

MS4 Summary of Significant Changes between July 8, 2014 and August 27, 2015

The MS4 Permit was first issued in 2004 and covers the discharges from municipal storm sewer systems for 113 cities and towns in Connecticut. The Department first published a notice of its intent to renew this general permit in July 2014. A public hearing was held at DEEP Headquarters on December 17, 2014 and, in response to comments received, an edited version of the proposed permit was published on the DEEP stormwater webpage on January 26, 2015. Since the public hearing, DEEP staff have been meeting extensively with the stakeholders for this permit – Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM), the Connecticut Council of Small Towns (COST), the Town of Willington and the Connecticut Fund for the Environment (CFE) – to address the concerns of their constituents.

The Department has made significant modifications to the proposed permit and is holding an informational meeting for the purpose of updating municipalities and other interested parties on these modifications and to provide a forum for questions and answers on the current draft.

Some of the more notable changes made since the December hearing include:

- Elimination of Tier 2 requirements (formerly Section 6(b))
- Reduction of the street sweeping schedule (Section 6(a)(6)(D)(i))
- Reduction of the catch basin cleaning schedule (Section 6(a)(6)(D)(ii))
- Modification and clarification of the leaf management program (Section 6(a)(6)(C)(vi))
- Modification of the illicit discharge program to more closely follow EPA's criteria (Appendix B)
- Changing implementation of several elements to focus primarily on Urbanized Areas, high impervious areas and impaired waters instead of town-wide (Sections 6(a)(3)(A), 6(a)(5)(D), 6(a)(6)(D), 6(i))
- Elimination of the proposed in-stream sampling program (formerly Section 6(j)(1))
- Reduction of outfall pipe sampling parameters and focus (Section 6(j)(2)(A))
- Proposed retrofit program to reduce discharges from impervious areas (6(a)(6)(B)(ii))
- Increased compliance timelines (Sections 3(c), 4(d), 6(a))

A copy of the “mark-up” edited version of the proposed permit, reflecting changes made through August 27, and details of the informational meeting are available on the DEEP MS4 stormwater webpage at http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2721&q=558562&DEEPNav_GID=1654.