



Whatcom Community College Storm Water Management Program

Reporting Year 2022

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1. Public Education and Outreach

- a. The College re-labeled all campus storm drain inlets during the summer, 2022. Drains will be relabeled as needed to maintain clear visibility, but at a minimum of annually during our summer parking lot maintenance program.
- b. Educational information on ways to reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff have been displayed on computer screen savers and plasma monitors throughout campus since May 2008. Messages are rotated each academic quarter to include each topic outlined in section S6.D.b of the permit. These messages are reviewed and updated regularly, most recently in August, 2022.
- c. Educational signage for the North Wetland improvement areas was placed in March of 2022.
- d. Representatives from Squalicum Mountain Restoration presented at the campus Sustainability Committee on April 13, 2022 to educate stakeholders on the wetland mitigation project and promote habitat restoration projects and best practices related to stormwater pollution prevention in the surrounding community.
- e. Facilities and Operations provided tours and information sessions for the wetland improvement projects to all interested on April 18th as part of campus Earth Week events.

2. Public involvement and Participation

- a. The College published a public notice in the Bellingham Herald on August 16, 2011 to solicit public review of its SWMP. No comments were received.
- b. The College maintains its most recent SWMP on the WCC public website.

3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

- a. The College complies with all relevant ordinances, rules, and regulations of the local jurisdiction that govern non-stormwater discharges for the area in which the campus is located.
- b. The WCC Administrative Services Office developed an Illicit Discharge Policy (Appendix A) which was adopted as of May 1, 2008. The policy includes a commitment from the college to prohibit illicit discharges to the MS4 and outlines the administrative processes to identify, report, and enforce requirements set forth by the policy.

Current control practices include, but are not limited to:

- Dechlorinate potable water discharged during fire sprinkler flow testing and water line flushing.

- Adjust and maintain lawn irrigation systems to eliminate over watering, system leaks and overspray caused by broken or misdirected sprinkler heads.
 - Limit use of water for hard surface cleaning (i.e. sidewalks, tennis courts) to areas where runoff can be directed to naturally vegetated areas, not storm drains.
 - Use only street sweepers, brooms, street vacuum trucks, and leaf blowers whenever possible and always before any water is used for cleaning of parking lot and driveway areas.
 - Monitor parking lots for spills that could have the potential of entering the storm sewer system. Report any spills to the Facilities and Operations Department and take appropriate action for containment and clean-up.
- c. The College retained Wilson Engineering to develop a complete site map outlining the campus storm sewer system and identifying outfalls, receiving waters and areas contributing runoff to each outfall. This site plan has been updated as of January 2021 to include the new development areas associated with the Learning Commons and Student Housing.
- d. The College began visually inspecting all outfalls discharging to surface waters during summer 2008. Inspection procedures have been developed and any illicit discharge findings will be addressed as outlined in the Illicit Discharge Policy. Inspection reports will be kept in the Facilities and Operations Office (ASB 117).
- e. The College has formally trained personnel in spill response. If a spill is small and contained, College personnel will complete cleanup and take materials to the Whatcom Disposal of Toxics recycling center operated by Whatcom County.
- f. The College has identified Clean Harbors as a qualified company specializing in spill response and clean-up. Should a spill occur that is larger or more significant than College can manage, Clean Harbors would be contracted for emergency spill response.
- g. The College will provide training to Facilities staff (Grounds, Maintenance, Custodial). Training will include BMPs, identification/notification of illicit discharges and spill prevention/clean-up. Training will be relevant to campus operations and focus on key areas of the College's MS4.

4. Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

- a. The College will comply with all relevant ordinances, rules, and regulations of the local jurisdiction that govern construction phase stormwater pollution prevention measures.
- b. For construction projects involving land disturbances and/or other activities requiring coverage under a construction stormwater permit, the College will work closely with the selected civil engineer and the City of Bellingham to ensure a Construction Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan is developed specific to the construction project and that NPDES coverage is obtained prior to the discharge of construction related stormwater.
- c. The College will coordinate with the City of Bellingham P.U.D. on any necessary construction or maintenance related work which requires discharging to the WCC MS4.
- d. College Facilities staff will receive annual training in erosion and sediment control BMPs and requirements. Training will be ongoing for key Facilities personnel. The College will also verify credentials of outside contractors to ensure they have appropriate experience and training pertaining to construction stormwater pollution prevention.
- e. The College will fully cooperate with the DOE and/or the local jurisdiction to provide access to construction sites and land disturbance areas. Requests for access should be directed to the WCC Facilities and Operations Department at the Auxiliary Services Building, 620 W. Kellogg Rd, Bellingham WA 98226, or call (360) 383-3390.

5. Post-Construction Stormwater Management for New Development and Redevelopment

- a. The College will comply with all relevant ordinances, rules, and regulations of the local jurisdiction that govern post construction phase stormwater pollution prevention measures.
- b. The College will coordinate with the City of Bellingham P.U.D. on any construction or maintenance related work needed which requires discharging to the WCC MS4.

6. Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

- a. The Stormwater System, Operation and Maintenance Program is designed to minimize stormwater pollution stemming from campus activities. The O&M program includes the following components:
 - Stormwater Facilities Operations & Maintenance Manual identifying location and description of all campus stormwater conveyance, treatment, flow control, and detention facilities. The manual also includes detailed

inspection maintenance procedures and Best Management Practices (BMPs) related to campus operations and stormwater standards/requirements.

- Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS) used to schedule and track periodic maintenance and inspection tasks.
 - Inclement weather protocol identifying snow and ice removal will be controlled by mechanical means when practical. Snow shovels, snow blowers and snowplows will be used to remove as much snow and ice as possible. De-icer will only be used for sidewalks, stairs and entryways. Sand will be used sparingly and only as needed on campus drives having steep grades, new concrete to avoid spalling, and at intersections. Parking lots will be plowed as needed but not sanded. De-icer and sand will be stored under cover and will not be exposed to the elements.
 - Motor pool guidelines identifying campus vehicles will be serviced at an authorized service center, vehicles will be washed in a designated area that will not drain to the storm sewer system. There are no fueling facilities on campus.
 - Training for Maintenance staff involved in external building maintenance, painting and cleaning focusing on ways to minimize stormwater pollution (i.e. proper housekeeping and waste disposal).
 - Training for Grounds staff on the use of BMPs to minimize contamination of the stormwater system. In addition to general stormwater system maintenance, the training includes BMPs related to pesticide and fertilizer use, composting, erosion control, and hardscape cleaning.
 - Storage and handling of maintenance materials and equipment to reduce risk of spills and ensure materials are kept under cover and not exposed to the elements while in storage.
- b. The College owns or operates no other facilities requiring coverage under a NPDES permit for industrial activities.
- c. O&M reports will be generated from the CMMS providing information on periodic maintenance, system repairs and scheduled inspections.
- d. WCC provides periodic training to Facilities & Operations staff which includes BMPs, identification/notification of illicit discharges and spill prevention/clean-up. Training is relevant to campus operations and

focuses on key areas of the College's MS4. College employees directly involved with O&M functions of the MS4 may receive more specific training depending on their responsibilities. Function specific training will focus on O&M of the stormwater system and will be targeted to Grounds staff.

- e. The City of Bellingham stormwater inspector completed campus stormwater inspections on June 2nd, 2022. During the inspections WCC staff received instruction on BMPs and stormwater facilities maintenance from the City stormwater inspector, and reviewed maintenance and BMPs from 2021. Maintenance items identified in the inspection report were completed and reported to COB.