



City of Goshen

STORMWATER TOOLBOX

Public Works & Utilities
Department of Stormwater
204 E. Jefferson Street
Goshen, Indiana 46528
574-534-2201

bit.ly/goshen-stormwater

Director of Public Works:
Dustin Sailor
Stormwater Coordinator:
Jason Kauffman— 537-3832

MS4 = Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System, which is part of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting program, which is part of the Clean Water Act.

bit.ly/NPDES-Info



Stormwater Program Report Card

Recently, the National Municipal Stormwater Alliance (NMSA) released their first "State of the Stormwater Report" to provide an overview of the current state of MS4 program implementation throughout the United States of America.

The report is a snapshot of MS4 programs from 14 states that participated in a NMSA survey and provides an overall review of those states' "MS4 NPDES program implementation, current regulatory issues in the state, and a general estimate of the trend and overall quality of the state's receiving waters."

Indiana MS4s participated in the NMSA survey and the full report can be found here: bit.ly/NMSA-SW-ReportCard. Here are a few highlights:

- ❖ Indiana has one Phase I MS4 (Indianapolis) and 187 Phase II MS4s.
- ❖ The number one need of Indiana MS4s is funding and 73 communities have implemented some kind of stormwater fee or utility. The City of Goshen charges an annual stormwater fee of \$15 per residential property or 3600 square feet for non-residential properties.
- ❖ IDEM is currently updating the construction, industrial, and MS4 stormwater permit rules since they have not been updated since 2003.
- ❖ The updated stormwater permit rules will provide more clarity on how MS4s are to implement various MS4 permit requirements, which was identified as a need in the NMSA report.
- ❖ The trends in water quality improvement throughout the state are hard to figure out, but if you are interested in water quality testing results from our community, you can find more information on the Stormwater Website (goshenindiana.org/water-sampling-data).
- ❖ One of the greatest challenges facing Indiana MS4s is the implementation of a stormwater post-construction program due to extensive pushback from the development sector. Post-construction stormwater management ensures clean water is a priority.
- ❖ "The most significant improvement in Indiana resulting from the MS4 program is positive behavioral change of MS4 employees and the general public through robust educational efforts."



"Stormwater is the only growing source of water pollution in many watersheds throughout the United States."
- Water Environment Federation



A DROP OF NEWS

Your Stormwater Newsletter

Plastic Pollution & Climate Change

That plastic bottle or plastic shopping bag you see lying on the side of the road or floating through the air isn't just unsightly and a danger to wildlife, but it is now known to release potent greenhouse gases. Research published at the beginning of this month shows how an experiment to study the amount of methane released by biological activity in seawater accidentally discovered how the plastic bottles were actually releasing more methane than the biological life. The researchers actually discovered that plastic exposed to just air and sunlight releases even more greenhouse gases than plastics exposed to sunlight in the ocean.



For more information, check out the following article from the BBC or the full research paper on PLOS ONE. BBC - bit.ly/PlasticClimate or PLOS ONE - bit.ly/2BJoARW



Pieces of plastic found in the sand along Lake Michigan in South Haven, Michigan.

Plastic Pollution & The Great Lakes

Plastic pollution in the oceans has recently been in the news with many business, restaurants, and communities reducing their use of plastic bags and straws, with an estimated 8 million tons of plastic entering the oceans every year. However, plastic pollution is also an issue for the Great Lakes with an estimated 10,000 tons entering them each year.

In the ocean, plastic pollution collects in gyres or the middle of a circular ocean current. In the Great Lakes there are no gyres and computer models show the plastic pollution collects near the shorelines where animals live and some communities collect their drinking water. This is not a good thing as recent research has shown microplastics have been found in tap water and beer.

The best way to eliminate this problem is to keep plastic materials from getting into our local waterways in the first place. So if you see a piece of trash laying on the ground or floating through the water, consider picking it up and disposing of it correctly. By doing this, you will know you are making a difference in our local and global community.

For more information and some interesting videos, check out the full article from The Conversation website at bit.ly/2PBuwPZ.

Report an Illicit Discharge

An illicit discharge is anything other than rain that could flow or be washed into a storm drain. If you see something that doesn't look right please call 574-534-2201, send an email to jasonkauffman@goshencity.com, or submit a Stormwater Report through the City of Goshen's new "Report an Issue" button in the upper corner of the City's website (www.goshenindiana.org).

