

	<b>STAFF</b> <b>REPORT</b>
<b>Date:</b>	2-20-2024
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Mayra Toothman, Asst. to the PW Director
<b>Subject:</b>	Stormwater Management Plan, 2023 Review

## Stormwater Management Plan & MS4 permit | 2023 Review

The City of Smithville holds a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit issued by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Under this permit, the City must fulfill specific obligations and submit an annual report to DNR detailing completed activities. Obtained in 2021, 2023 marks the third year of the City's five-year permit cycle.



In 2023, the City of Smithville undertook many initiatives as part of the Stormwater Management Program to ensure compliance with regulatory standards and foster community engagement in environmental stewardship. Below there is a list of some initiatives undertaken by the City throughout the year to address stormwater management challenges, promote compliance, and enhance public awareness.

- **Stormwater Needs Assessment:** A comprehensive assessment, conducted by GBA, the City's contractor, identified critical areas for improvement in stormwater. It was presented to the board in February 2023 and projects were added to the FY24-FY28 Capital improvement plan.
- **Audit and Compliance Measures:** An audit was conducted by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in March 2023. This audit helped the City with the identification of key areas that needed improvement within our stormwater program. Staff made adjustments to ensure alignment with regulatory compliance standards.
- **The Streets department installed a new concrete washout area** specifically designed to mitigate concrete runoff and environmental pollution.

- **E-Waste and Shredding Event:** The City hosted an e-waste and shredding event on April 8, encouraging proper disposal of electronic items, thereby reducing environmental hazards associated with improper disposal.
- **GIS Website Enhancement:** Updates were made to the Geographic Information System (GIS) website, incorporating important details regarding Waters of the State layer, outfalls, including names, priorities, and basin inventory information. This enhancement strengthens the city's ability to manage stormwater infrastructure effectively.
- The City incorporated "drain to stream" decals into its standard stormwater engineering plans.
- **Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Event:** The city organized an HHW event in August 2023, allowing residents to safely dispose of hazardous materials, mitigating potential contamination of the stormwater system.

Year	Cars attending an event or using facility	Pounds of material collected and safely disposed
2021	321	43,562
2022	155	18,000
2023	258	29,975

- **Bulky Item Events:** Two separate events for bulky item pick-ups, held during the Spring and Fall Clean-up, were organized, promoting responsible disposal practices, and preventing pollutants from entering the stormwater system. Additionally, the City hosted its first bulky item drop-off event in November 2023, providing an additional opportunity for residents to dispose of large items responsibly.
- **Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) Plan:** The City developed and presented an IDDE plan to the Board of Aldermen during a board meeting in September, emphasizing a structured approach to identify and eliminate illicit discharges into the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). The Board of Aldermen passed an ordinance updating language to specify that owners or responsible parties must report any suspicions of illicit discharge on their properties.
- **Drain Decal Installation (Cedar Lake Neighborhood):** Collaborative efforts saw the installation of approximately 50 drains to stream decals in the Cedar Lake neighborhood, spearheaded by a proactive Board of Aldermen member. This initiative enhances community engagement and awareness of stormwater management practices.

- **Basin Maintenance Program:** The City initiated this program to ensure owners comply with regular compliance with stormwater infrastructure. This program will be implemented during the Spring and will involve regular inspections conducted by the City, coupled with educational initiatives aimed at informing owners about the best practices for basin maintenance. In October 2023, the City updated our ordinance to require developers to enter into an agreement with the City to ensure future maintenance of stormwater infrastructure. This will allow the City to enforce the basin maintenance program and ensure that stormwater infrastructures will be maintained following the maintenance schedule recommended by the City.
- **Construction site inspections (over 1 acre):** The City and DNR require that construction site operators conduct inspections and complete inspection reports. The City sent letters to developers to emphasize the importance of compliance with this protocol, along with providing a template to facilitate the process. City inspectors routinely visit construction sites to confirm developers' adherence to Best Management Practices (BMPs).
- **2023 Ploggaton:** In October 2023, Smithville participated in the Ploggaton event, joining forces with other cities in Clay County and achieving victory. This initiative, held in October, involved participants walking and collecting trash along the route.
- **Education:** The City actively engaged with various media platforms to educate the community about the benefits of improved stormwater quality, offering seasonal tips and raising awareness about related issues. Information was shared through the City Newsletter, social media, and the website. In addition, The City of Smithville is a member of the Mid-America Council Public Education and Outreach committee that is involved with media campaigns, public attitude surveys, distributed brochures, cleanup events, and more. The focus of all efforts is to educate the public with activities discussing the impacts of storm water discharges on bodies of water and the steps that the public can take to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff.
- The City maintains a report a concern page on the website where residents can at all times report a stormwater issue.

The City remains committed to assessing its Stormwater Management Plan, identifying areas for enhancement, and implementing necessary changes to ensure effective implementation, compliance, and increased community involvement.