



City of Snohomish
2026 NPDES Phase II
Municipal Stormwater Permit
Stormwater Management Program Plan

Prepared in compliance with the Western Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit.
Permit # WAR04-5543

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Background

Permit Overview

In 1948, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act was passed to control pollution that became more widespread during World War II's industrial and urban expansion. As it was, the Act was not successful in preventing and eliminating pollution. However, the 1972 amendment that became the Clean Water Act (CWA) expanded and enforced water quality requirements and programs. One of these requirements was for certain businesses and government agencies to have permits to discharge potential pollutants into waters of the state – The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (NPDES Permit).

The establishment of the Municipal NPDES Permit works towards the goals of the CWA by setting baselines for stormwater management through programs aimed at outreach, maintenance and operations, and planning, among other categories. In Washington State, the Department of Ecology (Ecology) writes and manages requirements for the permit, operating in conjunction with Washington's Water Pollution Control Law.

The City of Snohomish has maintained an NPDES Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit since 2007. As the City has fewer than 100,000 residents, Snohomish is considered a "Phase II" community and follows Ecology's Phase II NPDES Municipal Stormwater Permit. Under the permit, the City must implement a Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) to reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff and protect local waterways. Every March, the SWMP Plan is updated to reflect upcoming projects, strategy changes, and policy updates.

Document Overview

The 2026 SWMP Plan is organized into 10 chapters that align with the NPDES Permit's categories.

- Stormwater Planning
- Public Education and Outreach
- Public Involvement and Participation
- Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Mapping and Documentation
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination



- Controlling Runoff from New Development, Redevelopment, and Construction Sites
- Stormwater Management for Existing Development
- Source Control for Existing Development
- Operations and Maintenance
- Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

These categories have been designed to best protect waterways and the aquatic environment. For Snohomish, these include the Snohomish River, Pilchuck River, Blackmans Lake, and a variety of minor streams and creeks within city limits. The City is committed to continually improving and developing its stormwater and environmental programs, ensuring compliance with state and federal requirements while providing a safe and healthy environment for all.

The SWMP Plan is updated each year to reflect changes in needs and projects. During the year, needs may change and activities listed in the SWMP Plan may be adjusted accordingly.

To view the full permit and its details, visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/permits-certifications/stormwater-general-permits/municipal-stormwater-general-permits/western-washington-phase-ii-municipal-stormwater>.

For questions about the City's 2024-2029 permit, visit <https://www.snohomishwa.gov/213/Stormwater>.



Stormwater Planning

The Stormwater Planning chapter ensures that stormwater management is included in the City's long-range planning processes. The City has been continually updating city code, project plans, and local initiatives to ensure that rainwater stays well managed and clean.

S5.C.1.a Interdisciplinary Team

With the NPDES Coordinator serving as the organizer for the NPDES Permit, various positions have been brought together to determine the best methods for meeting or exceeding permit requirements. This includes positions in Engineering, Planning, Public Works, Community Engagement and Strategic Initiatives (CESI), and Finance. They meet either on an as-needed basis or on a regular schedule, as different projects require input from different departments.

S5.C.1.b Coordination with Long-Range Plan Updates

In 2024, the City began working on an updated Stormwater Comprehensive Plan, which will be completed in 2026. This interdisciplinary plan will integrate management of our local watersheds, stormwater retrofits, and sustainable development. In 2025, the City completed work on updating the [city code for sensitive environmental areas/critical areas](#), such as wetlands and flood hazards. These updates will mitigate the impact that developments and urban growth have on these areas. Also in 2025, the City's tree code was updated to align with the [2023 Urban Forestry Plan](#). The City became officially recognized as a Tree City USA, committing it to work developing and maintaining the city's urban canopy.

S5.C.1.c Low Impact Development Code Requirements

The Snohomish Municipal Code currently allows and encourages low impact development (LID). It is recommended that developers utilize the [LID Guidance Document](#) to determine what is needed by their site and what would be feasible. In 2026, the city will begin work on updating city LID code, with the LID manual and [Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington](#) (SWMMWW) as guiding documents.

S5.C.1.d Stormwater Management Action Planning

A Stormwater Management Action Plan (SMAP) was developed for the City in 2022, with the targeted area being the CSO (Combined Sewer Overflow) Basin. Beginning in 2026, efforts will be made to change this plan from the CSO to the Pilchuck River Basin, aligning the SMAP with other permit requirements, such as TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load). This plan will tailor decision making and conservation efforts to waters that flow into the Pilchuck River, including the placement of new stormwater treatment BMPs (Best Management Practices) and targeted outreach.



Public Education and Outreach

The City of Snohomish is committed to providing educational opportunities for residents of all groups. These opportunities will inform community members of the impacts of stormwater on the local environment, and small steps individuals can take to ensure the water stays clean for all. In 2026, the City will be expanding its community outreach program to include a variety of activities hosted with the assistance of the Snohomish Conservation District.

S5.C.2.1.a.i General Awareness

The following activities are planned for 2026 to promote the general awareness of impacts of stormwater on surface waters to the general public:

- 1. Snohomish Community Science Day (July 11th):** For the first time, Snohomish will be hosting an environmental science day in partnership with the Snohomish Conservation District. This event will host activities such as a water sampling station, stormwater model, recycling toss, and salmon lifecycle bracelets. Local organizations will be invited to also host environmentally focused activities, with an emphasis on ones that highlight the impacts of stormwater on water quality or the importance of aquatic ecosystems.
- 2. School-Based Educational Opportunities:** In partnership with the Snohomish Conservation District, lessons will be taught to grades 3-5 from their Watershed Week, including “Fish Grow on Trees”, “MacroMayhem!”, “Salmon of Puget Sound”, and “4 Rain Drops”. These lessons teach the importance of watersheds, pollution, and impacts we can have on the environment.
- 3. Pet Waste Management:** In 2025, the popular “Dog Poop Toss Game” was first hosted at a variety of City events. This game was borrowed from the City of Everett, and due to its popularity, Snohomish will be building its own for use at more events. This game teaches those of all ages the impact that not cleaning up after pets has on the environment. It will be hosted at the Snohomish Farmer’s Market, National Night Out, and other events as available. Outreach materials will be distributed at other events and locations, such as veterinarians and online.



Farmer's Market booth with volunteer from Scouting America



4. **Library Partnership:** In partnership with the Snohomish branch of the Sno-Isle Libraries, a “Rainy Day Display” showcasing environmentally focused books will be set up for a month in 2026. Similarly, various outreach materials will be placed in the lobby cubbies of the library.
5. **PCB Outreach:** An informational flyer will be developed focused on management of PCB-contaminated materials and provided at City Hall. Similarly, a webpage will be developed to host the materials and provide more information.
6. **Spill Management:** At all city events with the NPDES Coordinator or other Stormwater staff, materials on how to manage and respond appropriately to a spill will be provided. Other locations for key stormwater pollution prevention messages include (but are not limited to):
 - a. Laminated Spill Response Communication cards placed at the City Hall front desk
 - b. Spill contact window-clings on city vehicles
 - c. Free spill kits to businesses with contact cards
7. **Other Digital Resources:** The City’s Stormwater page is updated regularly with information dedicated to ensuring water within city limits stays as clean as possible before it reaches larger bodies of water.

S5.C.2.a.ii Behavior Change

The Private Pond Program has been developed to promote actionable, measurable change within the community for the benefit of the environment and stormwater. This program aims to provide property owners, managers, and HOAs with the tools necessary to maintain their private ponds with as little city intervention as possible. Features of this program include:

1. A webinar hosted in March 2026 by the Snohomish Conservation District on what a stormwater pond is, how to maintain them, and legal responsibilities
2. A maintenance guide which will walk those responsible for the ponds through all the steps necessary to maintain their private pond
3. An unbiased list of contractors who may provide pond maintenance services and who are allowed to work within city limits
4. One-on-one inspections led by the NPDES Coordinator or other qualified city staff that provide detailed information on maintenance required and next steps
5. Follow up inspections and reports sent directly to property owners
6. Information and updates sent via mail or email (when available)



Participation in this program allows property owners to take up to two years to bring their pond back up to standard as long as efforts are, at minimum, gradually made to correct various issues.

S5.C.2.a.iii Creating Stewardship Opportunities

In 2026, the City will work alongside the Snohomish Conservation District and Green Snohomish to offer stewardship opportunities. These may include opportunities to aid in the maintenance of the food forest at Pilchuck-Julia Landing, Centennial Trail Cleanup Parties, and other opportunities as available. Organizations will be invited to volunteer at the Snohomish Community Science Day to host tables on environmental education.



Public Involvement and Participation

S5.C.3 Involving the Public in the SWMP Plan

The City solicits comments from residents throughout the year on the Stormwater website and provides staff contact information for questions and comments. This is available at the City's stormwater page at: <https://www.snohomishwa.gov/213/Stormwater>. The SWMP Plan will be available via the stormwater page and as a physical copy at City Hall. Other opportunities for residents to become involved with stormwater and environmental decisions include:

1. At City Council Meetings hosted monthly
2. At the Parks and Forestry Board Meetings hosted every two months
3. Comments on the planning and construction of infrastructure projects
4. Comments on the development of stormwater-related policies and code

In 2026, the City will use available tools to identify overburdened communities within city limits. The following measures are already taken to ensure that these opportunities are accessible for those who may be in an overburdened community or have limitations in communication:

- All City websites are developed with scrutiny and are screen-reader accessible
- All City Council Meetings are streamed live with spoken comment available
- City council meetings are accessible via the elevator at the Carnegie Building (Notifying city staff beforehand that one may need the elevator will enable staff to determine if there are any issues with the elevator beforehand and properly notify the requestee)



Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Mapping and Documentation

S5.C.4.a Ongoing Mapping

The City of Snohomish is utilizing a comprehensive MS4 mapping program that tracks stormwater infrastructure and asset management. This encompasses treatment and flow control BMPs, pipes, outfalls, receiving waters, and drainage areas. Attributes attached to these features include ownership, as-constructed features, and inspection statuses. Both private and public features are mapped, and updating private feature information as it is discovered is an ongoing effort. City staff will continue to confirm ownership details for any assets or structures that are lacking this information as more building plans are digitized. In 2026, the map will be expanded to include data from the Northlake Annexation.

ArcGIS is also utilized to map other environmental features, such as accessibility of pet waste stations, and ideal street sweeping routes. Maps with much of this information can be found at <https://www.snohomishwa.gov/177/Mapping>.

S5.C.4.b New Mapping

In 2025, the City updated information related to all known MS4 outfalls, including size of the outfall and material. This was done through analyzing historical as-built plans and using field verification to ensure the outfalls were still in working order.

In 2026, in conjunction with the Urban Forestry Plan, the city's tree canopy will be analyzed to identify stormwater-benefitting trees. This may include attributes such as tree species, clusters, and location type.



Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)

The City's IDDE program is designed to prevent contaminated surface waters through identifying and eliminating non stormwater discharges from the MS4 and surface waters. Best practices are used to ensure all issues are identified and addressed accordingly.

S5.C.5.a & b Reporting and Correcting Discharges

The City maintains standard operating procedures for city staff on how to report and correct IDDE incidents. All crews were provided with contact information for the City and the Department of Ecology during IDDE and Spill Response Training to be kept on their person or in their vehicle. Contact information has also been provided online and at City Hall for residents in case of an incident.

S5.C.5.c Stormwater Discharge Ordinances and Code

In 2022, city code was updated to identify prohibited, allowable, and conditional discharges (SMC 15.16.090). In 2026, the City will identify areas that need to be updated to comply with permit requirements, such as updating code to reflect changes in street and sidewalk wash water policies.

S5.C.5.d Program to Detect Illicit Discharges

The City's IDDE and Spill Response program has been developed to work in conjunction with other elements of the Stormwater Crew's daily responsibilities. This includes conducting field screening during catch basin inspections, leading to over 40% of the city's basins being screened yearly. Illicit Discharges are recorded in the inspection reports and responded to accordingly.

Spill contact information and free spill kits are available online. In 2026, the City's stormwater website will be updated to include more information related to general stormwater pollution awareness, car washing, pressure washing, 6PPD-Q and PCBs, and other prohibited discharges.

S5.C.5.e Program to Address Illicit Discharges

The Stormwater Crew Lead, Streets Crew Lead, and the NPDES Coordinator work in conjunction to ensure that all illicit discharges, connections, and spills are responded to quickly and effectively. Any incidents that lead to a non-stormwater or allowable discharge entering the MS4 leads to a report through the Department of Ecology's Environmental Reports Tracking System (ERTS) and a submission to the Water Quality Web Portal. Documentation of Spill Response and IDDE procedures are detailed in the City's Spill Response SOP.



S5.C.5.f Staff Training

In 2025, the City participated in IDDE and Spill Response training first in partnership with the City of Lake Stevens. After this, a training program was developed and hosted by the NPDES Coordinator that follows King County’s spill response and IDDE training and incorporates elements of the Illicit Connection and Illicit Discharge (IC-ID) Field Screening and Source Tracing Guidance Manual.

S5.C.5.g Program Recordkeeping

Tracking IDDE incidents is done through an internal reporting form, inspection reports, ERTS, and the Water Quality Web Portal. Data recorded includes the type of incident, contact information, and issue resolution. This approach will continue in 2026.



IDDE and Spill Response Training



Controlling Runoff from New Development, Redevelopment, and Construction Sites

Construction, redevelopment, and new development sites can potentially lead to stormwater pollution through site runoff. Through city code updates, inspections, and enforcement, developers can manage this pollution before it reaches the MS4.

S5.C.6.a and b Develop Stormwater Management Standards for Development, Redevelopment, and Construction Sites

In 2016, the City adopted Snohomish Municipal Code 15.16.020, which uses the SWMMWW as the technical manual and minimum stormwater regulations for all projects. In 2026, the City will begin the process to adopt the 2024 standards. SMC 15.16.065 requires the implementation of nonstructural source control BMPs on construction sites, and if those are not sufficient, then other structural BMPs or treatment BMPs may be required. SMC 15.16.100 allows City staff to conduct inspections of the construction sites for runoff and BMP use and efficacy, while SMC 15.16.110 authorizes the City to enforce requirements of the SWMMWW.

S5.C.6.c Review and Inspect Development/Redevelopment Projects

The City’s construction permitting process includes civil and site plan reviews and approval, inspections, and enforcement actions to meet the NPDES Permit’s standards. The following steps are taken as oversight during various phases of construction and redevelopment:

1. Stormwater site plans are reviewed for proposed development activities
2. Pre-clearing and construction inspections are completed for sites with high potential for sediment transport
3. Inspection of all sites during construction to ensure proper installation and maintenance of temporary erosion and sediment controls and stormwater features
4. Inspection of all sites after construction to ensure proper installation of permanent stormwater facilities
5. Establishment of maintenance agreement to ensure proper maintenance of stormwater features after the project is completed

Qualified city staff conduct inspections for all construction sites to ensure that appropriate temporary erosion and sediment control (TESC) measures have been utilized properly. Stop-work orders and corrective action notices can be used when issues are identified.



S5.C.6.d Construction and Industrial Activity Information

For the benefit of developers, a link to the Construction Stormwater General Permit Notice of Intent (NOI) form, a link to the Industrial Stormwater General Permit NOI form, and the online registration for underground injection control (UIC) wells have been provided.

S5.C.6.e Staff Training

City staff are trained in procedures necessary to protect stormwater drainage and surface waters. All site inspectors are required to have CESCL (Certified Erosion and Sediment Control Lead) certification as well as spill and IDDE training.



Stormwater Management for Existing Development

In 2025, the City investigated potential projects for the Stormwater Management for Existing Development (SMED) element of the NPDES Permit. This section requires that the City must design, construct, fund, or otherwise implement projects that improve stormwater management for 1.6 acres of runoff area in the city. To reach this target, the City is planning stormwater facility investments and program enhancements.

S5.C.7.a Stormwater Facility and Project Investments

The following projects are being planned to ensure the City meets the 1.6 acreage goal:

Project Type	Project Description	Estimated Acreage
New Runoff Treatment Facilities	TBD	.8
Enhanced Street Sweeping	Increased street sweeping along high-priority roadways and throughout the city	.4
Prioritization of Source Control Inspections	Source Control Inspections and programs focused on SMAP basin (to be adjusted to Pilchuck River Basin)	.4



Source Control for Existing Development

The City has maintained a business inspection program, or Source Control Program, since 2023. These inspections are to minimize stormwater pollution at businesses and provide resources on how to implement stormwater best management practices (BMPs). Targeting pollution at its source is much more effective than waiting to clean it up at the receiving waters, and the program is always integrating more effective and efficient ways to manage this issue. In 2025, qualifying businesses within city limits were updated using Department of Revenue information.

S5.C.8.a Source Control Code and Ordinances

Through 2026 and into 2027, the NPDES Coordinator will work with various staff within the City to ensure city code meets Ecology’s requirements. If it is recognized that the City requires code updates, they may focus on items such as requirements for pollution generating sources, inspections, and enforcement.

S5.C.8.b & c Source Control Program

The City’s NPDES Source Control Program is required to include inspections equal to 20% of the Source Control inventory. In 2026, this will equate to 26 scheduled inspections. The NPDES Coordinator will also visit 100% of sites identified through complaints or referrals (ex. IDDE investigations), as required by the NPDES Permit. Source Control visits will focus on education and technical assistance so businesses can maintain appropriate stormwater pollution prevention practices, though it may also follow a progressive compliance strategy to achieve necessary improvements. The City maintains a webpage with helpful technical resources at:

<https://www.snohomishwa.gov/785/Business-Pollution-Prevention>

As in previous years, in 2026, staff will maintain the “Close the Lid” campaign, which provides businesses with information regarding pollution that can come from opened and mismanaged dumpsters. Staff will also continue to be trained to conduct these inspections and ensure compliance when violations are discovered. As staff are available, they will also participate in the regional Business Inspection Group (BIG).



"Shut the Lid" Dumpster Sticker



Operations and Maintenance

The City has multiple teams dedicated to maintaining city infrastructure. The Stormwater and Collections Team upkeep the City's storm and sewer drainage systems. They manage over 1,800 catch basins, 9 water quality facilities, and 21 flow control features. Numerous other private stormwater features also operate throughout the city.

S5.C.9.a Maintenance Standards

The City has been working under the stormwater infrastructure maintenance standards from the 2019 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington (SMMWW) for all newly approved stormwater quality treatment and flow control facilities. In 2026, the City will begin the process to adopt the 2024 standards.

S5.C.9.b Maintenance of Facilities Regulated by the City

Annual inspections are conducted for all stormwater treatment and flow control facilities that are discharged to the City's storm and sewer systems. Per SMC 15.16.070, those who own private stormwater facilities are in charge of their maintenance and upkeep. City staff are available to provide recommendations for work that must be completed. Enforcement of the maintenance standards is set forth in SMC 15.16.110.

City staff will visit all private stormwater flow control and water quality treatment facilities installed after 2009. After the inspection, staff will provide property owners/managers with a summary of the required maintenance. City staff will then conduct follow-ups and provide verbal or written assistance where required.

S5.C.9.c Maintenance of Facilities Owned or Operated by the City

City staff work year-round to ensure city owned and operated facilities are inspected and well maintained. Each year, crews visually inspect all facilities to identify needs and determine maintenance status. Cleaning and maintenance occur in a timely manner thereafter. As the City assumes responsibility and ownership of new water quality treatment and flow control facilities, they are added to the inspection list.

After major storm events (defined as 24-hour storm events with a 10 year or greater interval), crews will spot check at-risk stormwater treatment and flow control facilities. Where issues are identified, crews will work to bring the features back to working order. In Snohomish, this level is approximately 3 inches of rain in a day.

Every two years, the City's Stormwater and Collections Crew inspect all city-owned or operated catch basins and inlets. Catch basins that are identified for cleaning will be completed within 6 months of the inspection. This work is being managed within the City's asset management system and through GIS.



S5.C.9.d Practices, Policies, and Procedures to Reduce Stormwater Impacts of Municipal Operations

Beginning in 2026, the City will produce documentation for practices, policies, and procedures for inspections and maintenance. This includes documenting activities such as snow and ice control, utility installation, sediment and erosion control, and trash and pet waste management, among many other activities.

S5.C.9.e Street Sweeping

Street sweeping is essential for reducing major pollutants from vehicles and everyday life from reaching the waterways. Currently, the Streets Crew follows set routes that sweep all major roadways within the city on a monthly schedule, and the Stormwater Crew sweeps areas that regularly cause stormwater backups. In conjunction with the Washington Stormwater Center, the City will begin the process of adopting a municipal street sweeping program, to be completed no later than July 1, 2027. High traffic and commercial streets will be targeted as “priority areas” and swept at least 3 times a year.



Street Sweeper in action after a spill

S5.C.9.f Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan for Public Works Yard

The City developed a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for its Public Works Maintenance Yard. The SWPPP provides information for stormwater management on site, including materials stored, stormwater features, a site map, and spill response protocol. The current SWPPP was developed in 2022, and it will be updated to reflect new site conditions and personnel.

S5.C.9.g Staff Training

City staff are trained in procedures necessary to protect stormwater drainage and surface waters. Some training is Team specific, such as needs for catch basin inspections, while training such as spill cleanup and IDDE response are given to all crews.

S5.C.7.h Record Maintenance

The City maintains records of inspections, maintenance, and repair to city owned or operated stormwater facilities. These records are stored in the City’s work management program.



Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

Many large bodies of water have specific issues that result in poor water and habitat quality. These may be high bacteria levels, elevated water temperatures, or cloudy water, among other contaminants. These issues are addressed by their “Total Maximum Daily Loads”, or TMDLs, which is the maximum amount of a pollutant allowed to enter water.

S7.A Pilchuck River

The TMDL that the City of Snohomish works under is the Fecal Coliform load in the Pilchuck River. Fecal Coliform (FC), as its name suggests, comes from animal waste. It can enter waterways when pet waste is not cleaned up, after nearby farms have been fertilized with manure, when it rains on animal farms, and when birds linger in lakes. The following activities are designed to limit this pollution.

Business Inspections

Businesses that have increased potential to release FC (veterinarians, farms) have been inspected as of 2025 and have not had any issues with pollution. They will be inspected at least once more before the end of the permit term. Beginning in 2026, vet offices will be able to participate in a pet waste reduction program that provides new dog owners with a “poop scoop” kit.

Public Education and Outreach

In conjunction with the “poop scoop” kit outreach, the City hosts the “Poop Toss” game at various city events. Information is available on the impacts of pet waste on water quality and human health, accessibility of pet waste stations, and when/where pet owners should pick up pet waste (hint: everywhere at any time!).

Operations and Maintenance

At all parks and trails, the City will continue to maintain pet waste stations for regular use in parks where dogs are expected to be and maintain them as part of the Parks crew’s routine maintenance checks.

Illicit Connection/Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

Every month, samples are taken at 7 test sites around the city to identify potential sources of fecal coliform. During the Stormwater crew’s catch basin inspections, if it is identified that there is a contaminant in a catch basin, a sample is taken and efforts to locate and remove the pollution source.



Sample being collected from Cemetery Creek



Glossary

Best Management Practices (BMPs): Physical, structural, and managerial practices that prevent or reduce the harmful impacts of stormwater, such as pollution, erosion, and flooding. *Example: A structural BMP might be permeable pavement, which infiltrates water through pavement instead of letting it run quickly along roadways.*

Clean Water Act (CWA): Formerly known as the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972, Pub. L. 92-500, as amended *Pub. L. 95-217, Pub. L. 6-483, and Pub. L. 97-117, 33 U.S.C. 1251. et seq.* This Act established the NPDES Permit.

Illicit Connection: Any unlawful man-made physical connection, such as a pip, hose, or drain that connects to a stormwater system. This excludes roof drains or similar connections.

Illicit Discharge: Any discharge that is not entirely composed of stormwater, except for discharges pursuant to an NPDES Permit and discharges from firefighting activities. *Examples: Runoff from washing cars, pouring grease down storm drains, dripping oil from a leaking vehicle.*

Low-Impact Development (LID): A stormwater and land-use management strategy that attempts to copy natural hydrologic conditions through conservation, natural features, site planning, and BMPs. It attempts to capture water, slow it down, allow for infiltration, and clean the water before it reaches larger waterways. *Examples: Rain gardens, vegetated roofs, permeable pavements*

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4): A publicly owned or operated stormwater infrastructure, used explicitly for stormwater. Features include roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, manmade channels, and storm drains.

National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES): A permit that allows governments, businesses, or other entities to discharge water to waters of the State. The permit contains pollution regulations and requirements that must be met to ensure clean and safe water and reduce environmental impacts.

Non-Point Source Pollution: Pollution that does not have a clearly identifiable source. *Example: Runoff along roadways from heavy snowmelt in a city.*

Point Source Pollution: Pollution that has a clearly identifiable source. *Example: Sewage draining into a river from a broken pipe.*



Stormwater: Runoff during and following precipitation and snowmelt, including surface runoff and drainage.

Stormwater Management Program (SWMP): A set of actions and activities designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the regulated small MS4 to the maximum extent practicable, protecting water quality. This is comprised of components listed in S5 through S6 of the NPDES Permit, and any additional actions necessary to meet the requirements of the NPDES Permit.

Surface Water: Includes lakes, rivers, ponds, streams, wetlands, and water courses, as well as shallow groundwater.

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL): A calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant allowed to enter a waterbody so the waterbody will meet and continue to meet water quality standards for that particular pollutant. A TMDL Requirement is the need to conduct actions to reduce the pollutant from waterways, such as eliminating pollution sources.



Resources

City of Snohomish Stormwater Website:

<https://www.snohomishwa.gov/213/Stormwater>

City of Snohomish Municipal Code: <https://snohomish.municipal.codes/>

Department of Ecology NPDES Permit: [https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits-certifications/stormwater-general-permits/municipal-stormwater-general-permits/western-washington-phase-ii-municipal-stormwater](https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/permits-certifications/stormwater-general-permits/municipal-stormwater-general-permits/western-washington-phase-ii-municipal-stormwater)

Department of Ecology Low-Impact Development Website:

<https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/guidance-technical-assistance/stormwater-permittee-guidance-resources/low-impact-development-guidance>

Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington:

<https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/guidance-technical-assistance/stormwater-permittee-guidance-resources/stormwater-manuals>

