

Storm Water Pollution Prevention Initiative

Michigan General Permit Number MIG61900

Certificate of Coverage Number MIG610220

Municipality/Agency: Charter Township of Oxford

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Signature: _____ Date: _____

1. Purpose

The purpose of this Storm Water Pollution Prevention Initiative (SWPPI) is to bring together the following storm water pollution controls for the Charter Township of Oxford:

- goals and actions from the Stony/Paint Creek Subwatershed Management Plan (WMP)
- actions applicable to pollution prevention and good housekeeping for municipal operations to meet the NPDES permit requirements
- actions applicable to post construction controls for areas of significant development and redevelopment to meet the NPDES permit requirements
- details and schedules to describe the process for implementing the program
- evaluation methods to demonstrate the reduction of storm water pollution to the maximum extent practicable,

The SWPPI includes those actions expected to be implemented over the term of the permit, and in some cases beyond.

Oxford Township is divided between two main watersheds – the Clinton River and the Flint River. The Township has two Clinton River subwatersheds within its urbanized area which have resulted in a combined WMP – the Paint/Stony Creek. The Flint River Watershed is in the process of preparing a Watershed Management Plan for the South Branch subwatershed.

Table 2 outlines the specific activities that Oxford Township has undertaken, or will undertake, with respect to each of its commitments in the WMP(s) and to address other Watershed Permit requirements as necessary.

2. SWPPI Revisions

The SWPPI will be reviewed and revised by May 1, 2008. DEQ approval will be sought for revisions to date-specific commitments listed in Table 2.

3. Retention of records

The Charter Township of Oxford will retain the approved SWPPI, and its associated records, in-house for a minimum of three years after the termination of the permit. The records will be available upon request by MDEQ and shall include, but not be limited to:

- Information regarding the effectiveness of these activities;
- Records of analyses performed;
- Calibration and maintenance of instrumentation, if used;
- Recordings from continuous monitoring instrumentation.

4. Supplement to Table 2: SWPPI goals and priorities

This section provides further explanation of the information contained in Table 2, to assist with the SWPPI review and approval process. This narrative provides the specific rationale for the actions within the SWPPI table. Table 2 describes the actions that Oxford Township has committed to either initiating or completing within the 2003 – 2008 N.P.D.E.S. permit cycle.

Oxford Township supports the Stony/Paint Creek Subwatershed Management Plan. The goals that are the most important to the Township are educating the public and preserving water quality and natural resources. These goals encompass the Township's approach to environmental preservation so that future generations can enjoy safe, clean water, and natural areas.

Goal number seven has been determined to be “not applicable” within the township. Goal 7 is to Protect and interpret the historic character of Stony/Paint Creek. The Township did not feel there were enough of these areas within the Township to warrant additional actions.

4a. Actions Committed to in the Watershed Management Plan(s)

This SWPPI addresses the actions that Oxford Township committed to, as identified in the WMP for the Stony/Paint Creek Subwatersheds. The actions committed to do not meet all the Watershed Permit SWPPI requirements under Part I.B.2.a.1. Therefore, supplemental information applicable to the remaining requirements for Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations, and Post-Construction Controls are detailed in sections 4b and 4c, below.

4b. Storm Water Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

This section of the permit helps to identify ways in which communities can minimize storm water pollution generated from a wide variety of municipal activities.

Oxford Township owns the Township Municipal Building, and two fire stations. The Township Municipal Building is 7,000 square feet and sits on a lot that is around 13 acres. It has a paved parking lot for 38 vehicles. The main fire station is in the Village of Oxford, is 11,780 square feet on three acres with parking for 30 cars. The branch fire station is located in the Township on two acres with parking for about 15 vehicles. Each fire station has three catch basins that outlet to a retention/detention pond.

Training & Inspection Program

Oxford Township does not have a Department of Public Works staff or garage. There is one individual, the Township Supervisor, who ensures that the Township's few facilities are maintained properly. Much of the tasks related to maintaining these buildings and properties are contracted out. However, the Deputy Supervisor does attend training sessions related to illicit discharges, catch basins, and drainage issues. The Township also supplies educational materials to the fire department about vehicle washing, chemical storage and spill response, floor drains, fueling, and vehicle maintenance. Inspection of the township's catch basins is conducted by the township's consulting engineer.

Structural Controls

The Township's structural controls consist of three catch basins at the Village fire station, and three at the branch station, that drain to retention/detention ponds. Currently, these two catch basins and retention/detention ponds are inspected by a contractor twice a year and cleaned if necessary. Materials cleaned out of these facilities are disposed of by the contractor off of Township property. Oxford Township is also working with its consulting engineer to map its existing storm water systems, and develop an inspection and maintenance schedule.

Roadways and Fleet Maintenance

The Township's roadways are maintained by the Oakland County Road Commission. Therefore, Oxford Township does not have jurisdiction over how roads are maintained or swept, or how snow is removed or salt is applied to the roads. The Township does maintain the parking lots in front of their buildings through hired contractors. Any pavement or storm water facility work done on Township property is supervised by the Township's consulting engineers. Snow removal and salting is done by contractors at the Municipal Building, and by Fire Department staff at the fire stations. Plowed snow is generally piled along the edges of the parking lots. The Township instructs contractors to use calcium chloride in appropriate amounts based on conditions, and provides them with handouts about appropriate salt application methods. No salt is stored on Township properties. The fire stations in the Township have floor drains that discharge to the retention/detention basins through an oil and grease trap.

Because the Township does not have a maintenance garage, it does not store any chemicals for use on Township properties.

Oxford Township owns and operates one car that is parked at the Municipal Building. Vehicle maintenance is conducted on a regular basis at a commercial garage to keep vehicles working properly. They are cleaned at a commercial car wash and fueled at a commercial gas station. The Township Fire Department owns and operates 13 vehicles. These are maintained at the station on a regular basis. The trucks are fueled at a commercial station, and no fuel is kept on site. The trucks are washed at the stations, and no-phosphorus soap is used. The Fire Department is responsible for hazardous materials in the township and is trained and responsible for the No-HAZ program.

Disposal of Storm water Pollutants

As described above, the catch basins and retention/detention ponds are inspected by the Engineer and cleaned by a contractor. The contractor disposes of the clean-out materials off of Township property. Also, the Township is currently working with its consulting engineer to develop an inspection and cleaning program for Township-owned catch basins and retention/detention ponds.

Flood Control Projects

The Township has no flood control projects at this time. Storm water detention is handled through compliance with the Stormwater Drainage and Land Improvement Control Ordinance. The Township will follow these standards if any new Township buildings or projects are constructed. The Township's retention/detention basins at its two fire stations are inspected and maintained on a regular basis to ensure they are working properly. No new facilities are planned for future construction at this time.

Reduction of Landscaping Chemicals

The Township contracts out all landscaping activities on its properties. Landscape contractors will be given brochures that describe ways to minimize the use of fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides.

4c. Post Construction Controls for Areas of New Development and Significant Redevelopment

This section discusses the ways in which Oxford Township currently protects and will further protect water quality within its boundaries through development and redevelopment projects. These activities are generally referred to as "Best Management Practices" or BMPs. Storm water BMPs are techniques, structures, or management practices that help to reduce pollutants within storm water, pre-treat storm water before it reaches a surface water body (storm water quality), or maintain the same amount of flow (storm water quantity) after development as existed before development. Some of the Best Management Practices noted here are already currently being used by the Township. The other activities will be implemented within the time frames noted.

BMPs are often categorized as non-structural or structural BMPs. Non-structural BMPs are generally activities or management practices that minimize the amount of pollutants that enter storm water. Examples include land use policies that require pre-treatment of storm water, educating residents to reduce fertilizer or pesticide use, catch basin cleaning, and the like. Structural BMPs include physical structures that either pre-treat storm water, such as a wet detention basin, or maintain runoff at pre-development rates, such as infiltration areas. Since each development or re-development site is unique, a distinctive system of BMPs will be required to address storm water issues presented by that site.

The BMPs that Oxford Township has implemented or is planning to implement are listed in Tables 1 and 2 in this document. The process the community uses to evaluate which BMPs are most appropriate for different situations is accomplished through the Site Plan Review process. As development proposals are received by the Township, the proposal is evaluated based on the Township's Zoning Ordinance and engineering standards. All site plans are evaluated by the Township's consulting engineer and planner.

The Township's Master Plan, updated in 2005, includes many policies, ordinances, and recommendations which deal with water quality, development, and natural resources. The Township reviewed and utilized several studies as well, including the Open Space and Greenway Plan, a Land Capability Analysis which addresses the lands capability to support development, the Oakland County Potential Conservation / Natural Areas Study, and a Natural Resources Map.

The Township has a Stormwater Drainage and Land Improvement Ordinance in place, in order to minimize water quality degradation, flooding and drainage problems from stormwater runoff associated with land balancing; to reduce the need for public expenditures related to flooding and pollution control; to identify requirements for stormwater management; to provide for maintenance agreements and township inspections; and to provide for penalties for violations.

The Township also has in place a Wetland and Watercourse Protection Ordinance, which was established to protect the wetlands and watercourses within the township, to establish standards and procedures for the review of the proposed activities in wetlands and watercourses; to provide for the issuance of use permits for approved activities; and to establish penalties.

Table 1. WMP Goals associated with the Stony/Paint Creek Subwatersheds

Goal 1. Establish and sustain a community-based mechanism to administer and implement the Stony/Paint Creek Subwatershed plan.

Goal 2. Increase the public's understanding of their role in protecting Stony/Paint Creek.

Goal 3. Protect and restore the Stony/Paint Creek subwatershed's water quality, stream channels, riparian corridors, natural areas, wetlands, and unique ecosystems.

Goal 4. Protect and restore the Stony/Paint Creek fishery.

Goal 5. Improve recreational access and opportunities.

Goal 6. Protect farmland and reduce agricultural impacts on water quality.

Goal 7. Protect and interpret the historic character of Stony/Paint Creek.

Goal 8. Reduce soil erosion and sedimentation.