

# A Drop of News

December 2022

## The Maple City Stormwater Toolbox

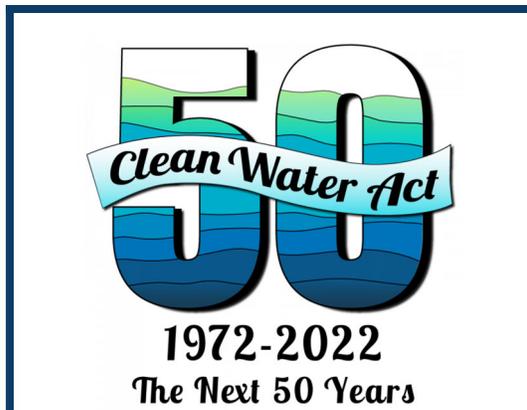
### Stormwater General Permit Audit



In 1942, the federal government passed the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1948. This was the first major law written to address water pollution. Then, in 1970, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was created to oversee environmental matters in the United States. Growing public awareness and concern for controlling water pollution led to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act being amended in 1972, to further address water pollution issues like point-source pollution and to restore our Nation's surface water resources to fishable and swimmable. These amendments became known as the Clean Water Act. Included in the Clean Water Act, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), helps address water pollution by regulating point-sources that discharge pollutants to waters of the United States. The permitting system implemented by the NPDES allows us to place limits on the amount of pollutants that may be discharged to waters of the State by each discharger. These limits are set at levels protective of both the aquatic life in the waters which receive the discharge and protective of human health. The permitting system set forth by the NPDES is still used today, although revisions were finalized in 2019, which updated the requirements needed to submit applications for permitting. The revisions updated the applications to conform to the final rule and improve clarity and usability. In 1986, the Indiana General Assembly created the Indiana Department of Environmental Management under Title 13 of the Indiana Code. The agency's mission is to implement federal and state regulations to protect human health and the environment while allowing the environmentally sound operations of industrial, agricultural, commercial, and government activities vital to a prosperous economy. Environmental laws and rules set standards of conduct that everyone is expected to follow. IDEM controls all Construction Stormwater General Permits that are filed in the state of Indiana. As a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4), the City of Goshen is required to fulfill permitting obligations under IDEM and EPA regulations. One crucial permitting obligation is an audit of a MS4 community's Stormwater Program once every five years. This audit monitors all six minimum control measures Goshen is responsible for, including pollution prevention and good housekeeping. This past October, IDEM performed an audit on several of Goshen's Stormwater Program components, including pollution prevention and good housekeeping, and found Goshen's Program to satisfactorily meet the MS4 General Permit Requirements.



United States Environmental Protection Agency Logo



Clean Water Act 50 Year Anniversary Logo



Indiana Department of Environmental Management Logo



# MCM Tour

## Minimum Control Measure: Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping

The final minimum control measure addresses the stormwater discharges that are associated with operations internal to the MS4. This measure requires the MS4 to evaluate and alter operations internally to ensure a reduction in the pollutants that are generated from municipal operations. Some items that are required to be addressed for this minimum control measure are:

- Reduce or eliminate the discharge of pollutants from roads, parking lots, maintenance and storage yards, and waste transfer stations.
- Develop procedures for the proper disposal of materials removed from storm sewer systems, conveyances channels, operational areas, and streets.
- Provide annual training to field and maintenance staff on stormwater pollution prevention-related topics.



### Report a Pollutant

Stormwater pollutants include anything other than rain that could flow or be washed into a storm drain. If you see a pollutant entering a storm drain, please call 574-534-2201, send an email to [stormwater@goshencity.com](mailto:stormwater@goshencity.com), or submit a Stormwater Report through the City's "Report an Issue" button on the City of Goshen website, [www.goshenindiana.org](http://www.goshenindiana.org).

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[bit.ly/goshen-stormwater](http://bit.ly/goshen-stormwater)

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