

What is the Purpose of Rule 13?

This rule is an effort by IDEM, as the state's permitting authority, to manage the storm water discharged from urbanized areas. Consistent with other state water programs, this rule's goal is to protect human health, aquatic life, and existing water resources.

Storm Water Quality Management Plan (SWQMP)

SWQMP is a comprehensive written document that addresses storm water run-off quality within an MS4 area. Each MS4 entity or operator will need to develop a SWQMP that includes methods and measurable goals as they implement the following six Minimum Control Measures (MCM) required by Indiana's Rule 13. In Indiana, storm water discharge permits are issued by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM).

1) Public Education and Outreach

Programs that will facilitate public awareness and involvement regarding how constituents can minimize their impact on storm water quality. Examples include proper disposal of household hazardous waste, educational materials and pollution prevention commercial brochures for businesses such as lawn care and dry cleaning.

2) Public Participation and Involvement

Develop an SWQMP that includes provisions to allow opportunities for the public to participate in the storm water management program and implementation. Examples include public meetings to allow citizens the opportunity to discuss viewpoints and provide input, volunteers that will monitor water quality, and community clean-ups along local water bodies and storm drains.

3) Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

Design a plan that includes a commitment to develop and implement a strategy to detect and eliminate illicit discharges. The operator also needs to develop a storm sewer system map showing the locations of all outfalls and conveyances in their area, and the names and locations of all water that receive discharges from said outfalls. They also need to initiate or coordinate existing recycling programs for commonly dumped wastes such as motor oil, antifreeze, and pesticides. Measurable examples include the number of illegal dumps reported by citizens, and the number of illicit connections found through inspections.

4) Construction Site Storm Water Run-off Control

Develop, implement, manage, and enforce an erosion and sediment control program for construction activities that disturb one or more acres of land. Examples of measurable goals include the number of certified or trained contractors, and the number enforcement actions taken.

5) Post Construction Storm Water Run-off Control

Develop a plan to implement, manage, and enforce discharges of post construction storm water run-off from new development and redevelopment areas that disturb one, or more acres of land, or disturbances of less than one acre of land that are part of a common plan of development or sale if the larger common plan will ultimately disturb one or more acres of land within the MS4 area. Examples include the acreage of land converted to buffers and the number of grassed filter strips.

6) Municipal Operations Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping

Develop and implement a program to ensure that existing municipal, state or federal operations are performed in ways that will reduce contamination of storm water discharges. Examples include the number of gallons of used oil, antifreeze and transmission fluid collected from municipal operations, and the provision for annual staff training on pollution prevention, and on erosion and sediment control.

Indiana Department of Environmental Management

<http://www.in.gov/idem/4896.htm>

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