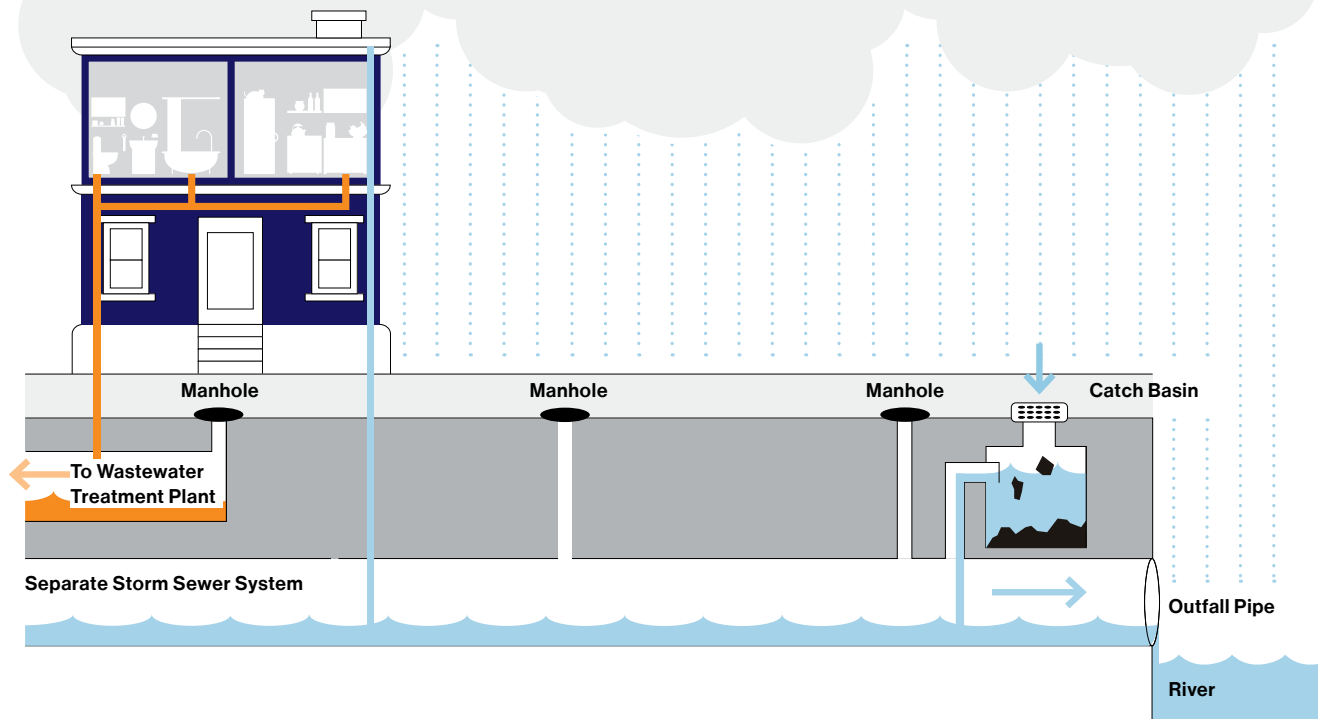
Every spring, the City publishes a draft MS4 annual report online for public comment and holds a public meeting during the comment period. Following the public review of the draft MS4 annual report, the City revises the report, as needed, and includes responses to public comments. The final version of the report is due to NYSDEC September 30 of each year. The MS4 annual reports are available on the DEP website.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.nyc.gov/site/dep/water/municipal-separate-storm-sewer-system.page>

## Combined Sewer System



## Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System





A DEP environmental education event on water quality in Hunters Point, Queens.

# Public Education and Outreach

The City implements a public education and outreach program (PEO Program) as part of its MS4 Permit obligations. The PEO Program has many education and outreach initiatives that inform a broad range of stakeholders and the public about stormwater, the sources of pollutants associated with stormwater, and stormwater's potential impacts on water quality.

Many of these initiatives also include a specific focus on 1) informing the general public of the hazards associated with illicit discharges, and 2) facilitating public reporting of potential illicit discharges.

## 2025 Program Assessment

Under its PEO efforts, the City implemented nine programs related to stormwater, water quality impacts, and/or illicit discharges. Collectively, these programs included nearly 1,700 unique events that engaged more than 57,000 participants citywide.

## Program Highlights

**DEP Educational Resources.** DEP continued to enhance, distribute, and workshop educational resources that are shared with thousands of educators citywide via DEP's website, the Education Office's monthly e-newsletters for educators, and ongoing professional learning opportunities for teachers and non-formal educators. Highlights from 2025 include:

- [NYC Virtual Water Tours](#): Designed using ArcGIS StoryMaps, these virtual tours offer a collection of historical imagery, in-the-field footage, interactive maps, and staff interviews for a fun and easy way to discover the New York City drinking water supply, sewer system, wastewater treatment system, and harbor protection. In 2025, DEP developed a new Stormwater Resilience Virtual Tour and updated New York Harbor Virtual Tour, introducing the various strategies implemented to manage stormwater, mitigate flooding and water quality concerns, and build climate resilience.
- [Jamaica Bay Education Resource Directory](#): This guide provides an important teaching tool for educators and features partner organizations and educational opportunities, such as resources and program opportunities in and around the Jamaica Bay watershed. In 2025, the guide was updated



Community members at an Operation P.O.O.P. pet owner outreach event.



A Parks Environmental Education event.

and reprinted to include new organizations and opportunities throughout the watershed.

- [Understanding NYC's Water Story: A Curriculum Guide for the Classroom](#): This comprehensive guide for K-8 teachers explores various content related to our shared water resources. The guide includes six units and features a variety of lessons and activities to enhance teaching styles and learning about the New York City water cycle. These lessons and activities are centered on science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) concepts, and humanities subjects, and are designed to support an interdisciplinary, hands-on approach to teaching.

**Professional Learning Opportunities.** DEP hosted and participated in multiple professional learning opportunities, engaging nearly 1,600 classroom teachers and non-formal educators. DEP partnered with numerous organizations to highlight educational programs and resources about NYC's sewer systems, stormwater resiliency, and environmental stewardship. These organizations included South Street Seaport Museum, Sanitation Foundation, Math for America, NY Sea Grant, SUNY Maritime, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, NYS Parks, NYC Department of Youth and Community Development, NYC Department of Design and Construction, and NYC Public Schools.

**Drippy's Water Adventure.** DEP distributed approximately 5,000 copies of Drippy's Water Adventure, a popular and engaging coloring book with activities, vocabulary and concepts highlighting NYC's extensive water and wastewater infrastructure. The coloring book illustrates water use, the City's wastewater treatment system, stormwater management and green infrastructure (GI), harbor protection and stewardship opportunities. This

project was designed in partnership with the Fashion Institute of Technology through the NYC Department of Design and Construction's Town + Gown Program.

#### **Operation P.O.O.P. – Pet Owners Outreach Program.**

DEP launched Operation P.O.O.P. as a pilot program in 2024 to raise awareness among pet owners about the harmful environmental effects of improper pet waste disposal. As a collaboration with the Mayor's Office and various non-profit organizations, Operation P.O.O.P. events distribute educational materials, pet waste disposal bags and other pet-related products to pet owners. In 2025, the program was expanded into the Bergen and Thurston Basin MS4 areas in southeast Queens (see the *Special Conditions for Impaired Waters* section of this report). Collectively, Operation P.O.O.P. events drew over 3,800 participants across 30 events in 2025, fostering greater community engagement and promoting responsible pet ownership.

**Parks Environmental Education.** Throughout the year, the NYC Parks MS4 Team attends tabling events, speaking opportunities and volunteer events, and teaches classroom sessions on stormwater management citywide. Through these events, the Parks MS4 Team provides information on the MS4, including the impacts of stormwater pollution, common sources and pollutants of concern, IDDE awareness and ways the public can get involved. Each event is uniquely adapted to the target audience and event structure. In 2025, the team held 30 events that reached more than 3,800 participants.

**Urban Park Rangers.** In 2025, through its Urban Park Rangers programs — Natural Classroom and Weekend, Pop-Up and Custom Adventures — NYC Parks offered more than 1,300 events engaging more than 24,000

participants, including school groups, summer camp and youth groups, and the public. These programs create an opportunity to explore the natural world of New York City's parks through active and engaging on-site learning experiences that highlight environmental stewardship, ecological resilience, and the effects of human impact on NYC's unique ecosystems.

**Table 1** lists measurable goals, measures, and the status of the City's implementation of each Public Education and Outreach BMP.

## Goals for 2026

In 2026, DEP will celebrate 40 years of the annual Art and Poetry Contest. Additionally, DEP plans to make comprehensive updates to its Understanding NYC's Water Story: A Curriculum Guide for the Classroom and is

planning additional engagement opportunities featuring Drippy, the water droplet mascot.

Additionally, the City will continue to develop and implement customized PEO initiatives to further engage communities around certain impaired waterbodies with approved CSO LTCPs that do not predict compliance with applicable water quality standards, and where stormwater from the MS4 is expected to be a significant contributor to the impairment. Further detail on these efforts is provided in the Special Conditions for Impaired Waters section of this report.

The City will also continue to develop educational materials and will increase efforts to collaborate with stakeholders. Programs listed as "planned" in **Table 1** will continue to be implemented in 2026.

## NYC Trash Academy: Waste & Water

Created by the Sanitation Foundation, NYC Trash Academy (NYCTA) is a free, eight-week educational series, offered online and asynchronously, that invites New Yorkers who care about waste, equity, and the environment to understand how our daily habits and city systems shape the health of our communities. Lessons are taught by leading experts in waste management, environmental justice, and sustainability. For the last three years, DEP has participated by facilitating a module on waste and water, specifically focused on New York City's wastewater treatment system, circular economy, and opportunities for everyday water stewardship. Through accessible, science-based programming, NYCTA equips residents with the tools to make meaningful, measurable change. The public can find more information and enroll for NYCTA at [sanitationfoundation.org/trash-academy](https://sanitationfoundation.org/trash-academy).



**Table 1: Public Education and Outreach – 2025 Status of Implementation**

BMP	Measurable Goals	Measures	Status
<b>Provide an ongoing public education and awareness program.</b>	Develop, implement, and assess an ongoing public education and outreach program.	List of education and outreach programs/ events for the public and relevant metric(s) for each (e.g., number of participants, events, or materials distributed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DEP Annual Art and Poetry Contest (5 events; 3,834 participants)</li> <li>• DEP Environmental Education (128 events; 19,735 participants; 35,000 materials distributed)</li> <li>• Drippy's Water Adventure (5,000 materials distributed)</li> <li>• Forgot Your Bag? (231 canine waste dispensers in the MS4 area)</li> <li>• Operation P.O.O.P. (35 events)</li> <li>• Parks Environmental Education (30 events; 3,839 participants)</li> <li>• School Sustainability Coordinator Trainings (3 events; 232 participants)</li> <li>• Urban Park Rangers: Natural Classroom (698 events; 15,243 participants)</li> <li>• Urban Park Rangers: Weekend, Pop-up, and Custom Adventures (613 events; 9,141 participants)</li> <li>• Visitor Center at Newtown Creek (177 events; 5,012 participants)</li> <li>• What You Can Do to Prevent Stormwater Pollution (5,500 materials distributed)</li> </ul>
		List of planned educational and outreach programs/ activities to be undertaken in the next reporting cycle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DEP Annual Art and Poetry Contest</li> <li>• DEP Environmental Education</li> <li>• Drippy's Water Adventure</li> <li>• Forgot Your Bag?</li> <li>• Operation P.O.O.P.</li> <li>• Parks Environmental Education</li> <li>• School Sustainability Coordinator Trainings</li> <li>• Urban Park Rangers: Natural Classroom</li> <li>• Urban Park Rangers: Weekend, Pop-up and Custom Adventures</li> <li>• Visitor Center at Newtown Creek</li> <li>• What You Can Do to Prevent Stormwater Pollution</li> </ul>
	Develop and implement educational activities related to illicit discharges for the general public.	List of education and outreach programs/ events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DEP Environmental Education</li> <li>• Forgot Your Bag?</li> <li>• Operation P.O.O.P.</li> <li>• Parks Environmental Education</li> <li>• Urban Park Rangers: Natural Classroom</li> <li>• Urban Park Rangers: Weekend, Pop-up and Custom Adventures</li> <li>• What You Can Do to Prevent Stormwater Pollution</li> </ul>
		List of planned educational and outreach programs/ activities to be undertaken in the next reporting cycle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DEP Environmental Education</li> <li>• Forgot Your Bag?</li> <li>• Operation P.O.O.P.</li> <li>• Parks Environmental Education</li> <li>• Urban Park Rangers: Natural Classroom</li> <li>• Urban Park Rangers: Weekend, Pop-up and Custom Adventures</li> <li>• What You Can Do to Prevent Stormwater Pollution</li> </ul>
<b>Facilitate public reporting of illicit discharges</b>	Promote, publicize, and facilitate public reporting of illicit discharges and potential water quality impacts.	Summary of public reports received by 311	The City received 91,948 service requests for the 311 complaint types listed in this report as relevant to stormwater pollution.



Community members at a Parks Environmental Education event.



DEP staff at an Operation P.O.O.P. pet owner outreach event.

## 311 is New York City's main source of government information and non-emergency services.

It provides the public with quick, easy access to all New York City government services and information. The public may connect with 311 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year by:

- Visiting 311 online at [nyc.gov/311](http://nyc.gov/311);
- Calling 311 or (212) NEW-YORK, (212) 639-9675, from outside New York City;
- Texting 311-692;
- Downloading the NYC 311 mobile app for Apple or Android devices; or
- Tweeting to @nyc311

311 is accessible to non-English speakers, available online in over 50 languages and by phone in over 170 languages.

311 facilitates transparency and accountability. Service requests and agency responses are available to public as open data online.

Currently, the public can use 311 to access information on many topics relevant to stormwater pollution and water quality. The public is also encouraged to use 311 to report information relevant to stormwater pollution:

- **Waterway Complaint.** Report floatables, trash, oil, gasoline, sewage, or an unusual color in a waterway; report a potential illicit discharge from an MS4 outfall.
- **Dry Weather Sewage Discharge Complaint.** Report water flowing through a sewer outfall pipe during dry weather.
- **Dumping in Catch Basin or Sewer.** Report grease, gasoline, natural gas, cement, oil, sewage, chemicals, or other substances going into a sewer or catch basin.
- **Oil Spill.** Report an oil spill.
- **Illegal Dumping Complaint.** Report the dumping of large amounts of trash.
- **Catch Basin Complaint.** Report a storm drain that is missing its cover, clogged, sunken, raised, damaged, or defective.





A Bluebelt Clean-Up event at Springfield Park in Queens.

# Public Involvement and Participation

Involving the public in the implementation of the SWMP is a requirement of the City's MS4 Permit. Whether it is NYC residents who enjoy recreation in local waterbodies, developers who build in the MS4 area, groups who organize waterbody cleanups, or environmentalists who advocate for a healthier harbor, there is a wide range of stakeholders who participate in the City's efforts to improve water quality.

In addition to providing opportunities to review and respond through public comment to MS4 Annual Reports and the SWMP, the City also facilitates programs and events for the public to participate in volunteerism and stewardship, proper management of waste, and public reporting through 311 and City websites. DEP also provides workshops and presentations to facilitate understanding of the stormwater permitting process for the development community and other applicable stakeholders.

On June 2, 2025, the City published on the DEP website the draft MS4 Annual Report, covering SWMP implementation for the 2024 calendar year. The City hosted the MS4 Annual Report presentation at 4:00 pm on June 16, 2025. The public comment period for the draft 2024 MS4 Annual Report ran from June 2, 2025, through July 11, 2025.

## 2025 Program Assessment

The City continued to engage the public, including with virtual platforms, on SWMP implementation. DEP published the draft 2024 MS4 Annual Report on the DEP website and hosted the 2024 MS4 Annual Report presentation as a hybrid event (in-person at CUNY Law in Long Island City and virtually) in June 2025. The public was encouraged to provide comments on the draft MS4 Annual Report. These comments were addressed in *Appendix 1* of the final 2024 MS4 Annual Report timely

submitted to NYSDEC on September 30, 2025, and published on the DEP website.

Through the PIP program, the City implemented six stewardship programs, which collectively held 997 events citywide. These programs provide the public with a range of volunteer opportunities including removing debris and litter from streets, parks, Bluebelts and other natural areas, or engaging in the proper disposal of certain harmful household products. Through its Stormwater Permitting Program, DEP also hosted 11 monthly workshops for the development community to explain eligibility requirements and guide users through the permit process. Additional information on these stormwater permitting workshops can be found in the *Construction and Post-Construction* section of this report.

## Program Highlights

**SAFE Disposal Events.** SAFE Disposal Events provide a designated location for New Yorkers to dispose of waste, including harmful household products. These events help the City reduce the risk of pollution in stormwater runoff through trash management and illegal dumping prevention. In 2025, the DSNY distributed more than 3.5 million mailers to residents and held five SAFE Disposal events covering all NYC boroughs with more than 18,000 people participating.

**Park Stewardship.** Through its Park Stewardship

Program, NYC Parks coordinates volunteer opportunities that enable volunteers to help restore natural areas, care for street trees, clean and beautify parks, and monitor wildlife. These activities can include efforts to educate and involve the public in managing and removing trash and debris from parks or street trees. In 2025, the Park Stewardship program held 579 events that reached 6,590 participants citywide.

**Community Clean-Ups.** DSNY supports local community groups and block associations in their volunteer efforts to keep their neighborhoods clean through local block and street clean-ups by offering free loans of clean-up tools and equipment. These events are intended for public streets and sidewalks, and do not include parks and beaches. In 2025, DSNY supported 409 community clean-up events.

**Table 2** lists measurable goals, measures, and the status of the City's implementation of Public Involvement and Participation BMPs.

## Goals for 2026

The City plans to continue engaging with local stakeholder groups and participating in community events. In compliance with MS4 Permit requirements, the City also plans to publish and respond to comments on this Annual Report.

A Parks Stewardship event.



**Table 2: Public Involvement and Participation – 2025 Status of Implementation**

BMP	Measurable Goals	Measures	Status
<p><b>Provide and promote the opportunity to report and receive stormwater information.</b></p>	<p>Identify mechanism for public to report and request stormwater-related information including contact process to receive and respond to requests.</p>	<p>Summary of public reports and requests received by MS4@dep.nyc.gov</p>	<p>The City responded to inquiries on various SWMP activities including public education and outreach, stewardship, stormwater permitting, mapping, control of floatables and record-keeping and reporting.</p>
<p><b>Provide public opportunity to participate in SWMP implementation.</b></p>	<p>Seek public input on SWMP implementation and provide public access to Annual Reports.</p>	<p>Date and location of draft Annual Report posted for public review and comment period</p>	<p>On June 2, 2025, the City posted on the DEP website the draft 2024 MS4 Annual Report, which was available for public comment through July 11, 2025.</p>
		<p>Date and time of draft Annual Report stakeholder meeting and number of participants</p>	<p>June 16, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.; 77 individuals participated (virtually and in-person)</p>
		<p>Summary of comments received on draft Annual Report and City responses</p>	<p>See Appendix 1 of the 2024 MS4 Annual Report</p>
		<p>Status and location of final Annual Report and the SWMP Plan</p>	<p>The SWMP Plan and final MS4 Annual Reports are available at <a href="http://www.nyc.gov/dep/ms4">www.nyc.gov/dep/ms4</a>.</p>
		<p>List of involvement and participation activities (e.g., programs, events, key stakeholder meetings)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2024 MS4 Annual Report Public Meeting (1 event, 77 participants)</li> <li>• Adopt-a-Bluebelt (1 events, 8 participants)</li> <li>• Adopt-a-Highway (83 materials distributed)</li> <li>• Bluebelt Clean-ups (3 events, 64 participants)</li> <li>• Community Clean-ups (409 events)</li> <li>• Park Stewardship (579 events; 6,590 participants)</li> <li>• SAFE Disposal Events (5 events; 18,079 participants; 3,560,809 materials distributed)</li> <li>• Stormwater Permitting Workshops: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction Close-Out Process Pain Points Part I (84 participants)</li> <li>• Construction Close-Out Process Pain Points Part II (124 participants)</li> <li>• Guidance for using NYC DEP SWPTS (119 participants)</li> <li>• Guidance on Construction Close-Out Process (181 participants)</li> <li>• Guidance on Geotechnical Investigations for SMP Selection and Design (225 participants)</li> <li>• Guidance on Site Design for SWPPP Compliance Part II (105 participants)</li> <li>• Site Design Guidance for SWPPP Applications Part I (211 participants)</li> <li>• Site Design Guidance for SWPPP Applications Part II (103 participants)</li> <li>• SWPPP Design Case Study C for a Residential Site in the MS4 Area Part I (52 participants)</li> <li>• SWPPP Design Case Study C for a Residential Site in the MS4 Area Part II (58 participants)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>List of planned participation and involvement programs/ activities to be undertaken in next reporting cycle</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of this 2025 MS4 Annual Report</li> <li>• Adopt-a-Bluebelt</li> <li>• Adopt-a-Highway</li> <li>• Bluebelt Cleanups</li> <li>• Community Clean-ups</li> <li>• Park Stewardship</li> <li>• SAFE Disposal Events</li> <li>• Stormwater Permitting Workshops</li> </ul>		

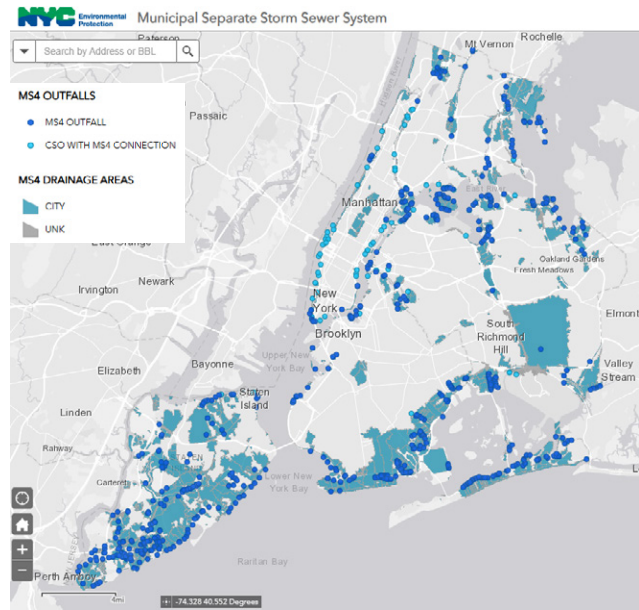
# Mapping

The City maintains a GIS-based map of the urbanized area and its MS4 outfalls. The map, together with supportive documentation, satisfies each of the requirements listed in the MS4 Permit (see IV. Stormwater Management Program Requirements (C)(2)(a-h)). The City has several programs that document and map important information about NYC, including all its outfalls and drainage areas. Much of the information gathered by these programs is available to the public through NYC Open Data at [opendata.cityofnewyork.us](https://opendata.cityofnewyork.us).

As required by the 2015 MS4 Permit, the City submitted with the SWMP Plan the Preliminary MS4 Map, which showed the MS4 drainage areas and outfalls known as of August 1, 2018. The 2015 MS4 Permit further required the City to update and submit a final MS4 map, along with supplemental information relevant to stormwater management, on August 1, 2020. An updated version of the MS4 map is due August 1, 2027, five years from the effective date of the current MS4 Permit.

## 2025 Program Assessment

The current MS4 Map (as submitted to NYSDEC on August 1, 2020) is available to the public in an interactive format at [nyc.gov/dep/ms4map](https://nyc.gov/dep/ms4map). The MS4 Map includes 764 outfalls, more specifically 693 MS4 outfalls and 71 CSO outfalls with MS4 connections. As stated in the SWMP Plan, GIS datasets are dynamic and change over time as updates are received



The MS4 Map is available at [nyc.gov/dep/ms4map](https://nyc.gov/dep/ms4map).

and processed. As a result, the MS4 Map may be periodically updated as new information becomes available.

**Table 3** lists measurable goals and measures with the implementation status of the City's Mapping BMPs.

## Goals for 2026

The City will continue to update GIS datasets for the next map due August 1, 2027.

**Table 3: Mapping Program – 2025 Status of Implementation**

BMP	Measurable Goals	Measures	Status
Map the MS4 area.	Final Map required by 2015 MS4 Permit submitted August 1, 2020.	Status and location of the MS4 Map	The MS4 Map is online and available to the public at <a href="https://nyc.gov/dep/ms4map">nyc.gov/dep/ms4map</a>
		Number of known MS4 outfalls mapped	764 outfalls mapped
	Update MS4 Map five years from effective date of permit (EDP).	Date of latest updated MS4 Map	Current map dated August 1, 2020; the City is updating information for the map due August 1, 2027

# Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)

Illicit discharges are non-stormwater, unauthorized discharges into and from the MS4. Examples include sanitary pipes illegally connected to storm sewers or substances such as oils, floatables, or dog waste dumped into catch basins. The City has longstanding, effective programs for detecting, identifying, and eliminating illicit discharges citywide. These programs include the Shoreline Survey, Sentinel Monitoring Program, Harbor Survey Program, and Emergency Response Units. City agencies also detect and abate illicit discharges discovered and confirmed to be originating from their properties. Additional information on each of these programs is provided in the SWMP.<sup>4</sup>

Typically, once the City identifies a potential illicit discharge, it initiates a trackdown to find the source and then takes steps to abate the discharge, if confirmed to be illicit. The trackdown process may include a series of complex steps both in the office and in the field. Each trackdown investigation is unique; some can take a few hours, while others can take days or months depending on the location, the number of sources, the logistics and the complexity of the drainage area.

Some illicit discharges reported as detected within a calendar year may not have an accompanying abatement record within the same calendar year depending on the date of the detection; the complexity or circumstances of the investigation or the required abatement procedures; confirmation that the discharge was not illicit; or a determination that the matter should be turned over to NYSDEC.

The City conducts outreach to inform the general public, businesses, and City employees about illicit discharges (PEO programs that serve the general public are reported in the *Public Engagement and Outreach* section of this report). This outreach includes targeted programs for businesses and training for City employees on the hazards of improper disposal of materials and actions to take to reduce the risk of an illicit discharge.

The City trains all facility and field operational staff on identifying and preventing illicit discharges, spills, and illegal dumping during routine work activities. This training is done in coordination with the PP/GH Program. Additional training is provided to staff whose tasks include IDDE investigation and response.

As required by the MS4 Permit, the City conducts an outfall reconnaissance inventory (ORI). The ORI will address 100 percent of the outfalls within the MS4 area at least once every 10 years, with reasonable progress each year. MS4 outfalls are not evenly distributed throughout the shoreline; therefore, the number of outfalls the City inventories each year depends on the area of shoreline inventoried. An updated list of outfalls is included as *Appendix 3* in the final submittal of the MS4 Annual Report.

## 2025 Program Assessment

During this reporting period, the City continued to implement its citywide IDDE Program: characterizing outfalls, sampling receiving waterbodies, source tracking, and eliminating illicit discharges. The City detected illicit discharges and eliminated them citywide through the DEP Response and Compliance Units; Sentinel Monitoring and Shoreline Survey programs; and agency actions at their municipal facilities in the MS4 area.

Most IDDE discharges are isolated incidents that are abated and cleaned up immediately or well before a Phase I Schedule to NYSDEC is required. During the 2025 reporting year, the City detected 14 illicit discharges that were persistent; the City agencies (that discovered

Non-stormwater discharges (e.g., water line flushing potable water, AC unit condensate, water from crawl spaces, dechlorinated swimming pool discharges) into the MS4 are generally considered illicit. However, some non-stormwater discharges are allowed, including those from firefighting activities and discharges determined by DEP not to be significant contributors of pollutants. DEP makes the determination on a case-by-case basis. To obtain DEP approval to discharge non-stormwater into the MS4, email DEP at [MS4@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:MS4@dep.nyc.gov) with the subject line "Non-stormwater Discharge Inquiry."

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.nyc.gov/assets/dep/downloads/pdf/water/stormwater/ms4/nyc-swmp-plan-full.pdf>

the discharges) timely submitted to NYSDEC the Phase I Schedules for tracking and abatement, as required by the MS4 permit. One of these persistent discharges was abated and a Phase II letter was sent to NYSDEC in 2025; additionally, a second persistent discharge (originally detected in 2024) was abated in 2025, and a Phase II Letter was likewise provided to DEC.

In 2025, the City surveyed 84 outfalls; an updated outfall list that includes all MS4 outfalls will be included as *Appendix 3* in the final submittal of this Annual Report. Additionally, in June 2025, DEP published the 2024 Integrated Sentinel Monitoring Report, which details the program's regular monitoring and sampling and results of

mini-shoreline investigations for waterbodies throughout NYC.

**Table 4** lists measurable goals and measures with the status of the City's implementation of IDDE BMPs and represents citywide metrics.

## Goals for 2026

The City will continue its IDDE program, including the Shoreline Survey, Harbor Survey, Sentinel Monitoring, Emergency Response Units, and responding to issues discovered on-site at municipally owned facilities.

**Table 4: IDDE Program – 2025 Status of Implementation**

BMP	Measurable Goals	Measures	Status
<b>Detect and eliminate illicit discharges.</b>	Detect and eliminate illicit discharges including illegal dumping.	Number of illicit discharges detected	178*
		Number of illicit discharges abated	171*
		Number of and type of enforcement actions	DEP issued 18 summonses and 60 Commissioner's Orders; DSNY issued 538 summonses†
	Conduct an outfall reconnaissance inventory with 100% completed every 10 years.	Updated outfall spreadsheet submitted to NYSDEC	Appendix 3 – SPDES Outfall Listing
Number of MS4 outfalls for which an outfall reconnaissance inventory (ORI) was performed		84	
<b>Prepare reports.</b>	Prepare a Special Report for waterbodies with fecal coliform above 200 colonies/100 ml and for unauthorized non-stormwater discharges due annually on August 1	Status and location of Integrated Sentinel Monitoring Report submitted to NYSDEC	The 2024 Sentinel Monitoring Report is complete and available on the DEP website under the header Sentinel Monitoring Program: <a href="https://www.nyc.gov/site/dep/water/harbor-water-quality.page">https://www.nyc.gov/site/dep/water/harbor-water-quality.page</a>
<b>Provide ongoing IDDE education activities for public employees and businesses.</b>	Implement a public education program on potential hazards of illicit discharges.	IDDE education programs for public employees	An IDDE module is included within the PP/GH awareness training for agency staff. See PPGH chapter for additional information.
		List of education programs for businesses and relevant metric(s) for each (e.g., number of participants, events, or materials distributed)	Automotive Associations Outreach (541 materials distributed; 108 outreach visits)
		List of planned educational and outreach programs/activities to be undertaken in the next reporting cycle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IDDE module within PP/GH Awareness Training for agency staff</li> <li>Automotive Associations Outreach</li> </ul>
<b>Provide training for staff.</b>	Implement a staff training program on IDDE operations.	Number of staff trained	79*

\* Number includes illicit discharges detected/abated by DEP within the MS4 area and illicit discharges detected/abated by City agencies on-site at municipal facilities in the PP/GH Inventory.

† Number includes enforcement actions taken by DEP within the MS4 area and excludes cases DEP referred to NYSDEC; DSNY summons are for vehicle spillage and the extrusion of noxious liquids.

‡ Includes staff from DEP (Shoreline Survey and Emergency Response Units) and DOC.

# Construction and Post-Construction

The Construction and Post-Construction programs required by the MS4 Permit continue to be implemented through DEP's Stormwater Permitting program. NYSDEC requires development and redevelopment projects in the NYC MS4 areas that disturb 20,000 square feet or more of soil or create 5,000 square feet or more of impervious area to obtain coverage for stormwater discharges under the SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity (GP-0-25-001) (CGP).<sup>5</sup> The Stormwater Permitting Program complements the NYSDEC CGP program in the NYC MS4 area<sup>6</sup> through the review and approval of stormwater pollution prevention plans (SWPPPs) and inspection of construction sites both for stormwater impacts and for operation of post-construction stormwater management practices (SMPs).

As part of the Stormwater Permitting program, DEP issues two types of stormwater permits for covered development projects: the Stormwater Construction Permit and the Stormwater Maintenance Permit. Rules governing this permitting first went into effect on June 1, 2019, and were amended in February 2022 to meet the reduced threshold identified in the Lot Size Soil Disturbance Threshold Study required by the 2015 MS4 Permit. The 2022 Unified Stormwater Rule (USWR)<sup>7</sup> aligned and streamlined stormwater-related requirements throughout NYC. It expanded the Stormwater Permitting Program to include combined sewer system (CSS) areas, lowered the soil disturbance threshold that triggers the program from one acre to 20,000 square feet, and included as an additional trigger for construction permitting the creation of 5,000 square feet or more of new impervious surface.

When a Stormwater Construction Permit is required, a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) must be prepared and accepted by DEP, and a Stormwater Construction Permit issued prior to commencing the covered activities. The contents of the SWPPP must always include information on the existing and proposed site conditions, how erosion and sediment practices will be implemented during construction, and, depending on the type of development, the design of the SMPs. The Stormwater Construction Permit program prioritizes



A subsurface retention practice at K095: Gravesend during construction.

vegetation and retention practices through the SMP Hierarchy included in the NYC DEP Stormwater Manual, which promotes green infrastructure citywide. For up-to-date information, including guidance materials and webinar presentations, visit: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/dep/water/stormwater-permits.page>.

In MS4 areas, if a project disturbs greater than 20,000 square feet, discharges to an impaired waterbody, and increases the impervious area on site, then it must meet no-net-increase (NNI) requirements (*MS4 Permit Part II.B.1*). An impaired waterbody is one that does not meet water quality standards due to pollutants of concern, including fecal coliform and garbage and refuse. No-net-increase requirements can be met by implementing both SMPs, such as green infrastructure, and BMPs, such as inspecting and cleaning onsite catch basins. In MS4 areas, there are approximately 450 acres managed by post-construction stormwater management practices. Approximately half of this area must also meet NNI requirements.

To help meet DEP's stormwater management goals, the implementation of vegetated retention SMPs is prioritized. In addition to the co-benefits provided by vegetated SMPs, retention practices utilize infiltration, evapotranspiration, and reuse functions to manage captured stormwater to reduce the overall volume leaving the site. As seen in **Figure 1**, the majority of permitted SMPs are retention practices and, in alignment with the Unified Stormwater Rule, there are about 50 percent more vegetated retention practices than non-vegetated retention practices. These types of SMPs can include bioretention practices, rain gardens, stormwater planters, green roofs, tree plantings, dry basins, grass filter strips, and vegetated swales.

<sup>5</sup> Effective January 29, 2025, NYSDEC made changes to its Construction General Permit to require for NYC the permitting triggers included in the NYC Stormwater Construction permitting program, i.e., 20,000 square feet or more of soil disturbance and creation of 5,000 square feet or more of impervious surface.

<sup>6</sup> The City program was extended to the combined sewer area by Local Law 91 of 2020, effective March 26, 2021.

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.nyc.gov/site/dep/water/unified-stormwater-rule.page>

In accordance with the NYC DEP Stormwater Manual's SMP Hierarchy,<sup>8</sup> after retention practices are proposed to the maximum extent practicable, treatment practices should be utilized in MS4 areas. Since MS4 areas drain to City-owned storm sewers, treatment practices provide water quality benefits as the stormwater is not routed to wastewater resource recovery facilities prior to discharging to surrounding waterbodies.

Once the site improvements are completed, if there are post-construction SMPs, the active Stormwater Construction Permit must be closed out, and a Stormwater Maintenance Permit application must be submitted. The Unified Stormwater Rule provides guidelines for the types of SMPs that should be considered in the combined sewer and separately sewered areas of the city. As a result, there are a variety of stormwater management and green infrastructure practices being constructed citywide, including vegetated practices like rain gardens that add green space.

**Figure 1** illustrates the breakdown of projects submitted through the Stormwater Permitting Program with accepted SWPPPs<sup>9</sup> that propose SMPs in CSS and MS4 areas. Over 840 project applications that include or are likely to require SMPs in CSS and MS4 areas have been submitted since 2019.

DEP keeps the Stormwater Permits webpage up to date with the latest guidance and monthly webinar

presentations on the design, construction, and project close-out process.<sup>10</sup> Registration for monthly webinars opens a month in advance for each workshop. DEP is also requesting information from developers and those going through the permitting process for future workshop topics. If you'd like DEP to present a webinar on a specific topic, please fill out the survey (<https://dep.wufoo.com/forms/zr8ip61112p87z>) to let us know what topics you'd like to learn more about related to the Stormwater Permitting process.

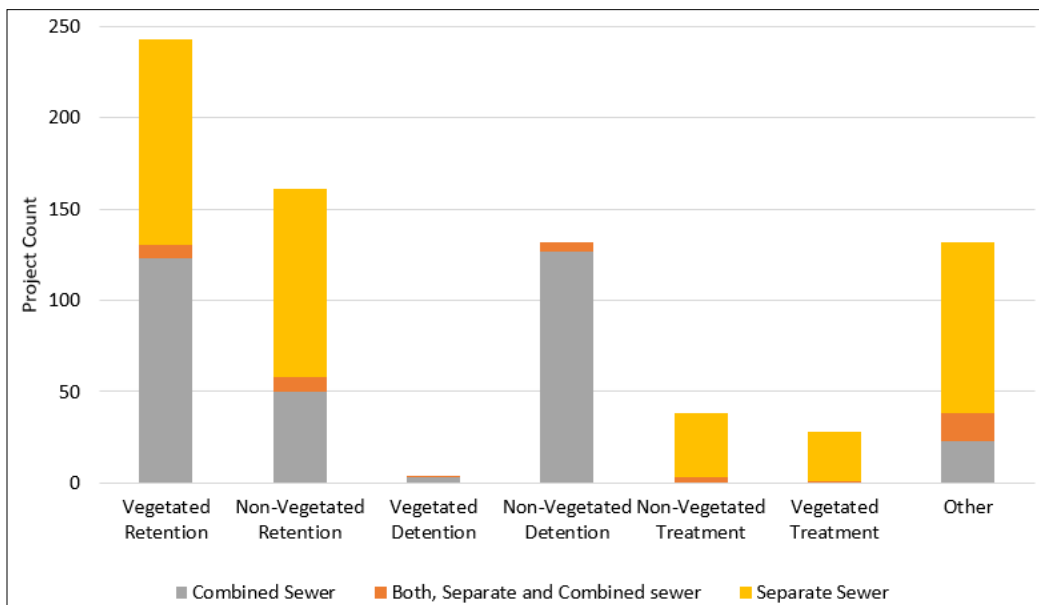
## 2025 Program Assessment

The City reviewed SWPPPs for 536 unique projects citywide (of which 224 are in the MS4, 287 in the CSS area and 25 connected to both the MS4 and the CSS) and issued 275 Stormwater Construction Permits (146 within the MS4 and 129 in the CSS).

The total number of active Stormwater Construction Permits citywide was 454 (205 within the MS4, 215 in the CSS and 34 connected to both the MS4 and the CSS). A list of active Stormwater Construction Permits is available through SWPTS at <https://deppermits.microsoftcrmpartals.com/>. SWPTS is also the site for applicants to submit and then track the review and approval of their SWPPPs and issuance of their permits.

The City inspected 35 percent of active construction

**Figure 1. Summary of accepted SWPPPs with SMPs in MS4 and CSS areas\***



\* Projects in the "other" category include dual systems (systems that share a drainage area but have multiple components, such as permeable pavers coupled with bioretention) and impervious area reductions.

<sup>8</sup> [https://www.nyc.gov/assets/dep/downloads/pdf/water/stormwater/unified-stormwater-rule/uswr\\_nyc\\_stormwater\\_manual.pdf](https://www.nyc.gov/assets/dep/downloads/pdf/water/stormwater/unified-stormwater-rule/uswr_nyc_stormwater_manual.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> Accepted SWPPPs include data from active and closed construction permits.

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.nyc.gov/site/dep/water/stormwater-permits.page>

sites citywide at least once in 2025 for a total of 160 inspections. The City issued 16 summonses citywide. Of the 536 new project applications received by the City, 72 met the criteria for the NNI requirement. NNI is a requirement in the Special Conditions section of the MS4 Permit (II.B.1), under which projects that discharge to impaired waters that do not have a TMDL allocation must implement SMPs that preclude any potential increase in pollutant loading.

**Table 5** lists measurable goals and measures with the status of the City’s implementation of C/PC Program BMPs.

## Goals for 2026

DEP’s Stormwater Permitting Group will continue to make outreach efforts to the construction community, to review and approve SWPPPs, and to inspect sites that have construction permits. Additionally, City staff will continue to respond to inquiries and provide applicants with information and training, as needed or requested. In 2026, in addition to maintaining updated guidance materials, DEP intends to publish new user guidance for the permitting database, update the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and design calculator workbooks, and host workshop presentations.

**Table 5: C/PC Program – 2025 Status of Implementation\***

BMP	Measurable Goals	Measures	Status
<b>Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control</b>	Review and approve SWPPPs.	Number of SWPPPs reviewed	536 citywide* (MS4 only: 224; CSS only: 287; both MS4 & CSS: 25)
	Inspect construction sites and enforce Stormwater Construction Permits.	Number of active construction sites	454 citywide (MS4 only: 205; CSS only: 215; both MS4 & CSS: 34)
		The percentage of active Stormwater Construction Permit sites inspected once	35% or 160 of 454 citywide (MS4: 33% or 68 of 205; CSS: 34% or 74 of 215; both MS4 & CSS: 53% or 18 of 34)
		The percentage of active Stormwater Construction Permit sites inspected more than once	.66% or 3 of 454 citywide
		Number and type of enforcement actions	Summons: 16 citywide (10 in the MS4, 6 in the CSS)
		Number of construction site stormwater control trainings planned or completed	17 completed
	<b>Post-Construction Stormwater Management</b>	Implement a training program for staff whose job duties include inspection of long-term operation and maintenance of P-C SMPs	Number of City staff trained in inspection and maintenance of municipally constructed GI assets and P-C SMPs†
Number of DEP Inspectors trained in inspection of long-term operation and maintenance of PC SMPs*			19
Inspect post-construction sites and enforce Stormwater Maintenance Permits.		Number of post-construction stormwater management practices (P-C SMPs), including the type of practice and the contributing impervious area managed by each practice within the MS4 areas	89 P-C SMPs. See Appendix 1 for additional information on type of practice and contributing area managed by each.
		Number and type of P-C SMPs inspected by DEP	0
		Number and type of P-C SMPs properly maintained, as determined by DEP inspections	0
		Number and type of enforcement actions	0

\* Sites are classified as being connected to the “MS4 only,” the “CSS only,” or “both the MS4 and CSS.”

† Agency staff performing inspections of SMPs constructed post-6/1/2019 (covered by SWPPPs accepted by DEP) and constructed pre-6/1/2019 (covered by SWPPPs accepted by DEC under NYS CGP) are inspected under PP/GH program requirements.

# Pollution Prevention/ Good Housekeeping (PP/GH) for Municipal Operations and Facilities

The City has an extensive network of municipal facilities and operations that serve New Yorkers and keep vital infrastructure functioning properly. To help reduce the potential for these facilities and operations to pollute stormwater, the City implements a comprehensive PP/GH Program, which:

- Maintains an inventory of municipal facilities and operations, prioritizes them for their potential to contribute pollution to stormwater runoff and assesses them on 2, 5 and 7-year cycles for high, medium and low priority, respectively;
- Provides guidance on stormwater control measures (SCMs) to reduce stormwater pollution from municipal facilities and operations;
- Evaluates runoff reduction techniques including GI in planned municipal upgrades (PMUs);
- Trains City staff on PP/GH practices, including a general awareness training on identifying and preventing illicit discharges; and
- Trains staff whose job duties include inspection and maintenance of municipal green infrastructure installations and post-construction SMPs.

The City also updates the facility inventory and priority ratings, as they can change from year to year based on new information about the facilities and/or their operations.

## 2025 Program Assessment

### Inventory

The facility inventory is dynamic in nature: facilities can be consolidated or separated, newly occupied or vacated, or reconfirmed as served by the MS4 or combined sewers. The City updates the inventory annually. At the end of 2025, there were 526 facilities in the inventory: 34 high priority, 265 medium priority, and 227 low priority.

## Facility and Off-site Assessments

City agencies conduct self-assessments to evaluate stormwater controls associated with their facilities or off-site operations and assess stormwater pollution potential. Off-site operations are municipal activities, many of which are performed in locations such as Bluebelts, parks, and playgrounds, and in the right of way (ROW); these operations include activities such as pavement cleaning, road repairs, and catch basin cleaning. The off-site operations are assessed against the potential risk of impacts to stormwater runoff due to activities associated specifically with the operations. Typically, this assessment includes evaluation of waste-generating activities and their management, as well as stormwater controls. Based on pollution potential, a facility or off-site operation may be categorized as a high-, medium-, or low-priority site.

In 2025, City agencies assessed 73 facilities and off-site operations including those owned or operated by DSNY, DOE, Parks, NYPD, FDNY, DOT, and DOC.

## Stormwater Control Measures

City agencies continued to implement SCMs such as cleaning catch basins, sweeping pavement, landscaping and practicing proper storage of materials.

## City Staff Training

The City continued to administer PP/GH training for municipal employees, including those who conduct agency assessments of facilities and off-site operations. A computer-based training on PP/GH awareness is provided for all agency staff responsible for the implementation of SCMs in day-to-day municipal operations, both at municipal facilities and off-site operations. This training includes a module on illicit discharges. In 2025, more than 9,500 municipal employees received PP/GH awareness training through their agencies. In addition, the City trained 88 staff members tasked with the inspection and maintenance of municipally constructed GI assets and P-C SMPs located citywide.

**Table 6** lists measurable goals and measures with the status of the City's implementation of PP/GH Program BMPs.

## Goals for 2026

The City will continue to assess municipal facilities and off-site operations based on their priority status; refine the facility and off-site operation inventory; inspect and maintain municipally constructed GI; and refine and administer staff trainings.

**Table 6. PP/GH Program 2025 Implementation Status**

BMP	Measurable Goals	Measures	Status
<b>Provide program for PP/GH for municipal operations and facilities</b>	Maintain an inventory of municipal operations and facilities.	Number of facilities, by priority	High – 34 Medium – 265 Low – 227
		Number of off-site operations, by priority	Med - 20 Low - 7
	Implement the PP/GH Program.	Acres of parking lots swept	9,811.5*
		Miles of streets swept	867,890.4*
		Number of catch basins inspected	13,904†
		Number of catch basins cleaned	5,077†
		Number of catch basins maintained	622‡
		Miles of storm sewers inspected	419‡
		Miles of storm sewers cleaned	419‡
		Number of self-assessments conducted – high priority	34
		Number of self-assessments conducted – medium priority	12
		Number of self-assessments conducted – low priority	27
<b>Provide staff training</b>	Implement a PP/GH awareness training program.	Number of agency staff completing PPGH awareness training	10,096
	Implement a training program for inspection and maintenance of GI assets.	Number of City staff trained in inspection and maintenance of municipally constructed GI assets and P-C SMPs§	88
<b>Consider runoff reduction and GI</b>	Consider runoff reduction techniques and GI in PMUs.	Number of municipal upgrade projects¶ where GI or runoff reduction techniques were incorporated	0
<b>Inspect and maintain GI assets</b>	Inspect and maintain municipally constructed GI and post-construction SMPs.	Number of municipally constructed GI assets and P-C SMPs inspected and maintained¶	9

\* Based on citywide numbers for ROW, arterial highways, bridge roadways, tunnels, and underpasses, and work done by agencies at their facilities listed in the inventory.

† Data include the DEP ROW catch basin program based on the 2020 MS4 map and work done by agencies at their facilities listed in the inventory.

‡ Based on work done by DEP for all sewers citywide and work done by agencies at their facilities listed in the inventory.

§ May include contractors performing work on behalf of City agencies where contractor employees have completed agency trainings.

¶ A Planned municipal upgrade (PMU) is defined as a capital project for building construction/renovation and/or work in the ROW that meet a cost threshold of \$2,000,000. If the project also meets the threshold for Stormwater Construction Permitting, the agency will follow those permitting requirements, and the project will not be characterized as a PMU (see the *Construction and Post-Construction* chapter of this report for more information).

¶¶ Includes permitted assets constructed post-6/1/2019 (covered by SWPPPs accepted by DEP) and constructed pre-6/1/2019 (covered by SWPPPs accepted by DEC under NYS CGP).

# Industrial and Commercial Stormwater Sources

NYSDEC requires certain industrial facilities to obtain coverage for stormwater discharges under the State Pollution Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) Multi-Sector General Permit for Stormwater Discharge from Industrial Activities (GP-0-23-001) (MSGP). While NYSDEC issues the MSGP, DEP is responsible for the associated inspections and enforcement of the MSGP at privately owned MSGP-covered facilities in the MS4 area. The DEP Industrial/Commercial (I/C) program group also assesses unpermitted industrial and commercial facilities in the City's MS4 area and sends its observations to NYSDEC to facilitate NYSDEC's determination of the facilities' potential need for SPDES permit coverage. DEP maintains a list of these permitted and unpermitted facilities, referred to as the I/C Facility Inventory.

## 2025 Program Assessment

### Unpermitted Facility Assessments

DEP continued assessing for SPDES applicability the remaining unpermitted facilities along with newly identified unpermitted facilities. During the 2025 reporting period, DEP assessed 10 unpermitted facilities; DEP identified 7 of the 10 for referral to NYSDEC for potential MSGP, MSGP no-exposure, or other SPDES permitting. The remaining three facilities did not meet the criteria for referral and have been classified as requiring "no further action."

Since the start of the I/C Program, DEP has assessed 1,488 unpermitted facilities. DEP estimates that there are three unpermitted sites in the inventory (including newly identified unpermitted facilities) that require assessment. The remaining facilities in the inventory have either been identified as referrals to NYSDEC for SPDES coverage or require "no further action."

Assessments of "no further action" are made for a variety of reasons: facilities do not meet the criteria for SPDES referral; facilities have been abandoned; buildings have been demolished, replaced, or occupied by a new

business unrelated to the previous enterprise or industrial sector; facilities have been determined to be outside the MS4 area and, therefore, not subject to the I/C program; or facilities had already obtained SPDES MSGP coverage or applied for permit coverage, making assessment to determine SPDES permit applicability unnecessary.

As of 2025, DEP has identified 18 facilities as potential significant contributors of pollutants of concern (POCs) and has referred them to NYSDEC for determination of SPDES permit applicability.

**Table 7** summarizes the results of unpermitted assessments performed.

### Permitted Facility Inspections

The City inspected 25 MSGP-permitted facilities. **Table 8** summarizes the MSGP-permitted site inspections completed during this reporting period. The findings were memorialized in inspection reports and associated enforcement (e.g., corrective action letters). Inspection frequencies dictated by the MS4 Permit were met during this reporting period.

### Complaint-Driven Inspections

By calling 311, the public may make a variety of complaints related to industrial activity. DEP received and evaluated 31 complaints received via 311 tickets for potential applicability to the I/C Program. All 31 IPS tickets were addressed by I/C or referred to other DEP response programs for appropriate action.

### Enforcement

DEP issued seven Commissioner's Orders (COs) to facilities in the I/C inventory. A CO, under this program, is an order issued by DEP to enforce its rules for the use of and discharges to the MS4; the Order explains the nature of the violation and provides a deadline for taking corrective action. All seven COs were issued to permitted facilities.

There were several categories of COs issued: most, considered "precautionary" COs, prohibited non-stormwater discharge to the street and sidewalk; one required a recipient to submit photographic proof of its corrective action; and several were related to MSGP compliance deficiencies. DEP also issued summonses to two facilities for failure to adhere to previously issued Commissioner's Orders regarding prohibited non-stormwater discharges.

**Table 7. Unpermitted Assessment Summary**

Assessment Results	Number of Facilities in Reporting Period (2025)	Cumulative Number of Facilities to Date (2019-2025)
Unpermitted facilities with no further action needed*	3	1,310
Unpermitted facilities identified for referral to NYSDEC for SPDES Permit Determination†	7	178
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1,488</b>

\* Includes inventory listings deemed inactive or where no industrial activity was observed; and inventory listings that did not meet criteria for SPDES permitting referral.

† Includes facilities that may be eligible for MSGP coverage, may qualify for no exposure waiver, or may need an individual SPDES permit.

**Table 8: I/C Program – 2025 Implementation Status**

BMP	Measurable	Measures	Status
<b>Provide an industrial and commercial pollution control program.</b>	Implement an inspection and assessment program for unpermitted industrial and commercial sources.	Status of the inspection program and stormwater controls for unpermitted industrial and commercial facilities	DEP performed 10 unpermitted facility assessments in 2025. 7 of these facilities will be referred to NYSDEC for SPDES coverage.
	Implement an inspection program for MSGP Permit holders based on priority and evaluate stormwater controls.	Number of SPDES MSGP facilities inspected – high priority	20
		Number of SPDES MSGP facilities inspected – medium priority	5
		Number of SPDES MSGP facilities inspected, low priority	0
		Number of non-compliant SPDES MSGP facilities	7
		Number of repeat non-compliant SPDES MSGP facilities	2
		Number and type of enforcement actions completed and penalties issued	25 formal letters to permittees identifying deficiencies & associated corrective actions.  DEP issued 7 Commissioner’s Orders and 2 summonses to permitted facilities.
Track significant contributors of POCs.	Number of facilities identified as significant contributors of POCs	3	

DEP sent 25 formal corrective action letters to MSGP-permitted facilities. These letters directed facilities to make improvements to SWPPPs and/or housekeeping practices.

**Table 8** lists measurable goals and measures with the status of the City’s implementation of the I/C Program BMPs.

## Goals for 2026

DEP plans to continue the assessment of unpermitted facilities, update the I/C inventory with newly identified unpermitted facilities and perform inspections of permitted facilities. In addition, DEP plans to take any necessary enforcement actions stemming from assessments and inspections done in 2025.

# Control of Floatable and Settleable Trash and Debris

Stormwater runoff can transport trash and debris from streets and sidewalks into local waterbodies. Once waterborne, these materials are referred to as floatables. The SWMP relies on many existing programs to control trash and debris stemming from the MS4 area. The key programs to control trash and debris and to intercept materials that could potentially discharge via storm sewer through outfalls include street sweeping and catch basin inspection and maintenance. The City also implements end-of-pipe/in-water floatable containment controls such as booming, netting, and skimming to collect floatables in waterbodies.

Public education, outreach, involvement, and participation are also important parts of the City's holistic efforts to control floatables. A variety of programs encourage the public to help manage trash and debris, including a suite of stewardship programs (e.g., Parks Stewardship events, Community Cleanups) and calls to 311, which enables New Yorkers to report dirty conditions they observe to the City.

## 2025 Program Assessment

During this reporting period, the City implemented the floatables control programs described in the SWMP Plan. These programs included sweeping 867,890.4 miles of streets citywide, inspecting 13,904 catch basins and cleaning 5,077 catch basins. DEP maintained 18 active booms and nets and operated three specialized skimmer vessels. DEP is working closely with DSNY to share and review street sweeping information, as an important floatables control measure.

### Loading Rate Study

In 2025, the City completed a Floatables Loading Rate (FLR) Study to determine the loading rate of trash and debris from the MS4 to floatable-impaired waterbodies, as required by the MS4 Permit. The primary goal of this study was to use data collection and analysis to quantify



Debris on a storm drain.

a loading rate at monitored catch basins and to use statistical modeling to predict the floatables loads at MS4 catch basins and outfalls discharging to floatables-impaired waterbodies throughout the City.

DEP began conducting data analysis in December 2021. The monitoring data was analyzed to compute loading rates at the monitored catch basins and investigate the relationships among the loading rates, factors affecting loads (street litter level, street sweeping frequency, catch basin hood status, drainage area and curb length), and additional predictors or variables such as demographics and land use. These relationships were used in a statistical analysis to predict the corresponding floatables loads at unmonitored catch basin locations within the MS4.

### Selecting, sizing, and siting of floatables controls

DEP will use information from the FLR Study and Urban Stormwater Quality (USWQ) models to propose, before the end of the MS4 Permit term in 2027, a methodology for selecting, sizing, and siting floatables controls and BMPs to reduce trash and debris that discharges to the City's waterbodies (see the *Monitoring* section of this report for more information on USWQ models). Research on methodologies and BMP types began in the last half of 2025 and is ongoing.

**Table 9** lists measurable goals and measures with the status of the City's implementation of the Control of Floatable and Settleable Trash and Debris program BMPs.

**Table 9: Control of Floatable and Settleable Trash and Debris – 2025 Status of Implementation**

BMP	Measurable Goals	Measures	Status
<b>Provide a floatable and settleable trash and debris management program.</b>	Determine loading rate of floatable trash and debris discharged from MS4 to waterbodies impaired for floatables.	Status of Loading Rate Study	The Floatables Loading Rate (FLR) Study was completed and a certification of completion was timely submitted to NYSDEC.
	Determine a methodology for selecting, sizing and siting BMPs to reduce floatables	Status of research on methodologies and BMP types	Developing Work Plan and initiating research
	Continue DEP's catch basin inspection, cleaning, and hood replacement program.	Number of catch basins inspected and cleaned.	13,904 catch basins inspected 5,077 catch basins cleaned
		Number of catch basin hoods installed/replaced	622 catch basin hoods installed/replaced
	Continue DEP's boom and netting program.	Status and location of Combined Sewer Overflows Best Management Practices Annual Report with Floatables Control Program results	The most recent CSO BMP Annual Report is online and available to the public at <a href="https://www.nyc.gov/site/dep/water/combined-sewer-overflows.page">https://www.nyc.gov/site/dep/water/combined-sewer-overflows.page</a>
Implement a public education program on floatables.	List of education & outreach programs/events and relevant metric(s) for each (e.g., number of participants, events, or materials distributed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopt-a-Bluebelt</li> <li>• Adopt-a-Highway</li> <li>• Bluebelt Cleanups</li> <li>• Community Clean-ups</li> <li>• DEP Environmental Education</li> <li>• Drippy's Water Adventure</li> <li>• Parks Environmental Education</li> <li>• Park Stewardship</li> <li>• SAFE Disposal Events</li> <li>• Urban Park Rangers: Natural Classroom</li> <li>• Urban Park Rangers: Weekend, Pop-up, and Custom Adventures</li> <li>• What You Can Do to Prevent Stormwater Pollution</li> </ul>	

## Goals for 2026

The City plans to continue its key floatables control programs, including public education, outreach and stewardship, street sweeping, catch basin inspections and cleaning, and DEP's boom and netting program.

The FLR Study was completed by August 1, 2025, as required by the MS4 Permit. The information obtained will be applied to the Urban Stormwater Quality (USWQ) modeling effort currently being piloted to assess the effectiveness of different stormwater BMPs including floatables controls. The City will continue efforts to determine the methodology for selecting, sizing, and siting BMPs and controls to reduce floatable and settleable trash and debris.



A stewardship event with NYC Parks.

# Monitoring

The MS4 Monitoring Program includes the implementation of an Outfall Monitoring Program,<sup>12</sup> analysis of Harbor Survey data to establish baseline conditions prior to SWMP implementation to facilitate analyzing long-term water quality trends, and the development of urban stormwater quality (USWQ) models.

## 2025 Program Assessment

### USWQ Model Development

The City is developing USWQ models to assess how water quality is being impacted by the City’s structural and non-structural BMPs, and to evaluate alternative BMP implementation strategies. USWQ Models will be developed for MS4 areas across seven NYC sewersheds: Tallman Island, Hunts Point, Port Richmond, Jamaica, 26th Ward, Coney Island and Rockaway.

The first USWQ model is being developed for the Tallman Island (TI) sewershed as a pilot study. As of 2025, the hydrologic and hydraulic components of the TI model have been calibrated and validated. MS4 sub-catchment delineation efforts are ongoing for the Hunts Point and

Port Richmond sewersheds. In parallel, a comprehensive literature review has been conducted to compile pollutant buildup and wash-off parameters for a range of land uses.

The second interim progress report on USWQ model development was timely submitted to NYSDEC on August 1, 2025.

**Table 10** lists measurable goals and measures with the status of the City’s implementation of the Monitoring Program BMPs.

## Goals for 2026

DEP intends to finish the TI USWQ model using water quality monitoring data collected under the MS4 Outfall Monitoring Program and data from other sources deemed suitable to parameterize the model. Model development and calibration processes will continue to be documented in interim reports and in the USWQ reports for individual sewersheds. The third interim report will be submitted to NYSDEC by August 1, 2026, as required by the MS4 Permit.

**Table 10: MS4 Monitoring Program 2025 Implementation Status**

BMP	Measurable Goals	Measures	Status
Monitoring Program	Conduct wet weather sampling from outfalls/manholes.	Analyze monitoring data collected.	Complete.
	Evaluate long-term trends in receiving water quality.	Analyze 5 years of Harbor Survey data to establish baseline conditions prior to SWMP implementation (2014-2018).	Complete.
	Develop urban stormwater quality models.	Report on progress.	1st and 2nd interim reports have been submitted to NYSDEC. 3rd interim report due 8/1/2026.

<sup>12</sup> To assess the quality of stormwater runoff from the MS4, the City developed and implemented an MS4 Outfall Monitoring Program that combined data collected from existing monitoring programs with additional water quality and flow data collected between 2019 and 2022, in manholes upstream of select outfalls. The NYC MS4 Outfall Monitoring Program Report, outlining the study, was completed and timely submitted to NYSDEC in June 2023. There were limited statistically significant concentration differences across the monitored outfall locations representing major land uses in NYC’s MS4.



A completed bioretention practice at K238: Anne Sullivan in the Coney Island Creek MS4 area.

# Special Conditions for Impaired Waters

The MS4 Permit includes special conditions for certain waterbodies that require implementation of BMPs in addition to the City-administered programs and practices already in place to reduce or remove pollutants in stormwater runoff. These special conditions are applicable to identified impaired waterbodies, as follows:

- Impaired waters without TMDLs
- Impaired waters with NYSDEC-approved CSO LTCPs that have identified stormwater as a significant contributor to the impairment.

Information on impaired waters without TMDLs is included in the Construction and Post-Construction section of this report. For impaired waters with approved CSO LTCPs that do not predict compliance with applicable water quality standards, and where stormwater contributions from the MS4 are expected to significantly contribute to the impairment, the MS4 Permit requires the City to implement enhanced or customized BMPs.

The waterbodies meeting these criteria are Coney Island Creek (CIC) (effective August 2018) and Thurston

Basin and Bergen Basin (effective January 2023). Per the requirements of the MS4 permit, the City has determined for each of these waterbodies the priority source categories for the POCs causing the impairments; what additional or customized non-structural BMPs should be implemented and on what schedule; and any opportunities for implementing cost-effective and feasible green infrastructure projects and other structural retrofits.

## Coney Island Creek

The MS4 Permit lists fecal coliform (pathogens) and garbage and refuse (floatables)<sup>13</sup> as the pollutants of concern causing impairments in Coney Island Creek. The City identified the priority source categories for POCs causing the impairments to Coney Island Creek for fecal coliform as illicit discharges and pet waste and for garbage and refuse as extensive impervious area and littering.

To target the pollutant sources, the City implemented and continues to maintain the following enhanced BMPs in Coney Island Creek:

- Catch basin marking program
- Pet waste management stations
- Source tracking and expanded IDDE
- Public education and outreach
- Identified green infrastructure projects and other structural retrofits (e.g., catch basin upgrades)

<sup>13</sup> NYSDEC has changed some of the terminology used for impairments. Between 2016 and 2018, "Floatables" was changed to "Garbage & Refuse," and "Pathogens" was changed to "Fecal Coliform." These changes are reflected in Appendix I of the 2022 MS4 Permit; however, the permit itself refers to "pathogens" and "floatables" (DEC notes in the Fact Sheet released with the 2022 permit that it kept those terms in the body of the permit "to be consistent with the previous permit"). For the purposes of clarity, this annual report uses the updated terminology to describe POCs affecting all Special Conditions waterbodies.

**Table 11: POC Source categories and control measures for Coney Island Creek (CIC)**

Pollutant of Concern	Targeted MS4 Source Categories	Best Management Practices (BMPs)
Garbage & Refuse	Highly impervious area (littering)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Catch basin marking</li> <li>Public education and outreach</li> <li>Source control</li> <li>Structural retrofits</li> </ul>
Fecal Coliform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Illicit discharges</li> <li>Domestic pet waste</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Catch basin marking</li> <li>Public education and outreach</li> <li>Sentinel Monitoring</li> <li>Source control</li> </ul>

As detailed in prior annual reports, DEP has constructed GI practices at several schools in the CIC MS4 drainage area. DEP identified these locations by conducting a desktop analysis at agency partner sites, including schools, parks, and New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) developments. Typical GI desktop opportunity analyses include assessing sites for conflicts such as mature trees or equipment, reviewing site topography and historical soil and groundwater data, evaluating imperviousness within tributary drainage areas, and coordinating with agencies on recent or upcoming capital work, and then conducting follow-up site visits and soil testing.

The POCs, priority source categories and control measures for Coney Island Creek are summarized in **Table 11** and are described in greater detail in the SWMP Plan (see *Chapter 11: Special Conditions for Impaired Waters*).<sup>14</sup>

### Bergen Basin and Thurston Basin

In January 2023, NYSDEC approved the Jamaica Bay and Tributaries LTCP, which identified two Jamaica Bay tributaries, Bergen Basin and Thurston Basin, as meeting the criteria of impaired waters with NYSDEC-approved

CSO LTCPs that do not predict compliance with applicable water quality standards, and where stormwater contributions from the MS4 are expected to be a significant contributor to the impairment.

The MS4 Permit (Appendix I) lists fecal coliform and garbage and refuse, as the POCs causing impairments for Bergen Basin. For Thurston Basin, the MS4 Permit lists fecal coliform and garbage and refuse as the POCs causing impairment. In accordance with the Permit, the City identified the priority source categories for POCs contributing to these impairments from the MS4 as domestic pet waste for fecal coliform; and littering, illegal dumping and curbside trash pick-up for garbage and refuse.

To target the pollutant sources, the City is implementing the following control measures in the Bergen and Thurston Basins MS4 drainage areas:

- Non-structural BMPs (e.g., targeted public education and outreach, enhanced stewardship opportunities)
- Structural retrofits (e.g., catch basin upgrades)
- Green infrastructure

**Table 12: POC Source Categories and Non-Structural BMP Implementation Schedule for Bergen and Thurston Basins**

POC	Priority Source Categories	Non-structural BMP	Implementation Schedule
Fecal Coliform	Domestic pet waste	Public education and outreach	Began Fall 2025
		In-schools stormwater education	Begins Fall 2026
Garbage & Refuse	Littering	Public education and outreach	Began Fall 2025
		Enhanced stewardship opportunities	Begins Summer 2026
		In-schools stormwater education	Begins Fall 2026
	Curbside trash pickup	Public education and outreach	Begins Fall 2026
	Illegal dumping	Public education and outreach	Begins Fall 2026

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.nyc.gov/assets/dep/downloads/pdf/water/stormwater/ms4/nyc-swmp-plan-full.pdf>

Per the requirements of the MS4 permit, the priority source categories for the POCs affecting these waterbodies and the implementation schedule for the non-structural BMPs is provided in **Table 12**.

In addition to these new measures, the City will continue to maintain several control measures related to the POCs affecting these waterbodies. These measures have already been implemented or completed within the Bergen and Thurston MS4 drainage areas, where appropriate, and include pet waste management (through pet waste bag dispensers and signage provided at City-owned dog parks), catch basin marking (i.e., “no dumping” messages on curb pieces), source tracking/IDDE, and the rollout of the new NYC Bin (see insert below). Additional detail on these existing measures is provided in the SWMP.

## 2025 Program Assessment

### Coney Island Creek

The City continued to implement enhanced non-structural BMPs and identify opportunities for GI and other structural retrofits in the CIC MS4 areas. These efforts include maintaining control measures established in prior years (including pet waste dispensers/signage and IDDE source tracking), ongoing implementation of enhanced BMPs (including installation of “no dumping” messages on catch basins) and identifying new opportunities for green infrastructure and other non-structural retrofits.

In 2025, DEP completed construction for GI projects

at three public schools in CIC MS4 areas, for a total of four projects at schools identified as suitable for SMP projects. Additionally, DEP received funding to design and construct a cloudburst hub in Homecrest, Brooklyn. Much of the project area is connected to sewers that ultimately drain to Coney Island Creek. This project will increase flood resilience in the Homecrest neighborhood and improve water quality in Coney Island Creek. DEP also has projects in the planning phase in Coney Island, including a median and Trust for Public Land schoolyard transformation opportunity.

Additionally, in 2025, DEP’s Bureau of Water and Sewer Operations began structural modifications on catch basins with open wide curb pieces in the CIC MS4 areas. These retrofits modified the back of the catch basins (referred to as curb pieces) by installing a slotted cover (grill plate) onto the curb piece. The grill plates reduce the potential for garbage and refuse to enter the catch basin, while still allowing rainwater to enter. In 2025, DEP prioritized installation of grill plates for basins with the highest predicted floatables loading rates.

**Table 13** provides a summary of these program updates for CIC.

### Bergen and Thurston Basins

In 2025, the City completed its GI opportunity analysis for Bergen and Thurston Basins, which identified opportunities for implementing green infrastructure projects within the MS4 drainage areas of these two impaired waterbodies. In Bergen Basin, DEP identified at

## The NYC BIN

In July 2024, the City began making available the new “NYC Bin,” a secured-lid bin designed for one- and two-family homes and properties with up to 9 residential units to set out their trash. NYC Bins are currently available for purchase for trash, recycling and compost curbside pick-up. Starting in June 2026, owners of properties with up to 9 residential units will be required to switch to and purchase the NYC Bin.

NYC Bins are available for all waste streams – trash, paper, metal/glass/plastic, and compost – in different sizes. The new bins are anticipated to have a positive impact on reducing the loose trash that can be carried into waterbodies by stormwater. New Yorkers have already ordered roughly 1 million NYC Bins since they were unveiled in July 2024.



**Table 13: Special Conditions Program Updates: Coney Island Creek**

Control Measure	Description	Update
<b>Pet waste management</b>	Maintain pet waste bag dispensers and signage as part of Parks' "Forgot Your Bag?" program, to minimize the presence of exposed pet waste.	Parks continued to maintain the pet waste bag dispensers and signage in Calvert, Vaux and Kaiser Parks.
<b>Catch basin marking</b>	Include a "no dumping" message on the iron curb piece on new and replaced catch basins in the MS4 area. Provide catch basin stenciling opportunities for local organizations.	The City continued to include a "no dumping" message on newly installed catch basin curb pieces throughout the city.
<b>Source Tracking/ IDDE</b>	Source tracking efforts in Coney Island Creek	DEP has referred potential illicit discharges from NYCHA's Marlboro Houses to DEC for further enforcement actions.
<b>Public education, outreach and involvement</b>	Conduct education, outreach and stewardship in the Coney Island Creek Community on pollution source controls.	Parks held 48 Park Stewardship events in parks surrounding CIC (Coney Island Creek, Kaiser and Calvert Vaux Parks). These events included educational workshops, ecology focused events, habitat restoration, street tree care, and littering/debris removal.
<b>Green infrastructure</b>	Identify potential GI opportunities in Coney Island Creek MS4 areas by prioritizing City-owned sites based on their potential to capture runoff.	<p>DEP has completed GI at four schools suitable for SMP projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• K095: Gravesend – subsurface retention practice</li> <li>• K238: Anne Sullivan – bioretention practice and subsurface retention practice (completed 2024)</li> <li>• K234: W. A. Cunningham – subsurface stormwater chamber</li> <li>• K212 Lady Deborah Moody – synthetic turf practice with subsurface stone storage</li> </ul> <p>DEP received funding to design and construct a cloudburst hub in Homecrest, Brooklyn.</p>

a desktop-level potential opportunities for parkland GI. In Thurston Basin, DEP identified a cloudburst management opportunity in Montbellier. Additional information on the implementation of GI projections will be provided in future annual reports as projects progress.

As in CIC MS4 areas, DEP began installing grill plates on catch basins in the Bergen Basin and Thurston Basin MS4 drainage areas. As in CIC, prioritized installation of grill plates for basins with the highest predicted floatables loading rates.

Implementation of non-structural BMPs for the Bergen Basin and Thurston Basin MS4 areas began in 2025 and will expand in 2026 and beyond. Beginning in Fall 2025, DEP expanded the Operation P.O.O.P. campaign, which began as a pilot program in other areas of Queens in

2024. Operation P.O.O.P has been implemented in the Bergen and Thurston MS4 areas through a combination of community events and distribution of educational materials and resources for pet owners. This program targets fecal coliform contributions from domestic pet waste.

DEP also developed and began distributing a "What You Can Do to Prevent Stormwater Pollution" brochure with information on everyday actions that contribute to floatables and fecal coliform in waterbodies. In 2025, this brochure was distributed through targeted outreach to elected officials and faith-based institutions throughout the MS4 areas of Bergen and Thurston Basins.

**Table 14** provides program status updates for these two waterbodies for 2025. The City will continue to update

**Table 14: Special Conditions Program Updates: Bergen and Thurston Basins**

Program	Description	Update
<b>Non-structural BMPs</b>	Public education and outreach: Conduct education and outreach in the Bergen Basin and Thurston Basin communities on pollution source controls.	DEP expanded Operation P.O.O.P to Bergen and Thurston Basin MS4 areas through community events and distribution of materials.  DEP developed and began distributing a new education campaign, "What You Can Do to Prevent Stormwater Pollution."
<b>Structural Retrofits</b>	Identify other structural retrofits that are cost-effective and feasible.	DEP began installing grill plates on catch basins with the highest predicted floatables loading rates.
<b>Green infrastructure</b>	Identify cost effective and feasible opportunities for implementing GI projects in the Bergen Basin and Thurston Basin MS4 areas by prioritizing City-owned sites based on their potential to capture runoff.	DEP completed the GI opportunity analysis: in Bergen Basin; DEP identified potential opportunities for parkland green infrastructure in Thurston Basin and a cloudburst management opportunity in Montbellier.

this section in future annual reports as additional BMPs are implemented within these drainage areas.

## Goals for 2026

The City will continue implementing existing control measures for Coney Island Creek, Bergen Basin and Thurston Basin, and will continue to refine its strategy for identifying and implementing new non-structural BMPs and green infrastructure and other structural retrofits.

In 2026, Parks and DEP will partner for weekend outreach events at parks in the MS4 drainage areas of Bergen and Thurston Basins. These events will include special activities and education materials from campaigns including Operation P.O.O.P and other resources to help inform the public about stormwater pollutants and stewardship opportunities. DEP will also offer a virtual professional learning opportunity for educators from the communities around Bergen and Thurston Basins focusing on stormwater and water quality impacts. This event is expected to be held in Fall 2026.

DEP will continue installing grill plate installations on MS4 catch basins within the CIC, Bergen Basin, and Thurston Basin MS4 drainage areas in 2026.



An Operation P.O.O.P. event in the Bergen Basin MS4 area.



Completed synthetic turf practice with subsurface stone storage at KO95: Gravesend in the Coney Island Creek MS4 area.



Wildflowers at a Staten Island Bluebelt.

# Recordkeeping and Reporting

Each year, the City prepares an MS4 Annual Report documenting the status of compliance activities related to the MS4 Permit. The City submits the MS4 Annual Report to NYSDEC by September 30 following each reporting year. The public can also request information related to the SWMP by emailing [MS4@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:MS4@dep.nyc.gov).

This report documents activities related to MS4 Permit compliance for the 2025 reporting period. The City

assesses effectiveness of its SWMP programs through its achievement of the measurable goals included in the BMP tables. In addition, the annual report includes a narrative highlighting and explaining important activities conducted during the reporting year. The City also periodically refines its measurable goals with information gained from program planning and implementation, interagency working groups, and public input. Continuing to refine and update the measurable goals allows the City to better assess its programs.

**Table 15** shows the 2025 recordkeeping and reporting implementation status.

**Table 15. Recordkeeping and Reporting 2025 Implementation Status**

BMP	Measurable Goals	Measures	Status
Provide annual reports to document compliance with the MS4 permit.	Develop an annual report due September 30 following each reporting year.	Summary of annual effectiveness assessment	See effectiveness assessment of each program under pertinent subsections of this report.
		Municipal Compliance Certification submission	Appendix 4 – Municipal Compliance Certification



DEP staff at the completed South Jamaica Houses cloudburst basketball court.

## Related Initiatives

### Southeast Queens Mitigation Plan

Southeast Queens, comprised of Queens Community Districts 412 and 413, experiences chronic stormwater flooding as a result of the rapid residential and commercial growth from the 1920s-1960s on low-lying land that was historically wetlands draining out to the Jamaica Bay. While sanitary sewers were constructed during this development boom, sufficient storm sewers to drain the area were not.

As the City's water and wastewater utility, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is responsible for building and maintaining sewer infrastructure to manage sanitary waste from homes and businesses and stormwater. DEP is delivering a comprehensive drainage system in Southeast Queens. Mayor Bill de Blasio originally authorized \$1.5 billion over ten years to build out stormwater mitigation in the area. This has since increased to \$2.7 billion over ten years through the approved FY26 September Plan.

Together with our partners at the Department of Design and Construction and the Department of Transportation, DEP developed the Southeast Queens Flood Mitigation

Plan, which includes a four-pronged approach to improve conditions:

- Long-term: Create future capacity by investing in large-scale trunk storm sewers
- Medium-term: Build neighborhood-scale sewer projects where there is existing available capacity in the surrounding sewer system
- Short-term: Construct quick fixes, such as storm sewer extensions, targeted full-size sewers, and green infrastructure, to bring near-term flooding relief
- Analysis: Evaluate opportunities to reduce groundwater flooding

For more information, visit <https://www.nyc.gov/assets/dep/downloads/pdf/water/stormwater/southeast-queens-reporting-reqs-llaw-56.pdf>

### NYC Green Infrastructure Program

DEP has been strategically constructing GI in MS4 areas, as required per permit and local law obligations, as well as through DEP's financial incentives and partnerships, and median projects. Going forward, as part of the NYC GI Program's regulatory goal under the 2023 Modification to the CSO Order, DEP can consider the multiple benefits of GI for neighborhoods, such as flood management and



Rooftop retrofit at Corporate Commons Three in Staten Island.



A community event for the Kissena Cloud Burst project.

water quality improvements in addition to CSO volume reduction. For more information on the NYC Green Infrastructure Program, visit the DEP website at [nyc.gov/site/dep/water/green-infrastructure.page](https://www.nyc.gov/site/dep/water/green-infrastructure.page).

## Right of Way and Public Onsite

DEP constructed ROW GI practices in partnership with the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR) New York Rising (NYR) initiative, including in MS4 areas.

DEP has been working with key public agency partners, like Parks and DOE, since 2011 through its public onsite program to implement GI retrofits on publicly owned properties. To date, DEP has constructed over 50 GI assets in MS4 areas, including rain gardens, green roofs, permeable pavers, subsurface storage, and synthetic turf fields. These assets have been constructed under various initiatives, including investing in Southeast Queens under Local Law 56 (2017) and piloting projects to manage stormwater quality draining to Jamaica Bay and Newtown Creek.

## Medians

DEP has constructed two green streets median projects in the MS4 area: the Beach 67 median in the Rockaways and the Hillside Avenue median in Queens Village. DEP has an upcoming median project located in the MS4 area of Queens on Springfield Blvd between Lucas Street and Merrick Blvd that will likely begin construction in 2026.

## Private Property Incentives

The NYC Green Infrastructure Program currently offers

two financial incentive programs for private property owners in combined and separately sewered areas of NYC. The Green Infrastructure Grant Program<sup>15</sup> funds the design and construction of green roof retrofits on private property, and Resilient NYC Partners<sup>16</sup> funds the design and construction of site-level GI practices on private properties with large areas of impervious surface. Projects include the rooftop farm installed at Corporate Commons Three in Staten Island covers 23,375 square feet of rooftop and manages over 3 million gallons of stormwater annually in the MS4.

To date, four projects at three properties in the MS4 have been completed under the Resilient NYC Partners program. These projects include two subsurface storage systems and porous pavement installed at T. Mina Supply in Queens, a subsurface storage and roof capture system at a CAC-owned lot in Queens, and a subsurface storage system retrofit at Holy Rosary School in Staten Island. A fifth project at St. Charles School in Staten Island will be completed in 2026. In total, these projects will manage 7.4 million gallons of stormwater annually. As the Resilient NYC Partners program continues, additional properties in MS4 priority areas are being evaluated for eligibility.

## Stormwater Regulations

Stormwater regulations are a core part of DEP's work to improve water quality citywide. As mentioned in the Construction and Post-Construction section of this report, the Unified Stormwater Rule,<sup>17</sup> through the NYC Stormwater Manual<sup>18</sup> as technical guidance, emphasizes a retention-first, green infrastructure approach to stormwater management practice selection

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.nyc.gov/site/dep/water/green-infrastructure-grant-program.page>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.nyc.gov/site/dep/whats-new/resilient-nyc-partners.page>

<sup>17</sup> In 2022, DEP promulgated the Unified Stormwater Rule, which included amendments to Chapters 31 and 19.1 of Title 15 of the Rules of the City of New York to update DEP's site and house connection requirements and the Stormwater Construction and Maintenance Permitting Program (i.e., Stormwater Permitting). Under the Unified Stormwater Rule, stormwater regulations for citywide sewer operations and water quality objectives have been integrated and enhanced. Some projects are covered by both requirements.

<sup>18</sup> [https://www.nyc.gov/assets/dep/downloads/pdf/water/stormwater/unified-stormwater-rule/uswr\\_nyc\\_stormwater\\_manual.pdf](https://www.nyc.gov/assets/dep/downloads/pdf/water/stormwater/unified-stormwater-rule/uswr_nyc_stormwater_manual.pdf)

and design, applying lessons learned from more than ten years of implementing the NYC Green Infrastructure Program. Green infrastructure practices, also known as and referred to as stormwater management practices (SMPs), are designed to protect, restore, or mimic the natural water cycle within built environments by retaining, detaining, and/or treating stormwater runoff. SMPs generally include practices such as rain gardens, green or blue roofs, porous pavement, subsurface stormwater storage systems, and stormwater reuse systems. These practices are important and demonstrably effective tools for stormwater management in NYC, allowing stormwater to be managed where it falls and reducing, filtering and/or slowing the amount of stormwater entering the City’s sewer system.

## Cloudburst Management

A cloudburst is a sudden, heavy downpour that occurs in a short amount of time and may lead to flooding, property damage, disruptions to critical infrastructure, and pollution of NYC’s waterways. NYC has experienced cloudburst events with increasing frequency in recent years, as summarized below.

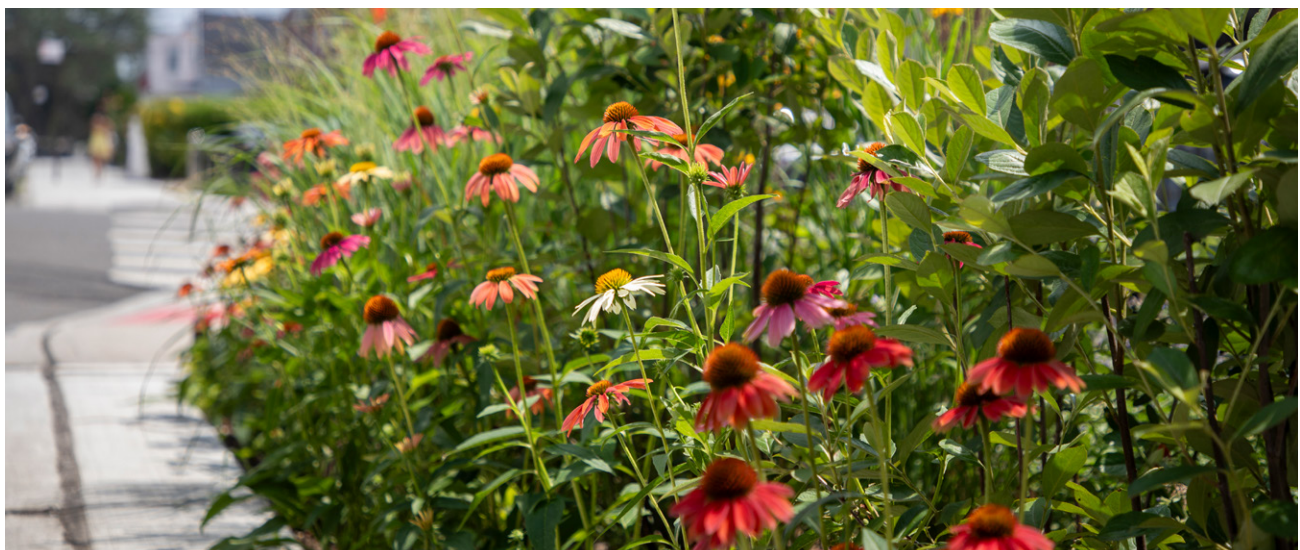
Recent Cloudburst Events	Rainfall Rate (in/hr)
August 2021 (Henri)	1.94
September 2021 (Ida)	3.15
September 29, 2023	2.50
July 14, 2025	2.07
October 30, 2025	1.80

Cloudburst management implements a combination of methods that absorb, store, and transfer stormwater to reduce flooding. In addition to managing localized flooding, these cloud-burst projects will also help DEP meet its stormwater management water quality goals to reduce CSOs in CSS areas and reduce the risk of polluted stormwater discharging to local waterways in MS4 areas.

In MS4 areas, DEP and NYCHA have collaborated on a pilot project to manage cloudburst events onsite at the NYCHA South Jamaica Houses development in Southeast Queens. The South Jamaica Houses project completed construction in 2025. Additionally, DEP is working with Parks on two cloudburst projects for Southeast Queens that are expected to start construction in 2026: Archie Spigner Park, in the St. Albans neighborhood, and Rufus King Park. These projects are designed to improve drainage conditions in the park and on select adjacent streets, where possible. Additionally, in the St. Albans neighborhood, DDC and DOT have partnered with DEP on a roadway improvement project to address frequent flooding issues near the intersection of 177th Street and 112th Ave. The proposed cloudburst design for this project involves a combination of GI in the ROW and roadway changes that will also improve roadway safety for pedestrians and vehicles.

Cloudburst hubs are identified at the sub-catchment scale, which are hydraulically connected areas based on the sewer network. Cloudburst hubs feature a network of stormwater management tools that work together to alleviate flooding and help to make neighborhoods more resilient during intense rainstorms. The four initial Cloudburst Hubs are in areas served by the combined sewer: Corona and Kissena Park, Queens, Parkchester/Morris Park, Bronx, and East New York, Brooklyn. In 2025,

Rain Gardens in Canarsie and East Flatbush, Brooklyn.



DEP kicked off design for a sixth hub for Homecrest in Brooklyn. DEP has identified a cloudburst hub in an MS4 area in Montbellier that drains to Thurston Basin.

## Adaptative Management

The NYC Green Infrastructure Program includes a research and development effort, which reviews GI performance over time, ensures performance-based maintenance and operations, and conducts cost-benefit analyses of various GI designs. The data analysis supports the City's water quality-related compliance programs and fills data gaps that DEP has identified through previous monitoring activities. This work is critical to the success of GI implementation in both combined and separate sewer areas of NYC.

## Coney Island Resiliency Study

The Department of City Planning is leading a Coney Island resiliency study with a Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. DCP will catalog current conditions in Coney Island, past/present/future climate change initiatives, and the remaining climate change risks. The purpose of the study is to help city agencies understand the possibilities for and the limits of resiliency efforts in Coney Island and to guide strategies for addressing flooding, stormwater runoff, urban heat, as well

as public realm and mobility strategies. In summary, this study seeks to achieve the following goals:

- Snapshot of existing conditions: Research and analyze socioeconomic conditions, zoning and land use conditions, urban design and public realm conditions, transportation and mobility conditions, and climate risk conditions.
- Catalog of past, current, and future initiatives and identification of remaining gaps: Investigate area-specific precedent and projected public research and planning, investments, and regulations and identify remaining resiliency gaps.
- Proposal of near-term recommendations. Identify built and social environment alterations, and quality of life and hazard mitigation improvements to reduce negative impacts from future flooding and urban heat.
- Early development of a potential long-term land-use, zoning, and planning outlook. Guide new development and public realm upgrades to maximize community resilience and reduce climate change risks.

As part of the study, DCP will develop an existing conditions analysis as well as near-term recommendations and potential long-term planning outlooks based on public agency input, outreach, and engagement with local stakeholders (including residents, business owners, community organizations, and area workers, local elected officials), and stormwater management best practices.

## Gateway to Greenpoint

The Gateway to Greenpoint project is in Brooklyn, in an area served by the MS4, just outside the Newtown Creek WRRF between Kingsland and Greenpoint Avenues. The purpose of this project to replace the existing open space with a new landscape design that complements the built environment, softens the appearance of hard surfaces, enhances aesthetic qualities, and provides a neighborhood amenity. DEP incorporated GI into the project to capture almost 1 million gallons of stormwater a year with the installation of underground storage chambers, curbside inlets, large planting beds of native species, and tree plantings. This project began construction in 2025.





Rain Gardens in Canarsie and East Flatbush, Brooklyn.

# Definitions

**Annual Report:** The City publishes, by September 30 of each calendar year, a report on SWMP implementation. The report summarizes activities performed throughout the reporting period (January 1 to December 31) by all agencies with obligations under the MS4 Permit; and reports on BMPs, measurable goals and their measures, as detailed in each chapter of the Plan and in Part IV.M of the MS4 Permit.

**Applicant:** The term “applicant” means the person filing the online application for Stormwater Permitting. This person may be the owner, developer, qualified professional, or other registered user in the online application system.

**Best Management Practice (BMP):** Schedules, activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the pollution of waters of the State. BMPs also include treatment requirements (if determined necessary by DEP), operating procedures, and practices to control runoff, spillage, and leaks; sludge or waste disposal; or drainage from areas that could contribute pollutants to stormwater discharges. BMPs are referred to in EPA fact sheets and other materials. BMPs are also referred to as “activities” or “management practices” throughout the MS4 Permit.

**Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO):** Sometimes, during heavy rain and snowstorms, a combined sewer system receives higher than normal flows. WRRFs are unable to handle flows that are greater than twice their design capacity, and, when such a flow occurs, a mix of excess stormwater and untreated wastewater discharges directly into the City’s waterway at certain outfalls to prevent upstream flooding. This discharge is called a combined sewer overflow (CSO).

**Combined Sewer System:** A sewer system used to convey both wastewater and stormwater in a single pipe to the WRRF. During times of heavy precipitation, the combined sewer system may discharge into surface waters. See also Combined Sewer Overflow.

**Covered development project:** The term “covered development project” means development activity, private or public, that involves or results in an amount of soil disturbance greater than or equal to 20,000 square feet; or creation of 5,000 square feet or more of impervious surface; or is a covered maintenance activity (roadway maintenance that involves 20,000 square feet or more). Such term includes development activity that is part of a

larger common plan of development or sale involving or resulting in soil disturbance area greater than or equal to 20,000 square feet; or creation of 5,000 square feet or more of impervious surface. Such term includes all development activity that requires a SWPPP pursuant to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) construction general permit.

**CSO Outfall:** The physical point where a municipally owned or operated combined sewer discharges to surface waters of the state.

**CSO Regulator:** A flow control structure in a combined sewer system that diverts a controlled portion of flow from the collection system to an intercepting sewer and allows the remaining flow to discharge to nearby waters as a combined sewer overflow.

**Floatables:** Manmade materials, such as plastics, papers, or other products which, when disposed of onto streets or into catch basins, can ultimately find their way to waterbodies and may create nuisance conditions affecting aesthetics, recreation, navigation, and waterbody ecology.

**Green Infrastructure (GI):** Green infrastructure infiltrates, evapotranspires, or reuses stormwater, with significant use of soils and vegetation rather than traditional hardscape collection, conveyance, and storage structures. Common green infrastructure approaches include green roofs, trees and tree boxes, rain gardens, vegetated swales, pocket wetlands, infiltration planters, vegetated median strips, reforestation, and protection and enhancement of riparian buffers and floodplains.

**Historical MS4 Map:** Created prior to issuance of the first NYC MS4 Permit in 2015, the Historical MS4 Map was unrefined and contained some inaccuracies but represented the City’s best understanding of the MS4 area at that time. In developing the SWMP, the City relied upon the Historical MS4 Map to define the MS4 area. The Historical MS4 Map also served as a starting point for the process of mapping the City’s MS4 drainage areas and MS4 outfalls, as required by the MS4 Permit. The Historical MS4 Map is no longer in use.

**Illicit Discharge:** Illicit discharge is any discharge to an MS4 that is not composed entirely of stormwater, except allowable discharges pursuant to a SPDES permit and/or to DEP rules. Examples of illicit discharges are unauthorized sanitary sewage, garage drain effluent, and waste motor oil. However, an illicit discharge could be any other unauthorized discharge, which the City or NYSDEC has determined to be a significant contributor of pollutants to the MS4.

**Impaired Waters:** A water is impaired if it does not meet its designated use(s), as defined by NYSDEC, generally determined by violations of state water quality standards. For purposes of this permit, “impaired” refers to waters for which Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) have been established, for which existing controls such as permits are expected to resolve the impairment, or for which a TMDL is needed. Impaired water compilations are also sometimes referred to as 303(d) lists; 303(d) lists generally include only waters for which TMDLs have not yet been developed.

**Long-Term Control Plan (LTCP):** An LTCP identifies appropriate CSO controls to achieve applicable water quality standards consistent with the Federal CSO Policy and Clean Water Act.

**Measurable Goals:** One or more statements characterizing the goals of the SWMP that reflect the needs and characteristics of NYC and the areas served by its MS4. The City identified its goals, both qualitative and quantitative, using an integrated approach that addresses the requirements and intent of the provisions of the MS4 Permit.

**Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP):** The Clean Water Act provides that stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity to waters of the United States (including discharges through a municipal separate storm sewer system) are unlawful, unless authorized by a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. In New York, the EPA-approved State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) program provides that industrial facilities engaged in activities defined in 40 CFR 122.26(b) (14)(i-ix) and (xi) must obtain permit coverage for stormwater discharges to waters of the United States through the SPDES Multi-Sector General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity (MSGP), unless the facilities are individually SPDES-permitted or subject to No Exposure Exclusion (that industrial activities are not exposed to stormwater).

**Municipal Operations and Facilities:** Any operation or facility serving a New York City governmental purpose and over which New York City has operational control.

**Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4):** A conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains):

- Owned or operated by a state, city, town, village, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to state law)

having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, stormwater, or other wastes, including special districts under state law such as a sewer district, floatables control district or drainage district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under Section 208 of the CWA, that discharges to surface waters of the state;

- Designed or used for collecting or conveying stormwater;
- Which is not a combined sewer; and
- Which is not part of a Publicly Owned Treatment Works as defined at 40 CFR 122.2

**MS4 Area:** The term “MS4 area” means those portions of the City of New York served by separate storm sewers and separate stormwater outfalls owned or operated by the City of New York or areas served by separate storm sewers owned or operated by the City of New York that connect to combined sewer overflow pipes downstream of the regulator owned or operated by the City of New York, and areas in which municipal operations and facilities drain by overland flow to waters of the state, as determined by DEP and described on maps of the MS4 area set forth in DEP’s rules and available on DEP’s website.

**MS4 Outfall:** Defined as any point where a municipally owned or operated separate storm sewer system discharges to either surface waters of the state or to another MS4 (an MS4 owned or operated by another regulated entity). Outfalls include discharges from pipes, ditches, swales, and other points of concentrated flow. However, areas of non-concentrated (sheet) flow which drain to surface waters of the state or to another MS4 (owned or operated by another regulated entity) are not considered outfalls.

**MS4 Permit:** The New York State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permit, issued to the City of New York, effective date August 1, 2022, that defined the requirements to discharge stormwater from the City’s MS4.

**Pollutants:** Dredged spoil, filter backwash, solid waste, incinerator residue, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, chemical wastes, biological materials, radioactive materials, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand and industrial, municipal, and agricultural waste discharged into water which may cause or might reasonably be expected to cause pollution of the waters of the state in contravention of the standards or guidance values adopted as provided in 6 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) Part 750-1.2a.



**Pollutant of Concern (POC):** A pollutant causing the impairment of an impaired water segment listed in Appendix 1 of MS4 Permit, including nitrogen, fecal coliform (pathogens), and garbage and refuse (floatables).

**Settleables:** Manmade materials that may sink depending on the ambient conditions to which they are subject. Floatables include settleable materials.

**Standard Operating Procedure (SOP):** A set of instructions for carrying out routine operations to achieve a specific outcome.

**Stormwater Construction Permit:** The term “stormwater construction permit” means a permit issued by DEP which authorizes development activity on land on which there is a covered development project with an approved SWPPP.

**Stormwater Controls Working Group:** An interagency group, aka Interagency Team, formed in 2013 in accordance with the Mayor’s Executive Order Number 429. This group meets quarterly or as needed to discuss all updates involving the MS4 Permit and SWMP implementation.

**Stormwater Management Practices or SMPs:** Measures to prevent flood damage or to prevent or reduce point source or nonpoint source pollution inputs to stormwater runoff and water bodies; includes erosion and sediment controls, post-construction stormwater management facilities, and practices to manage stormwater runoff from industrial activities.

**Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL):** A TMDL is the sum of the allowable loads of a single pollutant from all contributing point and nonpoint sources. It is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards, and an allocation of that amount to the pollutant’s sources. A TMDL stipulates waste load allocations for point source discharges, load allocations for nonpoint sources, and a margin of safety.

# Acronyms

**BMP** Best Management Practice

**CGP** Construction General Permit

**C/PC** Construction and Post-Construction

**CSO** Combined Sewer Overflow

**CSS** Combined Sewer System

**CWA** Clean Water Act

**GI** Green Infrastructure

**GIS** Geographic Information System

**I/C** Industrial/Commercial

**IDDE** Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

**LTCP** Long-Term Control Plan

**MS4** Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System

**MSGP** Multi-Sector General Permit

**NNI** No Net Increase

**NOI** Notice of Intent

**NYC** New York City

**NYS** New York State

**NYSDEC** New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

**PMU** Planned Municipal Upgrade

**POC** Pollutants of Concern

**PP/GH** Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping

**ROW** Right-of-Way

**SAFE** Solvents, Automotive, Flammables, and Electronics

**SCM** Stormwater Control Measure

**SMP** Stormwater Management Practice

**SPDES** State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

**SWMP** Stormwater Management Program

**SWPPP** Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan

**SWPTS** Stormwater Permitting and Tracking System

**TMDL** Total Maximum Daily Load

**USWR** Unified Stormwater Rule

**WRRF** Wastewater Resource Recovery Facility

## NYC Departments and Agencies

**DCAS** Department of Citywide Administrative Services

**DCP** Department of City Planning

**DDC** Department of Design and Construction

**DEP** Department of Environmental Protection

**DOB** Department of Buildings

**DOC** Department of Correction

**DOE** Department of Education

**DOHMH** Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

**DOITT** Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications

**DOT** Department of Transportation

**DPR** Department of Parks and Recreation

**DSNY** Department of Sanitation

**EDC** Economic Development Corporation

**FDNY** Fire Department

**LAW** NYC Law Department

**MOCEJ** Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice (formerly Mayor's Office of Recovery and Resiliency or ORR)

**MOO** Mayor's Office of Operations

**NYPD** Police Department

**OMB** Mayor's Office of Management and Budget

**SBS** Department of Small Business Services

# Post-Construction Stormwater Management Practices

Request ID	SMP Type	SMP Classification	Impervious Area	Units	Where Does Site Runoff Go?
MP-0000004	Stormwater gallery	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	1.51		Separate Sewer
MP-0000004	Media Filter	Capture, Reuse, and Other classification	3.43		Separate Sewer
MP-0000015	Other Area Reduction Technique	RRv - Area Reduction Techniques			Combined Sewer
MP-0000024	Other Area Reduction Technique	RRv - Area Reduction Techniques	0.69		Separate Sewer
MP-0000026	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	68	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000026	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	6673	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000026	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	1161	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000026	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	7028	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000026	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	567	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000026	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	1814	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000026	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	420	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000026	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	1031	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000026	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	1796	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000026	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	1257	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000026	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	114	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000026	Stormwater gallery	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	4304	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000026	Stormwater gallery	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	7359	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000026	Constructed wetland	Tier 3 - Vegetated Detention	2.88		Separate Sewer
MP-0000033	Porous pavement (non-vegetated retention)	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	0.15		Both, Separate and Combined sewer
MP-0000033	Porous pavement (non-vegetated retention)	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	0.14		Both, Separate and Combined sewer
MP-0000033	Porous pavement (non-vegetated retention)	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	0.15		Both, Separate and Combined sewer
MP-0000033	Porous pavement (non-vegetated retention)	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	0.15		Both, Separate and Combined sewer

Request ID	SMP Type	SMP Classification	Impervious Area	Units	Where Does Site Runoff Go?
MP-0000033	Porous pavement (non-vegetated retention)	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	0.23		Both, Separate and Combined sewer
MP-0000039	Hydrodynamic	Capture, Reuse, and Other classification	16134	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000039	Dry well	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	0.94	Acres	Separate Sewer
MP-0000039	Hydrodynamic	Capture, Reuse, and Other classification	12870	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000039	Hydrodynamic	Capture, Reuse, and Other classification	12130	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000041	Porous pavement	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	13910	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000041	Porous pavement	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	834	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000045	Porous pavement (non-vegetated retention)	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	20231.63	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000045	Porous pavement (non-vegetated retention)	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	14657.53	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000045	Porous pavement (non-vegetated treatment)	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	2186.3	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000045	Porous pavement (non-vegetated retention)	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	4463.19	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000045	Porous pavement (non-vegetated retention)	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	6077.48	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000045	Porous pavement (non-vegetated retention)	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	12442.7	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000045	Porous pavement (non-vegetated retention)	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	13539.47	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000053	Other Area Reduction Technique	RRv - Area Reduction Techniques	0	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000055	Stormwater gallery	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	0.45	Acres	Separate Sewer
MP-0000055	Other Area Reduction Technique	RRv - Area Reduction Techniques	0	Acres	Separate Sewer
MP-0000058	Other Area Reduction Technique	RRv - Area Reduction Techniques	23352		Combined Sewer
MP-0000060	Hydrodynamic	Capture, Reuse, and Other classification	0.54	Acres	Combined Sewer
MP-0000060	Hydrodynamic	Capture, Reuse, and Other classification	0.33	Acres	Combined Sewer
MP-0000060	Hydrodynamic	Capture, Reuse, and Other classification	0.12	Acres	Combined Sewer
MP-0000060	Subsurface gallery	Tier 3 - Non-vegetated Detention	0.98	Acres	Combined Sewer

Request ID	SMP Type	SMP Classification	Impervious Area	Units	Where Does Site Runoff Go?
MP-0000061	Porous pavement (non-vegetated retention)	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	4077	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000061	Porous pavement (non-vegetated retention)	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	10602	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000061	Porous pavement (non-vegetated retention)	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	2254	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000061	Porous pavement (non-vegetated retention)	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	8903	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000061	Porous pavement (non-vegetated retention)	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	6269	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000062	Detention tank	Tier 3 - Non-vegetated Detention	30160	Sq. Ft.	Combined Sewer
MP-0000062	Green roof	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	400	Sq. Ft.	Combined Sewer
MP-0000062	Green roof	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	369	Sq. Ft.	Combined Sewer
MP-0000062	Green roof	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	664	Sq. Ft.	Combined Sewer
MP-0000062	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	146	Sq. Ft.	Combined Sewer
MP-0000062	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	293	Sq. Ft.	Combined Sewer
MP-0000062	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	114	Sq. Ft.	Combined Sewer
MP-0000062	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	731	Sq. Ft.	Combined Sewer
MP-0000062	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	39	Sq. Ft.	Combined Sewer
MP-0000062	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	682	Sq. Ft.	Combined Sewer
MP-0000062	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	418	Sq. Ft.	Combined Sewer
MP-0000062	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	581	Sq. Ft.	Combined Sewer
MP-0000062	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	310	Sq. Ft.	Combined Sewer
MP-0000062	Stormwater planter	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	180	Sq. Ft.	Combined Sewer
MP-0000066	Dry well	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	0.23	Acres	Combined Sewer
MP-0000067	Rain garden	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	72	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000067	Dry well	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	2359	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer

Request ID	SMP Type	SMP Classification	Impervious Area	Units	Where Does Site Runoff Go?
MP-0000069	Rain garden	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	84	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000069	Dry well	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	2464	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000070	Rain garden	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	72	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000070	Dry well	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	2363	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000083	Rain garden	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	56	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000083	Dry well	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	2190	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000084	Rain garden	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	84	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000084	Dry well	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	2363	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000085	Rain garden	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	81	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000085	Dry well	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	2363	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000086	Rain garden	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	72	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000086	Dry well	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	2363	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000087	Rain garden	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	81	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000087	Dry well	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	2363	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000088	Rain garden	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	84	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000088	Dry well	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	2363	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000089	Rain garden	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	48	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000089	Dry well	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	2077	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000091	Rain garden	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	84	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000091	Dry well	Tier 2 - Non-vegetated retention	2363	Sq. Ft.	Separate Sewer
MP-0000097	Media Filter	Capture, Reuse, and Other classification	1.46	Acres	Separate Sewer
MP-0000097	Stormwater planter (vegetated retention)	Tier 1 - Vegetated Retention	0.03	Acres	Separate Sewer
MP-0000097	Detention tank	Tier 3 - Non-vegetated Detention	1.46	Acres	Separate Sewer



Stormwater Construction / Post-Construction Public Data is available through SWPTS at <https://deppermits.microsoftportals.com/>. SWPTS is also the site for applicants to submit and then track the review and approval of their SWPPPs and issuance of their permits.



