

TOWN OF PALM BEACH SHORES

Proactive Inspection Program

Section III.A.7.c – Illicit Discharges and Improper Disposal – Inspection and Investigation of Suspected Illicit Discharges and/or Improper Disposal

This permit element requires a written **proactive inspection program** for identifying and eliminating sources of illicit discharges, illicit connection or illegal dumping, to our MS4.

- Portions of our MS4 that have a reasonable potential of containing illicit discharges/connections/dumping are inspected annually. The FDEP has indicated that the portions of our MS4 that have a reasonable potential of containing illicit discharges/connections/dumping should be considered to be the commercially zoned areas/properties that could potentially discharge into our MS4.
- FDEP allows these inspections to be combined with other inspection programs, but the inspections must include specific inspection for potential stormwater contamination.

TOWN OF PALM BEACH SHORES
Proactive Inspection Program (Written Procedures)

1. Procedure and Criteria for identifying priority areas/facilities

For consistency with the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, the following areas are considered a priority in the inspection program:

- Industrial, commercial, or mixed use areas
- Areas with history of past illicit discharges and/or illegal dumping
- Areas with on-site sewage disposal systems
- Areas upstream of sensitive or impaired water bodies

The attached map depicts the areas zoned as industrial or commercial, that lie within our MS4 contributing area or in an area that discharges from an outfall for which we are responsible. The map is updated each year, typically in the month of February , by the Public Works department and saved as a PDF format file for use by all.

2. List of identified priority areas/facilities

Each year, a list of addresses is created from an overlay of the map created above and the County's current parcel map and associated database. This list is cross-referenced with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) list of facilities that have coverage under the Multi-Sector Generic Permit (MSGP). If any facilities that appear to require an MSGP are not on the FDEP list, the names and addresses of those businesses are referred to FDEP. The annual creation of the list of addresses and cross-referencing with the FDEP MSGP database is typically done in the month of February each year.

3. Annual schedule for inspections

All priority areas/facilities are inspected at least once within the current five-year permit term. The inspection area has been divided into 2 zones. One zone will be inspected during each year of the permit term. If an area is found to have illicit discharges/connections/dumping, it is re-inspected for compliance and if warranted, specific facilities within that area are considered for placement on the high risk facility list for more frequent inspection.

In addition, inspections for signs of illicit discharges are part of the Standard Operating Procedure for all structural control inspections and maintenance. A “checkbox” for this activity is included on the inspection forms for those activities. If a suspected illicit is identified, it is reported to Code Enforcement for investigation under the Reactive Investigations program.

Finally, all appropriate field personnel receive illicit discharge and illegal dumping identification and notification training. If a suspected illicit is identified during the course of performing their

regular activities, it is reported to Code Enforcement for investigation under the Reactive Investigations program.

4. Procedure for conducting inspections

The inspector(s) patrols the prioritized area searching for indications of illicit discharges/connections/dumping into the City's MS4, in accordance with the training received. If any are identified, the inspector makes a cursory attempt at identifying the source of the illicit. If the source is identified, the inspector makes the decision to either approach the facility owner or refer the finding to his supervisor for further action. In speaking with the facility owner or operator, the inspector advises of the findings and cites the ordinance which prohibits such discharges. The inspector may use photo documentation to support the inspection. The inspector indicates his/her intention to return to verify that the problem has been corrected. If no source is identified, the findings are reported to the inspector's supervisor for further investigation.

Pro-active inspections also take place during the inspection of structural controls and other MS4 components by the Public Works Department and Code Enforcement personnel that are trained in illicit discharge identification and reporting.

5. Procedure for tracing source of discovered illicit discharge

Visual observation, investigation, and testing if necessary, are used to identify the source of an illicit discharges/connections/dumping.

6. Procedure for eliminating the discharge

If an illicit connection to the MS4 through a pipe is identified, it is immediately terminated (plugged or removed). If the illicit is traced back to a property owner/operator, the owner of the property is contacted by Code Enforcement. The owner is notified of the problem and asked to address the situation immediately. The owner is also notified of the re-inspection date, typically one week.

7. Procedure for documenting the inspections and enforcement activities

The MSGP coverage research and reporting is documented by the copies of the lists generated during each step (list of facilities within MS4 that are commercial/industrial), list of facilities in the Town of Palm Beach Shores with MSGP coverage, list of facilities that appear to need MSGP coverage but appear not to have it). These lists will be maintained with other back-up documentation to support the annual permit activities conducted by the City. The list of facilities that appear to need MSGP coverage will be sent to FDEP for follow-up.

The attached inspection form is used for pro-active inspections and the subsequent follow-up. All records are maintained electronically and hard copied by the Public Works Department and are shared with the Building Code Enforcement Department for follow up enforcement action if needed.

8. Procedures for enforcement actions (or referrals to appropriate jurisdictional authority)

For cases within The Town of Palm Beach Shores MS4 contributing area, an unresolved matter is handled by the Building Code Enforcement Department. For cases outside The Town of Palm Beach Shores MS4, the appropriate entity is notified (FDOT, Palm Beach County, etc.) by The Town of Palm Beach Shores Building Code Enforcement Department .

9. Identification of staff /department/outside entity responsible for inspections and for enforcement

Inspection activities are carried out by The Public Works and Building Department. Follow-up and management are provided by The Public Works and Building Department. Documentation is handled by the Public Works Department .

10. Description of resources allocated to implement this permit element

Approximately \$2,000.00 has been allocated for this program for the 2011 fiscal period.

TOWN OF PALM BEACH SHORES

Proactive Illicit Discharge/Illegal Connection Inspection Form

Date of Inspection: _____ Inspector Name: _____

☐ New Inspection

☐ Follow-up Inspection

Description of inspection area: _____

Identification of MS4 component that could receive discharge from this site/area: _____

Findings:

Evidence of illicit connections to storm sewer? Yes___ No___

Evidence of dumping/spills to storm sewer? Yes___ No___

Evidence of wash water going to storm sewer? Yes___ No___

Storage tanks leaking or improperly contained? Yes___ No___

Stockpiles/debris piles uncontained? Yes___ No___

If "yes," to any above, describe:

Type of Enforcement Action Taken: _____

Date to verify correction: _____