

Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) Plan

March 2026



Environmental
Services

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NPDES Municipal Stormwater Permit Overview

On August 1, 2024, the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) issued the 2024 -2029 Phase I Municipal Stormwater Permit (Permit). This permit is issued under the authority of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and State Waste Discharge General Permit for discharges from large and medium Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) to the City of Tacoma, City of Seattle, Pierce County, King County, Snohomish County, and Clark County. The permit is available to view online at www.ecology.wa.gov/MS4.

To comply with the Permit, the SWMP Plan includes a public participation process and internal review to provide valuable input and oversight to the program.

To submit a comment, email swnpdespermits@cityoftacoma.org

The revised SWMP documents and guides the City's activities during the permit term from August 1, 2024, through July 31, 2029.

Introduction

The City of Tacoma's (City) stormwater management priorities were established in 1995 under the first NPDES Phase I Municipal Stormwater Permit and remain essential elements of the SWMP today. The City's priorities include the following:

- Protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public
- Manage stormwater to minimize flooding and erosion
- Manage stormwater to minimize contact with contaminants
- Mitigate the impacts of increased runoff due to urbanization
- Manage runoff from developed properties and those being developed
- Correct or mitigate existing water quality problems
- Restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the receiving waters in the City to protect beneficial uses

The Permit regulates the discharge of stormwater from Tacoma's MS4s to surface waters and groundwaters of the State. The Permit is designed to protect and improve the water quality of receiving waters by requiring the City to implement a variety of stormwater management activities. Permits are required by federal and state laws and regulations.

Federal Laws and Regulations

[The Clean Water Act](#) is a United States federal law that regulates the discharges of pollutants into waterbodies. The objective of the Clean Water Act is to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters.

The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) is the codification of general and permanent rules and regulations developed by federal government of the United States. [Title 40](#) contains environmental regulations promulgated by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Subchapter D is dedicated to Water Programs and includes Part 122 – EPA Administered Permit

Programs: The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. 40 CFR 122.26 applies to stormwater discharges. Ecology is delegated by EPA to implement the Clean Water Act in Washington State, including development and enforcement of the NPDES Permits to dischargers in the state, with a few exceptions for federal properties and other recognized nations such as Tribes.

State Laws and Regulations

The Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 90.48 – Water Pollution Control is the state law similar to the federal Clean Water Act. Similar to the CFR, Washington State maintains the Washington Administrative Code. The NPDES Permits are codified under WAC 173-226. Discharges to groundwaters not subject to regulation under the federal Clean Water Act are authorized in this Permit only under state authorities, Chapter 90.48 RCW, the Water Pollution Control Act.

Discharges to groundwaters of the State through stormwater infiltration facilities regulated under the Underground Injection Control (UIC) program are not authorized under this permit but are authorized by rule Chapter 173-218 WAC.

The 2024 – 2029 Permit includes the following significant changes from the previous Permit:

- **S2.E Authorized Discharges Under This Permit**

The new permit clarifies that under the Puyallup Tribes of Indians Land Settlement Act of 1989 (25 USC §1773), the permit applies to all discharges within the Puyallup Reservation, except for discharges to surface water on land held in trust by the federal government. The City has identified outfalls located on trust lands, and has applied for permit coverage under a separate EPA NPDES Stormwater Permit for MS4 discharges to Tribal Waters.

- **Annual Reporting**

Beginning March 31, 2027, the City must annually report estimated costs for implementing the SWMP and identify the funding sources. (S5.A.2.)

- **S5.C.2 Mapping Requirements**

By March 31, 2026: Submit outfall data in a standardized format (ESRI, Shapefile, ArcGIS, or Excel). (S5.C.2.b.i)

By December 31, 2026: Map tree canopy on City-owned or -operated properties. (S5.C.2.b.ii)

By March 31, 2028: Submit a map and table of tributary basins draining to outfalls 24 inches or larger, including acres treated with public treatment or flow control. (S5.C.2.b.iii)

By December 31, 2028: Create a map comparing overburdened communities with the locations of:

- Stormwater treatment and flow control facilities
- Outfalls and discharge points
- Tree canopy coverage on City-owned properties (S5.C.2.b.iv)

- **S5.C.3 Coordination**

By March 31, 2025: Update the existing internal coordination Executive Directive letter for General Government and Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU). (S5.C.3.a)

- **S5.C.4. Public Involvement and Participation**

Starting March 31, 2025:

- Annually document specific outreach opportunities for overburdened communities, particularly highly impacted communities.
- Provide public engagement opportunities for SWMP implementation through advisory councils, public hearings, watershed committees, or similar activities. (S5.C.4.a.i)

By December 31, 2026: Document the methods used to identify overburdened communities. (S5.C.4.a.ii)

- **S5.C.5 Controlling Runoff from New Development, Redevelopment, and Construction Sites**

By March 31, 2025:

- Conduct twice-annual inspections of new residential developments, at least four months apart (previously six months).
- Provide developers with online registration requirements for UIC wells, along with Construction and Industrial Stormwater General Permit Notices of Intent.

By July 1, 2025: Submit a draft stormwater management manual (SWMM) for Ecology review.

By July 1, 2026: Adopt and implement a new SWMM, ensuring compliance with the July 2024 Ecology Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington (SWMMWW).

- **S5.C6 Stormwater Planning**

By March 31, 2025: Continue Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) meetings and annually report on watershed protection, low impact development (LID) policies, and stormwater-related planning strategies.

By March 31, 2027: Report on how stormwater considerations are integrated into land use and comprehensive planning, including a list of planned stormwater capital projects.

By December 31, 2028: Adopt tree canopy goals and policies, with a focus on overburdened communities and preserving mature canopy.

- **S5.C7 Stormwater Management for Existing Development (previously SSC)**

By March 31, 2025: Describe the planning process for the Stormwater Management for Existing Development (SMED) Program, including budgeting, public involvement, and addressing overburdened community needs.

By March 31, 2028: achieve 1,000 SMED Program Points (increased from 300), calculated per Appendix 12 guidance.

- **S5.C.8 Source Control**

By March 31, 2025: Organize inspection counts by business type (NAICS, SIC codes) and include sites with NPDES-permitted discharges in enforcement policies. (S5.C8.c.v)

By August 1, 2026: Update codes and ordinances for enforcement. (S5.C8.a)

- **S5.C.9 Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)**

By March 31, 2025: Ensure annual IDDE reporting follows WQWebIDDE formatting. (S5.C9)

By December 31, 2026: Coordinate with the fire department to update procedures for PFAS-containing firefighting foam notification and cleanup. (S5.C.9.d.ii.a)

By July 1, 2027: Update codes and ordinances to prohibit non-stormwater/illicit discharges, including discharges from firefighting and building washdowns (1950-1980 structures). (S5.C.9)

- **S5.C.10 Operation and Maintenance**

By July 1, 2027: Document the street sweeping program, prioritizing arterials, collectors, and industrial/commercial zones. (S5.C10.f)

By December 31, 2027: Update Operation and Maintenance (O&M) policies and procedures to prevent polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contamination from building washdowns, demolition, and renovations (1950-1980 structures). (S5.C10.e)

By March 31, 2028: Begin annual street sweeping program reporting. (S5.C10.f)

- **S8 Monitoring and Assessment**

By June 30, 2025: Submit stormwater discharge monitoring data for August 1, 2019 – July 31, 2024. (S8.B)

By March 31, 2026: Submit an annual data and analysis report. (S8.C)

To ensure compliance with the permit and maintain an up-to-date record of the City's stormwater management efforts, the SWMP has been revised and will be updated annually. The updated plan is made available for public comment annually and will guide the City's stormwater management activities throughout the permit term, from August 1, 2024, to July 31, 2029.

The City will continue to provide annual reports to Ecology to document Stormwater Management Program activities. Environmental Services (ES) Department's Environmental Programs Group (EPG) is responsible for preparing the annual report and ensuring overall NPDES permit compliance. The Annual Report is submitted by March 31 of each year and has a reporting period of January 1 to December 31 of the previous year.

Secondary Permittees within the City of Tacoma

Parks Tacoma, Tacoma Community College, and Port of Tacoma are Secondary Permittees under the Permit with independent coverage for discharges from small municipal separate storm sewers contained on their property. Secondary Permittees have different requirements under the Permits and are required to provide their own plans, including public education and outreach, public involvement and participation, illicit discharge detection and elimination, construction site runoff controls, good housekeeping, and source control requirements for operations and maintenance activities. The City will continue to coordinate SWMP activities with Secondary Permittees.

Tacoma's Stormwater Utility Functions

The City's Stormwater Utility rates pay for administration of the SWMP by ES, though the Permit applies to all departments and divisions of the City. ES coordinates with all departments and divisions throughout the City to ensure that all permit requirements are implemented. Staffing and budget are designed to meet the SWMP goals and objectives. SWMP work paid for by stormwater utility rates includes:

- Inspecting business activities and educating businesses about best management practices (BMPs) to reduce stormwater impacts
- Collecting and evaluating stormwater and sediment quality monitoring data
- Implementing a source control and illicit discharge screening program throughout the City's nine watersheds
- Mapping, maintaining, and cleaning the City's stormwater system that includes approximately 500 miles of storm pipe, 10,000 manholes, 20,000 catch basins, four pump stations, and over 200 stormwater treatment and flow control facilities
- Managing the City's tree canopy cover and open spaces to maximize stormwater benefits
- Rehabilitating and replacing aging infrastructure and improving the storm system with capital projects to address identified flooding, flow control, and water quality issues

- Providing public education to target audiences including school-age children, college and trade students, homeowners, businesses, property managers, land use planners, engineers, contractors, developers, and overburdened community members about the impacts of polluted runoff, LID, and BMPs to reduce polluted runoff
- Coordinating Tacoma’s SWMP activities regionally with watershed partners, neighboring jurisdictions, tribes, and others
- Permitting and inspecting new and redevelopment construction projects to ensure compliance with stormwater requirements including erosion control, maximizing onsite management, use of LID, stormwater treatment, flow control, wetlands protection, and ongoing maintenance
- Providing staff training to ensure the City activities and operations minimize impacts to stormwater and receiving waters

SWMP Components Overview

The City’s SWMP contains the eleven components outlined in the Permit Section S5 and an additional section to document the stormwater monitoring and assessment requirements of Permit Section S8. The SWMP components are summarized here:

S5.C.1 Legal Authority: The City must have the legal authority to control discharges to and from the municipal storm sewers owned by the City. Chapter 12.08 of the Tacoma Municipal Code (TMC) provides this authority.

S5.C.2 MS4 Mapping and Documentation: The City’s stormwater system must be mapped. This work was started under the 1995 permit and is continuing. The City’s TacomaMap (tMAP) will be updated with new mapping information as it becomes available.

S5.C.3 Coordination: A written internal coordination agreement is required to facilitate internal cooperation between various City departments and divisions. The City coordinates with adjacent municipal stormwater permittees and other surrounding municipalities that have interconnected systems or which discharge into or are adjacent to the same waterbodies.

S5.C.4 Public Involvement and Participation: The City must have a process to provide opportunities for the public to be involved in the development and implementation of the SWMP, including overburdened communities. The SWMP will be posted on the City’s website, and ongoing opportunities to gather public input to inform SWMP implementation will be provided.

S5.C.5 Controlling Runoff from New Development, Redevelopment, and Construction Sites: This includes the City’s program to prevent and control the impacts of runoff from new development, redevelopment, and construction activities. It covers private and public construction projects, including right-of-way improvements. The Permit requires compliance with the Minimum Requirements in Tacoma’s SWMM.

S5.C.6 Stormwater Planning: The City shall have a program to inform and assist in the development of policies and strategies as water quality management tools to protect receiving waters.

S5.C.7 Stormwater Management for Existing Development: The City shall have a program to prevent or reduce impacts to waters of the state caused by stormwater discharges. The program is intended to address impacts that are not adequately controlled by the other required actions of the SWMP. For this permit cycle, a required level of effort must be demonstrated to earn 1,000 points of planned, designed, or completed projects.

S5.C.8 Source Control Program for Existing Development: Inspections of pollutant generating sources are required for all sites that are potential pollutant sources, including most commercial and industrial properties. Sites owned by the City will also be inspected. The Permit requires compliance with the source control sections of the SWMM.

S5.C.9 Illicit Connections and Illicit Discharges Detection and Elimination: The City will maintain a program to detect, remove and prevent illicit connections and discharges, including spills into the City's separate storm sewer system. All staff who might observe an illicit discharge will be trained on what to look for and how to report illicit discharges.

S5.C.10 Operation and Maintenance: Maintenance standards and inspection programs are required for public and private stormwater facilities. BMPs are also required to be implemented for the maintenance activities on public lands and roadways to reduce stormwater impacts. The City participates in the Regional Road Maintenance Program. Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs) have been developed for heavy equipment maintenance and storage yards and material storage facilities owned by the City.

S5.C.11 Education and Outreach: The City is committed to engaging the community through Education and Outreach Programs designed to build general awareness, encourage behavior change, and promote stewardship opportunities. Priority audiences include the general public, school-age children, college and trade students, overburdened communities, property owners, businesses, engineers, contractors, developers, and land use planners.

During this Permit cycle, the City will continue to enhance its focus on equitable education and outreach efforts, ensuring programs effectively serve and address the needs of overburdened communities. To guide this work, the City has developed an Equity Index Map to identify overburdened neighborhoods, allowing for more informed public outreach and program development.

S8 Stormwater Monitoring and Assessment: The City pays into a collective fund for the Stormwater Action Monitoring (SAM) Small Streams Status and Trends Monitoring. The City conducts a SWMP Effectiveness Study based on continuing stormwater discharge monitoring at seven outfalls in the Thea Foss Waterway.

S5.C.1 Legal Authority

The City must have the legal authority to control discharges to and from the municipal storm sewers owned by the City. Chapter 12.08 of the Tacoma Municipal Code provides this authority.

Summary of Program Component

The City's legal authority to control discharges to and from our municipal stormwater system is found in state law and the TMC. The state statutes provide the City legal authority to create, and then regulate and manage its municipal stormwater system. The City also has legal authority to regulate and enforce the stormwater management-related requirements found in Chapters 12.08A and 12.08D of the TMC. The City has completed a code separation and clarification project to help make our utility code more user-friendly. The past TMC 12.08 included regulations for stormwater, wastewater, and industrial wastewater pretreatment in one section. The new code has been separated into four sections:

TMC 12.08A: General Administration

TMC 12.08B: Use of Sanitary Sewer

TMC 12.08C: Industrial Wastewater Pretreatment Program

TMC 12.08D: Stormwater Management

Authority to Control Industrial Discharges, Prohibit Illicit Discharges, and Control Spills or Disposal of Materials other than Stormwater into the MS4 (S5.C.1.b.i, ii, iii)

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| TMC 12.08A.100 | Authorizes the City's stormwater management staff to review land use and development permits and impose BMPs to manage stormwater impacts. |
| TMC 12.08D.100 | Authorizes the City to regulate all direct and indirect discharges to the MS4s. |
| TMC 12.08D.110
and 12.08D.180.E | Prohibits illicit discharges to the MS4s. |
| TMC 12.08D.110 | Outlines allowable, conditional, and prohibited discharges into the City's municipal stormwater system. |
| TMC 12.08D.120 | Requires responsible parties to notify the City when a spill, release, or illicit discharge occurs that contributes, or is likely to contribute pollutants to the City's MS4. |
| TMC 12.08D.150 | Outlines the City's Stormwater Program Requirements |
| TMC 12.08D.150.C | Requires all property owners and businesses engaged in pollution generating activities, including industrial facilities to implement and maintain operational BMPs. |

- TMC 12.08D.150.C.4 Authorizes the City to enforce spill prevention requirements.
- TMC 12.08D.400.A Authorizes the City to pursue an enforcement response against any person who violates Chapter 12.08D of the TMC.
- TMC 12.08D.400.D. Includes illicit connections and discharging stormwater contaminated with any of the substances prohibited under TMC 12.08D.110 as violations of the Tacoma Municipal Code.
- TMC 12.08D.420 Makes connection or maintenance of connections to the municipal stormwater system or any stormwater BMP/facility that is connected directly or indirectly to the municipal stormwater system without written authorization of the City a misdemeanor.

Ability to Control Inter-System Discharges Under Agreements with Other Permittees (S5.C.1.b.iv)

- RCW 35.67.300 Authorizes the City to enter into joint agreements with other cities, towns, or water districts to connect to and be served by the MS4.
- RCW 35.67.310 Authorizes the City to allow persons outside the city limits to connect to and be served by the MS4. Authorizations for connections require compliance with Chapters 12.08A and 12.08D of the TMC stormwater-related requirements.
- TMC 12.08A.110.B Authorizes the City to enter joint agreements with other cities, towns, or water districts to connect to and be served by the MS4.

Require Compliance with City Regulations and Conduct Enforcement Actions (S5.C.1.b.v, vi)

- TMC 12.08D.020.B Places responsibility for compliance with stormwater codes on the responsible persons as defined in TMC 1.82.010
- TMC 12.08D.100 Authorizes the City to regulate direct and indirect discharges to receiving waters and the MS4.
- TMC 12.08D.150 Authorizes the City to implement a comprehensive SWMP to control and regulate discharges to its MS4 and receiving waters.
- TMC 12.08D.150.F.2 Authorizes the City to conduct compliance inspections.
- TMC 12.08D.300 Provides right-of-entry authority to the City.
- TMC 12.08D Establishes enforcement procedures for Chapter 12.08D of the TMC.
- TMC 12.08D.400.A Authorizes the City to enforce violations of Chapters 12.08A and 12.08D of the TMC.
- TMC 12.08D.400.B Outlines monetary penalties for violations of Chapters 12.08A and 12.08D of the TMC.
- TMC 12.08D.400.C Makes compliance to Chapter 12.08D mandatory.

- TMC 12.08D.400.D Outlines certain examples of violations of TMC 12.08D.
- TMC 12.08D.400.E Makes falsely making, completing, or altering a written instruction required to be submitted pursuant to TMC 12.08D a gross misdemeanor
- TMC 12.08D.400.F Requires responsible persons to pay supplemental charges incurred by the City in response to violations
- TMC 12.08D.400.G Authorizes the Environmental Services Stormwater Compliance Policy
- TMC 12.08D.400.H Makes violation of TMC 12.08D or any permit, order, control mechanism or other written authorization or directive issued by the City a gross misdemeanor.
- TMC 12.08D.400.I Outlines that enforcement actions beyond those outlined in TMC 12.08D may also be pursued by the City.
- TMC 12.08D.410 Authorizes the City to suspend service or discharge to the municipal stormwater system and provides the guidelines for suspension of service.
- TMC 12.08D.420 Makes connection or maintenance of connections to the municipal stormwater system or any stormwater BMP/facility that is connected directly or indirectly to the municipal stormwater system without written authorization of the City a misdemeanor.

S5.C.2 MS4 Mapping and Documentation

The City's stormwater system must be mapped.

Summary of Program Component

The overall objective of this requirement is to maintain an ongoing program to map and document the existing stormwater system and ensure that future connections and other system changes are documented and mapped.

Mapping and documentation of the stormwater system is vital to managing the resources of the City. By identifying connections to the stormwater system and understanding their relationship to overlaying drainage basins, analyses can be performed on the entire system. This information will also assist in providing service to underserved areas and development of solutions to capacity problems. The City is using mapping information in a variety of ways, including tracking sources of contamination, modeling system capacity, planning for future system upgrades, and increasing urban canopy cover.

Ongoing Mapping of Known Outfalls and Discharge Points, Receiving Waters Other than Groundwater, City-owned Structural Stormwater Treatment and Flow Control BMPs, Geographic Areas Served by the MS4 that do not Discharge to Surface Water, and Connection Points Between the City's MS4 and Other Municipal Systems (S5.C.2.a.i, ii, iii, iv, vi)

The EPG and Asset Management Group of ES have an existing mapping and documentation program to meet this requirement.

Mapping Public Assets

Known public assets are mapped; however, this work is ongoing. As new stormwater assets are installed, they are mapped. Many features are available to view on TacomaMap (tMAP) – the City’s public GIS viewer. Other features are available upon request. Existing flow control and treatment facilities owned or operated by the City are mapped. All known separate stormwater outfalls to marine and fresh waters are mapped. All discharge points as defined in the permit, are mapped. As the City maps new public treatment and flow control facilities, the inlets and outlets, including emergency overflows, will be mapped.

A process exists to add new stormwater system features into our mapping system after they are constructed.

Process for adding newly constructed public stormwater assets and geographic areas not discharging to surface water into the City’s mapping system:

- ES receives approved plans from other City departments, including Planning and Development Services (PDS), Site Development Group (for private work order permits), or from the City Project Manager (for City Capital Improvement Projects).
- The new assets, including pipes, underground facilities, above ground facilities, and geographic areas not discharging to surface water (facilities designed to infiltrate all stormwater runoff) are input into the City GIS system as “proposed” by the ES Engineering Technician.
- Before final acceptance of pipe assets, an ES Operations and Maintenance receives notification to video inspect the pipe for acceptance. At this point, the ES Engineering Technician will re-label those proposed assets as “active.”
- Upon physical completion of construction of the project, the Construction Inspector will inform the ES Engineering Technician that the stormwater facilities are completed. The ES Engineering Technician will then re-label those proposed assets as “active.”
- It is ultimately the responsibility of the City Project Manager to ensure that the assets related to their project are correctly mapped in the City GIS systems.

Mapping Geographic Areas Served by the City’s Stormwater System that do not Discharge Stormwater to Surface Water (S5.C.2.a.iv)

The scope of this requirement includes mapping areas that drain to public stormwater facilities designed to infiltrate all stormwater.

Map Tributary Conveyances of All Known Outfalls and Discharge Points With a 24-Inch or Greater Nominal Diameter or an Equivalent Cross-Sectional Area for Non-pipe Systems (S5.C.2.a.v)

The known outfalls and discharge points and connections are in the City’s mapping system. Upstream tracing of each outfall and discharge point and determination of each associated

contributing basin is complete. Land use is known, and conveyance pipe type, material, and size are included in the City mapping system, when known.

Mapping Storm Sewer Interconnections Between Municipalities (S5.C.2.a.vi)

City staff collected GIS storm system data from Fife, Pierce County, Lakewood, University Place, Ruston, Fircrest, and Federal Way. All known connection points between the City separate stormwater system and other municipalities have been generated from this data, and as mapping and data collection continues or as new connections are made, the new information will be added to the City's mapping systems.

Map All Connections Authorized or Allowed to the MS4 (S5.C.2.a.vii)

The City has already mapped the majority of the known private storm systems connected to the stormwater system throughout Tacoma. Newly permitted and constructed private drainage system connections will continue to be added to the mapping system. Additionally, video camera investigations occasionally discover additional smaller private pipes connected directly into the storm lines. The City continues to investigate our system for non-stormwater connections and when found, the discovered connections are investigated to identify their source. Non-stormwater connections are redirected as appropriate, and stormwater connections are mapped.

This work is continually updated as connections are added. PDS Inspectors sign off on all new storm connections through construction permits. For all projects involving connections to the stormwater system, a storm connection permit is required in order to ensure the connection is properly made and inspected. The City also has permitting requirements for wastewater connections; this ensures that wastewater services are connected to the wastewater mains and not the stormwater mains.

The process for adding newly constructed private drainage system connections into the City's mapping system includes:

- Upon final inspection of construction permits, the PDS Engineering Technician will record the private drainage system point of connection to the stormwater system and note it on the storm connection permit drawing. The storm connection permit drawing is saved in the City permitting system.
- ES Engineering Technician reviews the City permitting system and will then input the new private connection points into the mapping system as "storm private connection" and include the permit number in the point description to allow for the electronic site plans associated with that permit to be researched, if necessary.
- If the ES Inspector notes are insufficient and there is a need to field-verify the location of the private connection point, the ES Engineering Technician will assign the mapping crew to locate the connection.

The City's database of privately owned treatment and flow control facilities is complete and updated as new private facilities are built to assist with annual inspections of private facilities.

Map All Known Existing Stormwater Connections with Greater than or Equal to 8-Inch Nominal Diameter and All known Connection from MS4 to Private Systems (S5.C.2.a.viii, ix)

The City has mapped all known existing connections greater than or equal to 8-inch nominal diameter and all know connections from the MS4 to a privately owned stormwater system.

Submit locations of all known MS4 outfalls including size and material of outfalls, where known (S5.C.2.b.i)

The City has size and material information for all known outfalls. If new or unknown outfalls are discovered, this information will be added to the City database. An electronic application to add mapping information has been developed for field staff to use when visiting outfalls.

The city will submit all required information including locations of all known MS4 outfall, size, and material of outfalls, where known according to the standard templates provided in the Annual Report no later than March 31, 2026.

Tree canopy mapping for stormwater management (S5.C.2.b.ii)

In compliance with the 2024-2029 NPDES Phase I Permit (S5.C.2.b.ii), the City of Tacoma will map tree canopy to support stormwater management on Permittee-owned or operated properties using available existing data by December 31, 2026. For areas within city limits, in 2024, the City collected Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) data, and processed that LIDAR data for land cover categories, including tree canopy. This baseline data also includes size and type of tree. The City of Tacoma is working with our Real Property Services to develop a comprehensive list of all City-owned parcels within the City of Tacoma limits. Once the list is established, we will overlay the land cover mapping onto the City-owned lands and public rights-of-way and establish the total percentage of the land area that is covered by the various land cover categories, including tree canopy. The LIDAR data will be updated every few years to track changes in canopy coverage and tree maturity.

For TPU-owned parcels outside of city limits, the City is using current aerial map imagery in addition to previous LIDAR data mapping from 2017 to calculate tree canopy coverage area of areas served by stormwater infrastructure as of 2025, with field verification of additional information, where needed.

MS4 Tributary Basin Mapping and Assessment (S5.C.2.b.iii)

In compliance with the 2024-2029 NPDES Phase I Permit (S5.C.2.b.iii), the City of Tacoma will develop and implement a methodology to map and assess the acreage of MS4 tributary basins draining to outfalls with a 24-inch nominal diameter or larger, or an equivalent cross-sectional area for non-pipe systems. This assessment will focus on identifying areas managed or unmanaged by stormwater treatment and flow control BMPs/facilities owned or operated by the City.

The methodology will be implemented no later than March 31, 2028. A map (.pdf) and table (.xlsx) quantifying estimated acres managed and unmanaged will be submitted with the March 31, 2028, Annual Report. Updates will be incorporated into the SWMP as needed.

Mapping Overburdened Communities in Relation to Stormwater Infrastructure (S5.C.2.b.iv)

In compliance with the 2024-2029 Permit (S5.C.2.b.iv), the City will map overburdened communities using available existing data by December 31, 2028. This mapping effort will analyze the relationship between overburdened communities and stormwater treatment and flow control BMPs/facilities, outfalls, discharge points, and tree canopy on Permittee-owned or operated properties.

For areas inside City limits, Percent Tree Canopy Cover, Urban Heat Island Average Temperatures, and Equity Opportunity Ranking from Tacoma's Equity Index map are combined to rank census blocks from high to low need for increasing tree canopy. This map is available for public viewing on the [Tacoma Community Forestry Story Map](#) that provides links to the [Tacoma Community Forestry App](#) site.

For TPU-owned parcels outside of City limits, the parcels, along with their tree canopy, stormwater treatment and flow control facilities, outfalls, and discharge points, are mapped compared to the Pierce County Equity Index for census block ranking from very low- to very high-opportunity areas.

The findings will help inform equitable stormwater management decisions. Updates will be incorporated into the SWMP as needed.

Provide Ecology with Mapping Data for all Requirements of S5.C.2.a. and b. Above (S5.C.2.c., d)

The City will provide fully described mapping standards similar to those described on Ecology's website and the currently available mapping information shall be provided to Ecology upon request.

Provide Mapping Information to Federally Recognized Indian Tribes, Municipalities, and Other Permittees (S5.C.2.e)

Most required stormwater mapping information is available to view on TacomaMap (tMap) – the City's public GIS data viewer. All other information is available upon request. Tribes, municipalities, and other permittees currently have access to system information. If individual requests for information are made from one of these parties, the City will work with them to provide the needed information in an agreed upon format.

S5.C.3 Coordination

A written internal coordination agreement is required to facilitate internal cooperation between various City departments and divisions. Coordination with adjacent municipal stormwater permittees is also required.

Summary of Program Component

Permit Section S5.C.3 addresses coordination mechanisms among departments within the City, as well as those mechanisms between the City and interconnected stormwater systems of neighboring jurisdictions covered by a municipal stormwater permit within a watershed.

The activities outlined in this section are critical to remove barriers, promote understanding of the Permit, and facilitate permit compliance within the departments of the City.

This section of the permit requires coordination between the City and jurisdictions covered by municipal stormwater permits and/or connected to the City's MS4 specifically to address a coordinated approach to stormwater policies, programs and projects within a given watershed. At its best, coordination between jurisdictions should facilitate information sharing, eliminate duplicate efforts, and promote regional solutions to most efficiently use the City's valuable and limited resources to improve stormwater quality.

Implement Executive Directive to Facilitate Permit Compliance (S5.C.3.a)

The City Manager and TPU Director issued a joint memorandum in the first quarter of 2025 to all City Department Directors informing them of the Permit and the need for all affected staff's cooperation and input. The internal coordination memorandum is included as Appendix B.

As previously stated, ES, specifically the EPG, acts as the City's Stormwater Permit Coordinator and Administrator. EPG staff compiled a list of department contacts and developed specific Stormwater Permit Coordination and Compliance Plans, identifying each SWMP element involving their work group's participation, recordkeeping, and staff training requirements.

Coordination also includes meeting regularly with the Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) from representatives across many City Departments to assist with Permit implementation generally, and especially Stormwater Planning. Specific tasks for intra-governmental coordination include the following:

- Identifying which Permit requirements apply to each specific department and work group
- Integrating compliance activities into each department's programs and operations
- Providing training and technical assistance if required
- Recordkeeping, or technical assistance for recordkeeping, as required in the Permit
- Facilitating submittal of information for the Permit-required Annual Report
- Conducting check-ins with staff responsible for various portions of the Permit to ensure compliance continues

These coordination efforts ensure ongoing Permit compliance and submittal of the NPDES Annual Report by March 31 each year.

Implement Coordination Mechanisms with Other Permittees for Control of Pollutants between Interconnected MS4s and Stormwater Management Activities for Shared Waterbodies (S5.C.3.b)

This element of the permit has two specific coordination elements:

- Coordination between the City and the physically interconnected surrounding municipal stormwater permittees (Pierce County, Lakewood, University Place, Fircrest, Federal Way, and Fife) and secondary permittees (Port of Tacoma, Tacoma Community College, and Parks Tacoma) for the control of pollutants; and

- Coordination of activities for shared water bodies among Phase I and II Permittees to avoid conflicting plans, policies, and regulations.

City staff coordinates with surrounding Permittees and Secondary Permittees as appropriate when investigating concerns about the conveyance system, upgrading the stormwater system when it affects others, source tracing stormwater pollutants, and coordinating and communicating watershed issues. The City similarly coordinates with the Puyallup Tribe of Indians (Puyallup Tribe) for surface water, groundwater, and stormwater related issues in areas adjacent to properties held in Tribal trust. Coordination between all of these entities has provided an effective network of contacts, productive relationships, and more efficient stormwater management.

The Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) process also aids in coordination for specific development projects that may impact neighboring jurisdictions. Through SEPA, neighboring jurisdictions have the opportunity to review proposals and provide comments and input. The City's 2021 SWMM went through the SEPA process to help to facilitate review by other jurisdictions. The City also provided training opportunities for the new SWMM that was open to other jurisdictions. The 2026 SWMM update is following the same process as previous updates, including SEPA review and coordination with other jurisdictions. Training will again be provided to ensure consistent implementation. The draft SWMM was submitted to Ecology for review prior to July 1, 2025, with final adoption scheduled for completion by July 1, 2026.

The City's SWMM requires that projects that discharge to a neighboring jurisdiction's stormwater system comply with the more stringent of the two jurisdiction's stormwater requirements.

City development review staff also coordinate with the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department (TPCHD) regarding development in the South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District (STGPD), as codified in Chapter 13.01.090 of the Tacoma Municipal Code. All requests for infiltration of runoff from pollution-generating impervious surfaces are discussed and coordinated with TPCHD. The STGPD Infiltration Policy outlines specific requirements for infiltration of pollution-generating surfaces within the STGPD and procedures for staff coordination.

On a watershed level, the City currently participates in several regional coordination efforts, including the Phase I Permittees Group, and assists with facilitation of the South Sound Phase II Coordinators Group and other regional Phase II Stormwater Groups. These groups hold regular meetings to discuss issues related to NPDES Permit implementation and share information on BMPs, Permit compliance, and policies and programs. City staff also participate in the Puyallup River Watershed Council, the Chambers Clover Watershed Council, and WRIA 10/12 Lead Entity meetings. The City is also participating in the local integrating organizations for the Puyallup White River Puget Sound Action Area (including Puyallup/White WRIA 10).

The City participates in the Stormwater Work Group, a formal stakeholder group providing input to Ecology on the Permit's monitoring requirements, and in the subgroups that assist with oversight and implementation of the Stormwater Action Monitoring program,

www.ecology.wa.gov/SAM, that satisfies permit monitoring requirements. SAM is the Pooled Fund collective defined by the permit that conducts regional stormwater monitoring. Funds are provided via the permit from more than 90 cities and counties, the ports of Seattle and Tacoma, the Washington State Department of Transportation, and federal MS4 permit holders in Washington State.

The City's Environmental Compliance (EC) Inspectors have a list of contacts in various jurisdictions, regulatory programs, and organizations, including the railroads; neighboring cities; Pierce County, state, and federal governments; TPCHD; Parks Tacoma; Tacoma Public Schools; Tacoma Police Department; Port of Tacoma; Puget Sound Clean Air Agency; and others. These individuals are informed of spills and complaints when they cross jurisdictional boundaries.

S5.C.4 Public Involvement and Participation

The City must have a process to provide opportunities for the public to be involved in the development and implementation of the SWMP.

Summary of Program Component and Permit Compliance Measures

Public involvement is useful for identifying areas where the City may tailor its SWMP and other programs to meet neighborhood needs and priorities, identify additional tools to meet Permit requirements, or identify areas where it is desirable to go beyond Permit requirements.

The City's Environmental Services Commission provides an ongoing source of public input on components of the SWMP. Other opportunities for public input on SWMP updates will be scheduled as appropriate.

Public Participation Opportunities for SWMP Development and Implementation (S5.C.4.a)

The SWMP is updated and posted online annually, and updates are shared through the EnviroTalk listserv, as well as information on how to submit comments, which are accepted year-round. Community members can also request additional information or provide input by emailing swnpdespermits@cityoftacoma.org.

In 2024, ES staff developed a survey to assess public priorities related to the SWMP Plan. The survey was distributed at multiple community events throughout February and early March 2024, and again with the One Tacoma: Comprehensive Plan visioning workshops held in each neighborhood council district, engaging over 180 participants. The survey was translated in the eight most spoken languages in Tacoma. Survey respondents were also provided with direct access to the full SWMP and encouraged to review and comment on its contents. This decentralized approach aims to reduce travel barriers and promote equitable participation from residents across Tacoma.

In 2025, ES staff also hosted two community workshops to inform the development of the Stormwater Comprehensive Plan. The Stormwater Comprehensive Plan will guide the implementation of the SWMP activities and long-term direction of the stormwater capital improvement plan. One public workshop was offered online and the other workshop was held in-person collaboratively with a Tacoma Community House job fair focused on serving

overburdened community members. The Stormwater Comprehensive Plan was also presented to the Neighborhood Council of Councils and the North End Neighborhood Council to receive feedback.

Public involvement to implement the SWMP is also included in the education and outreach actions described in SWMP Section S5.C.11.

The City's SWMM is being updated to align with Ecology's 2024 SWMMWW. The City is implementing all Ecology-mandated changes and incorporating additional updates for clarity and to reflect current City policies and procedures. The current 2021 [SWMM Webbook](#) is available as an online searchable version to aid in implementation, and will also be updated and replaced with the new SWMM on July 1, 2026. The public process for updating the SWMM included posting the draft SWMM online for public comment and hosting two online workshops in April and May 2025 to review proposed SWMM updates and receive feedback. The draft SWMM updates based on Ecology review comments was also posted a second time for public comment in April 2026. The TMC was also updated and a City ordinance referencing the new SWMM update was passed by the City Council.

The City's Environmental Services Commission meets regularly throughout the year and provides public input on a variety of issues affecting ES's three utilities: stormwater, wastewater, and solid waste, including implementation of the SWMP. Commissioners represent a cross-section of Tacoma's residential, business, and regulatory communities. They review, advise and make recommendations to City staff and the City Council regarding:

- Residential and commercial programs and services
- Short-term and long-range planning
- Rates, rate structures, and rate assistance programs
- Capital Investment Program financing structures
- City policies directly related to utility functions

Make SWMP Plan and Annual Report Available on the City Website (S5.C.4.b)

The SWMP and Annual Report are currently posted and continue to be updated at the Stormwater Management Program home page located on the City website: [Stormwater Management Program | City of Tacoma](#)

S5.C.5 Controlling Runoff from New Development, Redevelopment, and Construction Sites

The City shall include a program to prevent and control the impacts of runoff from new development, redevelopment, and construction activities. The program covers private and public development, including right-of-way improvements.

Summary of Program Component and Permit Compliance Measures

The City has an established permitting program for new development and redevelopment projects ranging from construction of single-family homes to mixed-use developments,

commercial, and industrial projects. Proposed land use actions are reviewed and conditioned as appropriate to achieve compliance with stormwater requirements. Construction projects are issued permits after appropriate review for compliance with the City's SWMM. Permitted project sites are inspected for erosion and sediment control during construction and the installation of permanent stormwater management facilities.

During this permit cycle, the City will update its SWMM to be equivalent to Ecology's 2024 SWMMWW to be in effect on July 1, 2026, as required by the Permit.

The City addresses stormwater management from development, redevelopment, and construction of private and public development, including roads, through regulations contained in the TMC and the SWMM.

PDS and ES are the primary work groups responsible for implementing the stormwater development and redevelopment regulations. These groups provide permit submittal review and approval, as well as inspection services for private development. Publicly funded Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs) developed and managed by City staff must also meet the applicable Minimum Requirements of the SWMM. CIP construction inspections are performed by Public Works (PW) Department inspectors (for street improvements), ES inspectors (for wastewater and stormwater systems), and TPU inspectors (for drinking water services, transmission lines, and power transmission). Private development construction inspections are conducted by PDS.

Adopt Stormwater and Erosion Control Standards Equivalent to Ecology's 2024 SWMM for Western Washington (S5.C.5.b.i. to iv)

The City submitted the draft SWMM standards and ordinances to Ecology before July 1, 2025. Equivalent manual requirements, limitations, and criteria of Ecology's 2024 SWMMWW will be adopted by the City by July 1, 2026.

Legal Authority to Inspect and Enforce Maintenance Standards for Private Stormwater Facilities Approved by the City (S5.C.5.b.v)

Since the initial Permit was issued in 1995, the City has had the necessary legal authority to establish standards and inspect and enforce standards for private stormwater facility maintenance.

TMC 12.08D.150.D requires compliance with the SWMM Minimum Requirements. MR #9 requires an O&M Manual for permitted projects meeting specific thresholds.

TMC 12.08D.150.F.1 requires owners to inspect and maintain their facilities, provide records to the City, and retain the O&M Manual for the facility.

TMC 12.08D.150.F.2 provides inspection authority.

TMC 12.08D.170 requires owners of property that have private stormwater facilities to enter into a Covenant and Easement that is recorded to title with the Pierce County Auditor's Office.

TMC 12.08D.300 provides right-of-entry authority in case of possible violations of TMC 12.08D or other reasonable basis.

Permitting, Plan Review, Inspection, and Enforcement of Standards Equivalent to Ecology's 2019 SWMM for Western Washington (S5.C.5.b.vi.)

A) System to Review all Plan Submittals Meeting Thresholds

The City's current program provides plan review for all projects involving land-disturbing activities that meet the development thresholds specified in the Permit, which are also in the SWMM, including both private and public project sites.

B) Inspection prior to clearing and construction for Sites having High Sediment Transport Potential

Pre-clearing inspections of private development sites are accomplished by the PDS Site Development Inspectors and Plan Reviewers to meet the erosion and sediment control standards outlined in the SWMM. Project Engineers or Inspectors from ES, TPU, and PW complete the site inspections for the public project sites. The City complies with this section by inspecting all sites meeting the required thresholds prior to the start of construction.

C) Inspect all permitted development sites that meet development thresholds during construction to verify proper installation and maintenance of temporary erosion and sediment control BMPs

Inspections for installation and on-going maintenance of temporary erosion and sediment control (TESC) measures are currently completed by PDS, PW, Engineering, ES's Capital Delivery Group, and TPU Inspectors. Appropriate enforcement actions are taken when required, in accordance with the ES Stormwater Compliance Policy and appropriate sections of the TMC.

D) Inspect all permanent stormwater treatment and flow control BMPs/facilities and catch basins at least twice per 12-month period with no less than four months between inspections, in new residential developments.

The City has a program to ensure that new residential developments receive inspections at least twice per 12-month period with no less than four months between inspections until 90 percent of the lots are constructed or until the site is fully stabilized. Inspections are completed by the Site Development Group for projects that have open Permits.

E) Post-Construction Inspection for Permanent Stormwater Facilities

O&M Manuals are required to be reviewed and approved for compliance with the requirements of the SWMM prior to permit approval for all sites that have facilities and meet the thresholds of the SWMM. For private facilities, a copy of the O&M Manual is required to be kept onsite, and a copy is kept on file by PDS Site Development Group for use during stormwater source control inspections. Responsibility for private facility maintenance falls to the property owner.

Facilities that will be part of the public stormwater system are typically the responsibility of the City. Maintenance procedures for all public flow control and treatment facilities are adopted from the SWMM and are stored electronically.

F) Compliance with Inspection Requirements

The City has an established program to inspect all sites involving land disturbing activities. The Permit-required program goal is to achieve a minimum of 80 percent of scheduled inspections annually.

G) Recordkeeping Procedures in Place

The City currently has several databases to track all S5.C.5 required inspections and enforcement actions.

H) Enforcement Strategy for Non-Compliance Response

City inspectors have the ability to enforce compliance of S5.C.5 requirements through authorities in the TMC. Building and Site Inspectors, Code Compliance Inspectors, and EC Inspectors have enforcement procedures for non-compliance with permitting conditions per TMC 2.02.130 and Chapter 12.08A and 12.08D of the TMC. EC Inspectors implement the ES Stormwater Compliance Policy. The inspectors focus on owner education, coaching, and voluntary compliance. Enforcement measures include stop work orders, Notices of Violation, fines, and Certificates of Complaint attached to the title of the property. EC Inspectors and PW Department Inspectors may refer cases to Neighborhood and Community Services Code Compliance to pursue further enforcement actions.

City capital construction projects are required to comply with construction contracts that enforce local, state, and federal regulations including all Permit requirements.

Inspectors can also refer specific cases to Ecology for follow up and enforcement when cases directly impact waters of the state.

Notice of Intent Forms for Construction and Industrial Stormwater General Permits and UIC well registration (S5.C.5.b.vii)

The Permit requires the City to provide permit applicants for new and redevelopment sites with information describing Ecology's NPDES Construction General Permit, NPDES Industrial Stormwater General Permit, and registration requirements for UIC wells, if applicable to their projects. Information on these state permits and UIC registration requirements is provided, as applicable, to applicants at various times throughout the project review including pre-application meetings and permit submittal review comments. The City's electronic permitting system Accela issues a standard response email confirming receipt of the permit application which includes prompts referring applicants to Ecology's website in order to obtain coverage under the NPDES Construction General Permit and NPDES Industrial General Stormwater Permit.

Training for Development Permitting, Plan Review, Construction Inspection, and Enforcement Personnel (S5.C.5.b.viii)

ES, PW, and PDS staff receive ongoing training to perform plan review, inspection, and enforcement duties concerning erosion and sediment control measures and storm system design, construction and maintenance standards. Records of certain trainings are recorded online (e.g., Certified Erosion and Sediment Control). Other trainings are tracked through training sign-in sheets that are kept on file. Staff training also occurs through review of daily work activities and feedback from supervisory staff.

S5.C.6 Stormwater Planning

The City shall have a program to inform and assist in the development of policies and strategies as water quality management tools to protect receiving waters.

Summary of Program Component and Permit Compliance Measures

The Permit requires the City to implement a Stormwater Planning Program to inform and assist in the development of policies and strategies as water quality management tools to protect receiving waters. Specifically, the Permit requires coordination to identify if stormwater management needs are included in existing long-range planning efforts, ensuring LID principles and BMPs continue to be required in code as preferred stormwater management approach, development of tree canopy goals, and continued coordination with an IDT.

ES is the lead department in the City on several of these stormwater planning activities, and is developing a stormwater management-specific comprehensive plan, anticipated to be completed in 2026. The Stormwater Comprehensive Plan will evaluate all aspects of the Permit-required stormwater management programs scope, scale, staffing, interconnectedness, efficiency, and funding. ES is also participating in the long-range planning update of the citywide One Tacoma: Comprehensive Plan. ES has developed the Urban Forest Manual and participated in code development to manage the City's tree and open space assets.

ES recently developed a watershed-based prioritization plan called the [Urban Watershed Protection Plan](#) (UWPP), to use a watershed data-driven approach to focus stormwater management activities based on stormwater pollutant loading, neighborhood need, and other prioritization criteria. To support the UWPP development, with Ecology's grant funding, the City developed a GIS-based watershed data mapping tool with modeling capabilities to assess BMP performance, track potential retrofit locations, identify cost-effective strategies, and integrate water quality priorities with community-based needs.

This watershed-level focus allows ES to plan for stormwater management actions that align with the One Tacoma: Comprehensive Plan goals and policies as well as coordinate with the departmental inter-disciplinary team to pursue partnerships and coordinate projects in the watershed sub-basins most in need of targeted stormwater management actions.

The UWPP identifies the top 25 percent of priority sub-basins in the City and a list of potential stormwater actions for these sub-basins based on stormwater pollution hotspots, receiving

water conditions, and neighborhood needs. In 2024, additional stakeholder and community engagement was used to finalize the watershed priority action list. The City will also begin to pilot priority actions and pursue funding opportunities for future water quality improvement projects.

Interdisciplinary Team (S5.C.6.b.i)

The IDT includes staff from many City departments and divisions and is led by ES staff in the EPG. Initially the IDT was convened July 27, 2020, and has smaller groups within the IDT that have also been convened. In addition to IDT meetings, ES participates in specific planning projects, planning staff meetings and providing technical assistance and comments on long-range plans that are led by other work groups within the City.

Coordination with long-range plan updates (S5.C.6.b.i)

Per the Permit, Comprehensive Plans and other locally initiated or state mandated long-range land-use plans that are used to accommodate growth or transportation shall be reviewed for stormwater management. For these type of planning documents that are initiated or in process after August 1, 2024, the EPG will review and be involved throughout the development of the plans to ensure that, if appropriate, stormwater considerations are included in the plans. This coordination occurs through the IDT, small groups within the IDT, and individual project managers attending project and program meetings where these efforts are discussed. In 2024, the citywide One Tacoma: Comprehensive Plan was updated with participation from ES in coordination with other City departments to ensure input on watershed and stormwater planning was incorporated. Moving forward, ES will continue to participate in the implementation of the updated Comprehensive Plan and review any long-range planning efforts initiated to incorporate stormwater management considerations.

Low Impact Development code-related requirements (S5.C.6.c.i.a)

All development codes and related regulatory requirements will be reviewed and evaluated to comply with this section. New development codes and regulatory requirements that are initiated during the current Permit term will be reviewed during development to ensure that no new barriers to low-impact development are created or that the barriers are addressed to help make low-impact development the preferred and commonly used approach to site development within Tacoma.

Tree Canopy goals and policies to support stormwater management (S5.C.6.c.ii.a, b)

As required by the Permit, the City has adopted and is implementing tree canopy goals and policies to support stormwater management. These policies consider how both existing and future tree canopy contribute to stormwater management and water quality improvements in receiving waters and are documented in the One Tacoma: Comprehensive Plan Environment and Watershed Health Chapter and Tacoma's [Urban Forest Management Plan](#).

The One Tacoma: Comprehensive Plan establishes an overall goal of 30 percent tree canopy cover citywide to be accomplished by the year 2050. The Urban Forest Management Plan also includes additional goals for program implementation, including the following:

- 1D.1 Monitor Annual Tree Loss and Gain
- 1E.2 Plant 2,000 Trees and Support Partner Plantings of 8,500 Trees
 - Planting 10,500 trees per year, alongside preservation and maintenance of existing trees will help Tacoma reach 30 percent tree canopy by 2030.
- 1D.6 Trees and Sidewalks Operations Plan
 - Implement the Trees and Sidewalks Operations Plan (Plan Phase 3) to eliminate improper tree removals and reduce future hardscape conflicts.
- 1D.10 No-Net-Loss Policy
 - Align tree protection and design standards in TMC 13.06.502.E with a no-net-loss policy by 2023 to achieve tree canopy goals.
- 4A.2 Track Plantings, Removals, and Maintenance
 - Track tree maintenance, removals, and plantings in a tree inventory software program. Annually prioritize maintenance and risk-tree removals in established corridors/areas and create work orders using this program.
- 4C.4 Align Planting Goals with other Division Plans
 - Align tree planting and canopy goals with the watershed assessment, green stormwater infrastructure plans, and subarea planning efforts by providing technical assistance for the goals of stormwater management and improved water quality.

In May 2025, City Council approved a resolution to adopt the Urban Forest Priority Action Plan (Resolution No. 41682) which outlines a phased set of actions to advance implementation of the Urban Forestry Management Plan strategies to expand street tree planting and maintenance and increase regulatory and non-regulatory tools for tree preservation citywide.

Specific considerations for tree canopy on City-owned and -operated properties will include, but are not limited to, maintaining or increasing tree canopy in overburdened communities, and preserving existing mature tree canopy to enhance stormwater benefits.

The City will continue working on this requirement, with specific actions focused on evaluating existing canopy coverage, identifying priority areas, and developing policies to integrate tree canopy into stormwater management. This work will include community engagement and coordination with citywide urban forestry and resilience efforts.

As the City develops and refines these policies, updates will be provided in future SWMP updates.

S5.C.7 Stormwater Management for Existing Development

The City shall have a program to prevent or reduce impacts to waters of the state caused by stormwater discharges from existing development.

Summary of Program Component and Permit Compliance Measures

The Permit requires the City to implement a Stormwater Management for Existing Development (SMED) Program to prevent or reduce impacts to waters of the State caused by discharges from the stormwater system. The Program is intended to consider impacts caused by stormwater discharges from areas of existing development and areas of new development where impacts are anticipated to occur.

Per the Permit, the goal of Section S5.C.7 is to:

- Prevent or reduce hydrologic and pollutant-related impacts from MS4 discharges.
- Address stormwater impacts not adequately controlled by other SWMP actions.
- Achieve 1,000 SMED Program Points by March 31, 2028, as defined in Appendix 12.

The EPG will continue to coordinate with other City departments and groups including PW, Asset Management, Watershed Planning, Open Space, and ES Capital Delivery to help prioritize projects that will be utilized for the SMED Program. The City will ensure project types in S5.C.7.a.i are considered for use in the program and will also use project types in S5.C.7.a.ii to achieve the required SMED Program Points.

The UWPP development and implementation and Tacoma's watershed prioritization tool are being used for the SMED planning process, per S5.C.7.b. The community-vetted goals in the UWPP, which also apply to the SMED Program, include:

- Clean and Healthy Ecosystems
- Healthy Neighborhoods
- Equity and Environmental Justice
- Resilient Community
- Smart Government Spending

The geographic scale of the planning process focuses on the top 25 percent of priority sub-basins in the UWPP. The UWPP also outlines the steps in the planning process including an overview of related regulations, watershed characterization, public involvement process, and identifying opportunities for future funding sources. The current Stormwater Utility rates and budget are being used for SMED Program implementation. The City's Equity Index Map is being used to ensure that SMED project prioritization considers benefits to overburdened communities, including specifically vulnerable populations and highly impacted communities, where possible. As noted in Section S5.C.7.b.ii.g, the City will evaluate opportunities to support equitable project distribution and focus water quality improvements on low- and very low-opportunity neighborhoods.

As required by the Permit, the City will provide a list of planned, individual projects scheduled for implementation during the Permit term with each Annual Report.

S5.C.8 Source Control Program for Existing Development

The source control program includes inspection of pollutant-generating sources at commercial, industrial, and any properties suspected of being potential pollutant-generating sources based on field observations or complaints.

Summary of Program Component

The Source Control Program (SCP) is based on the enforcement authority identified in the TMC Chapter 12.08D. ES inspectors work with property owners and managers to ensure applicable operational source control BMPs, structural source control BMPs or treatment facilities are implemented for pollutant generating sources, as necessary.

Implementation of Operational and Structural Source Control BMPs and Treatment BMPs on Existing Sites (S5.C.8.a)

ES EC staff notifies industries and businesses of BMP requirements during standard business inspections of targeted industrial users and activities, when responding to spill complaints, and at sites discovered during the City's illicit discharge screening process. The SCP references the City of Tacoma SWMM, equivalent to Ecology's SWMMWW, for operational BMP standards. The SCP includes inspection, education and enforcement procedures. During the development permitting approval process, the Site Development Group reviews site activities and ensures that appropriate controls will be installed and utilized on new development and redevelopment sites.

The [SWMM, Volume 6 – Source Control Best Management Practices](#) provides source control BMP guidance for all new and existing businesses, commercial sites, and government agencies within Tacoma.

Enforce Ordinances Requiring Source Control BMPs for Existing Land Uses and Activities (S5.C.8.a)

The City reviewed existing ordinances in 2025 and confirmed that TMC Chapter 12.08D - Stormwater Management adequately addresses the source control requirements in S5.C.8.a for pollutant-generating sources associated with existing land uses and activities. The ordinances require application of source control BMPs consistent with Volume IV of the SWMMWW. No ordinance updates are needed at this time to meet the August 1, 2026, deadline.

The City has an established SCP implemented by ES EC to meet this requirement. Business owners and operators are informed of operational source control BMPs during regular business inspections and responses to spill complaints. The City provides informational source control materials as necessary and will follow with appropriate enforcement per the City's Stormwater Compliance Policy. Additionally, all City-owned facilities and properties that have been identified as potential pollutant-generating sites are being comprehensively inspected and if necessary, appropriate enforcement per the City's Stormwater Compliance Policy is undertaken to address deficiencies in stormwater and wastewater BMPs. This effort is ongoing and will require continued coordination among City departments.

Inspection of Pollutant-Generating Sources (S5.C.8.b)

The SCP includes inspection of pollutant generating sources at commercial, industrial, and any other properties suspected of being potential pollutant-generating sources based on field observations or complaints. EC Inspectors enforce the implementation of required BMPs to control pollution from discharging into municipal separate storm sewers owned or operated by the City.

The City began conducting stormwater business inspections prior to 1984 as part of its delegated responsibility to implement Ecology's NPDES sanitary sewer pretreatment program.

Maintain an Inventory of Potential Pollutant-Generating Sites (S5.C.8.b)

As of 2026, the inventory list of potential stormwater pollutant-generating sites is 1,865 potential stormwater pollutant-generating sites. City Inspectors regularly review new businesses to verify if they should be added to the list. Additionally, Tacoma's annual business license renewal forms and tax and license applications are reviewed to identify potential pollutant-generating sites.

Potential pollutant-generating sites include:

- Commercial, industrial, and governmental sites with specific business practices that may impact stormwater quality
- Mobile or home-based businesses with specific business practices that may impact stormwater quality
- Any site or facility identified through field observations or complaints as a potential pollutant generating source

In addition to the planned source control inspections, all pollution complaint responses (inspections, spill response, complaints, sanitary sewer overflows) are investigated promptly, coordinating with other agencies as appropriate. These complaints are documented in the EC Section database. The database information is reviewed prior to conducting an inspection. ES EC staff also review all new and renewed home occupational business licenses. ES EC Inspectors survey their entire assigned areas on a regular basis to identify new potential pollutant-generating sources or unusual activity that might require a source control response.

Inspect Businesses for Compliance with Source Control Requirements (S5.C.8.c)

The ES EC Section provides information on BMPs and program literature directly to businesses during site visits. EC Inspectors educate the general public and businesses on BMPs and City environmental programs. Direct mailings may be used to target specific business practices.

Investigation and enforcement occur in response to all credible water quality complaints. Companies determined to be potential pollutant-generating sites are identified in the database as Surface Water Inventory (SWI), and NAICS codes are included to help provide additional detail of business type. The inspection program annually inspects 20 percent of the inventory, with a goal to visit 100 percent of all businesses over the five-year permit term (including

follow-up compliance inspections) to ensure BMP effectiveness and compliance with source control requirements.

Updates to the inventory outside of routine inspections, include the processes listed below:

- User Survey Program – Review of Tax & Licensing records to determine the nature of existing and new businesses.
- GIS Map Assessment – Staff review EC Map that shows existing companies.
- Spill Response – When EC respond to spill events at a commercial property, they would determine if the site should be inventoried as SWI.

All SWI businesses are provided information about the City of Tacoma SWMM, Volume 6 that may apply to their activities. This occurs during inspections or through mailings and emails as needed.

The ES EC Section uses a custom database for tracking spills, complaints, business inspections and flooding claims. Regular updates and refinements are made to improve data management and ensure inspections are effectively categorized and tracked in compliance with Permit requirements.

Implement Progressive Enforcement Policy and Documentation (S5.C.8.d)

Chapter 12.08D of the TMC outlines stormwater management regulations and provides a mechanism to take enforcement actions for any code violations. Enforcement procedures are outlined in the City's Stormwater Compliance Policy that was updated in 2022. Enforcement procedures may include field inspection reports, phone calls, letters, follow-up inspections, warning letters, Notices of Violation, and civil penalties.

The EC Inspectors contact Ecology as standard operating procedure for all source control violations that present a threat to human health or the environment, and request assistance from Ecology with non-responsive enforcement cases to facilitate prompt compliance. The EC Inspectors may also refer violations in the STGPD to the TPCHD for follow-up or work cooperatively with TPCHD for resolutions, as appropriate.

The City documents all inspection and enforcement activities in the ES EC inspection database and business inspection files.

Application and Enforcement of Local Ordinances at Sites Including Sites that are covered by Other NPDES Permits Issued by Ecology (S5.C.8.d.v)

Chapter 12.08A and 12.08D of the TMC outlines stormwater management regulations and provides a mechanism to take enforcement actions for any code violations. Enforcement actions are based on a process outlined in the City's Stormwater Compliance Policy. EC Inspectors respond to all spills and complaints, including sites covered by Ecology's stormwater permits. The City has the authority to apply local ordinances to sites covered by Ecology's NPDES Construction General Permit and NPDES Industrial Stormwater General Permit through

the TMC 12.08D.110, which states that Chapter 12.08D applies to all direct and indirect users of the municipal stormwater system and all discharges into receiving waters within the City.

In cases where Ecology has direct authority, such as at NPDES-permitted industrial facilities, certain UIC (infiltration) systems, or sites requiring a waste discharge permit, the City consults with Ecology to determine the most effective level of enforcement.

Training Program for Source Control Staff (S5.C.8.e)

ES EC has developed a training program for all of their inspectors that includes regularly scheduled follow-up training. The training will facilitate uniform enforcement of the applicable source control requirements listed in Chapter 12.08D of the TMC and the SWMM. Training topics include legal authority, proper use and application of source control BMPs, lessons learned and typical cases, inspection procedures, and the enforcement process. The training program will be documented through training sign-in sheets.

S5.C.9 Illicit Connection and Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)

The City will maintain a program to detect, remove, and prevent illicit connections and illicit discharges, including spills into the City's separate storm sewer system. All staff who might observe an illicit discharge will be trained.

Summary of Program Component

ES operates a robust IDDE program through field screening, stormwater monitoring, source control inspections, spill and complaint response, and construction inspections. This program also addresses prohibited discharges and associated source control BMPs for non-stormwater discharges as outlined in the Permit.

Include Procedures for Reporting and Correcting or Removing Illicit Connections, Spills, and Other Illicit Discharges (S5.C.9.a)

The City has a database to report and track illicit connections, spills, and other illicit discharges. The database ensures that reports are adequately investigated and illicit connections are removed as appropriate. The database was updated to comply with the 2019 Permit. Database requires no significant changes and remains in compliance with the 2024-2029 Permit and includes all information required in Appendix 14 of the Permit.

Continue to Implement Enforcement Ordinances and Regulations to Prohibit IDDE (S5.C.9.b)

Chapter 12.08D of the TMC provides enforcement authority to prevent illicit connections and illicit discharges to City stormwater system and sanitary sewers. See Section S5.C.1 of this document for specific code citations.

The City reviewed existing ordinances in 2025 and confirmed that TMC Chapter 12.08D – Stormwater Management contains adequate language to prohibit non-stormwater/illicit discharges, including discharges from firefighting and building washdown suspected of containing PCBs in building materials. The ordinances require application of source

control BMPs consistent with Volume IV of the SWMMWW. No ordinance updates are needed at this time to meet the July 1, 2027, deadline.

Education and Water Conservation Activities for Conditionally Allowable Discharges (S5.C.9.b.ii.b, d, e)

The Permittee shall reduce these discharges through, at a minimum, public education activities (see S5.C.11) and/or water conservation efforts for the following conditionally allowable discharges:

- Discharges from lawn watering and other irrigation runoff
- Street and sidewalk wash water and water used to control dust
- Routine external building washdown for structures built between 1950-1980 and suspected of containing PCBs in building materials.

TPU Water Conservation Program provides education and incentives to reduce outside water use, including free hose spray nozzles, hose times, and rain gauges, as well as rebates for smart irrigation controllers. To avoid washing pollutants into the MS4 from sidewalk, street, and building cleaning activities, ES EC business inspections and spills and complaints responders will provide recommendations to property owners and cleaning contractors to minimize the amount of water used.

Program for Detecting and Identifying Illicit Connections and Non-stormwater Discharges to the MS4 (S5.C.9.c.i, ii, iii)

The City's IDDE Field Screening Program utilizes multiple methodologies to meet the Permit requirement of screening an average of 12 percent of the stormwater conveyance system each calendar year. Field screening methodologies are consistent with the [Illicit Connection and Illicit Discharge Field Screening and Source Tracing Guidance Manual](#) prepared by Herrera Environmental Consultants, Inc., May 2020 (IC-ID Manual).

The City employs the following field screening techniques to identify illicit connections and discharges:

- Video inspection (CCTV) – Closed-circuit television inspection of storm sewer pipes to assess pipe condition and identify illegal connections to the stormwater system
- Dry weather outfall inspections – Visual inspection of outfalls during dry weather to identify evidence of illicit discharges or connections
- Base flow sampling – Water quality sampling conducted at selected outfalls during dry weather to detect potential illicit discharges
- Sediment trap sampling – Sampling conducted at selected manholes to identify pollutant sources

- Intensive storm event sampling – Sampling conducted at selected outfalls during storm events to characterize stormwater quality and identify potential pollution sources
- Smoke testing and dye testing – Testing of stormwater systems to identify cross-connections and verify proper connections

When field screening identifies suspect connections or discharges, the City conducts source tracing investigations which may include additional sampling, visual tracing, side sewer research, smoke testing, dye testing, and further CCTV inspection. Illicit discharges and sanitary cross-connections are required to be remedied in accordance with permit requirements.

Field screening and investigation data are tracked and stored in the City's GIS and asset management systems for reporting and compliance documentation.

Maintain publicly listed water quality complaint hotline (S5.C.9.c.i.a, ii)

In 2018, the City began using the TacomaFIRST 311 system as its primary water quality complaint line for reporting spills and illicit discharges. Residents can report concerns by calling 311 within Tacoma or (253) 591-5000 from outside the City limits. Complaints can also be submitted electronically at [Prevent Stormwater Pollution | City of Tacoma](#) or [Tacoma FIRST 311 Services | City of Tacoma](#), and via [SeeClickFix.com/Tacoma](#) web and mobile app.

TacomaFIRST 311 contact information is included in City directories, posted on watershed signs along major arterials, Tidy-Up Tacoma trash cans, ES pet waste stations, and featured on stormwater and 311 outreach materials. In 2022, the City expanded the service to include the SeeClickFix mobile application to improve accessibility and public engagement.

Training Program for Citywide Staff to Identify and Report Illicit Discharges and Connections (S5.C.9.c.i.a, iii)

All City staff are provided Illicit Discharge Awareness (IDA) training on how to identify and report illicit discharges. This training is a part of the City's onboarding process for all new hires. In 2025, the City updated its IDA training with a new Docebo module called *Ground to Sound: Protecting our Waterways*. This new training became available to all staff in June 2025. All City staff are required to take the IDA training module on a biannual cycle. The new IDA training update includes the If It Hits the Ground, It Hits the Sound (IIHTG) campaign messaging and graphics, and required updates to IDA training, including education on PCBs. Training records are maintained in the Docebo learning management system database.

Response to Illicit Connections and Illicit Discharges including Spills (S5.C.9.d)

The Permit requires the City to implement an ongoing program designed to address illicit discharges, including spills and illicit connections, into the Permittee's stormwater system. The program includes procedures for characterizing, tracing, and eliminating illicit discharges, in compliance with the new permit requirements.

The ES EC spills and complaints database is used to track the complete process of screening, investigation, referral to responsible agencies (if other than the City), and enforcement. This

ensures a documented record of response actions, interdepartmental coordination, and enforcement follow-ups.

The ES Field Support Services Group and EC Inspection Programs work together to investigate and eliminate illicit connections within the required timelines.

Timeline (S5.C.9.d.v):

- Immediate response to illicit discharges that pose a threat to human health or the environment, per General Condition G3
- Investigate potential illicit discharges within seven days on average based on complaints, reports, or monitoring data
- Initiate an investigation within 21 days of discovering a suspected illicit connection to determine its source, discharge volume, and responsible party
- Eliminate confirmed illicit connections within 6 months using enforcement authority, ensuring full compliance with Permit deadlines

Several City departments such as Neighborhood and Community Services Code Compliance Office; ES Science and Engineering Division; Street Operations; ES Operations and Maintenance Division; Tacoma Water; and other agencies such as TPCHD and Ecology may be involved in both the investigation and termination of illicit connections.

In cases when an illicit connection may cause a severe threat to the environment or human health or when businesses are permitted under Ecology NPDES permits, the City may refer the case to Ecology to follow up. If a business does not respond after ES EC Section staff makes a good faith and documented effort of progressive enforcement to terminate a violation, the City may partner with Ecology for enforcement.

Procedures for the Post-Emergency Clean-up of Firefighting Activities (S5.C.9.d.ii.a and b)

In accordance with Permit requirements to reduce the sources of PFAS from firefighting foam, we have confirmed that the Tacoma Fire Department no longer uses PFAS-containing Aqueous Film-Forming Foam in their operations.

The permit also requires procedures to minimize discharges from post-emergency fire cleanup and disposal activities. The City is developing a program to ensure compliance by the January 1, 2027, deadlines.

Training Program for IDDE Staff (S5.C.9.e)

Annual training is provided to field staff responsible for identification, investigation, termination, cleanup, and reporting of illicit discharges, including topics such as documentation and reporting process once illicit discharges are found, environmental sampling for enforcement, and BMP training. Records of training are kept via sign-in sheets.

Develop and Implement Procedures to Investigate and Respond to Spills or Improper Disposal into the MS4 (S5.C.9.f)

Potential illicit discharges are discovered and investigated by ES EC. ES staff investigate, document, and take corrective actions to resolve illicit discharges found through reported complaints, firsthand field observations, business inspections, and stormwater monitoring information. TPU EC team has an active spill response program to respond to and clean up larger spills at facilities owned and operated by TPU. TPU reports all spills to ES EC who then log the report into the database for tracking. When appropriate ES EC will provide onsite assistance for all spills. ES EC notifies Ecology and other required agencies of all spills, as required by the Permit.

ES EC staffs a 24-hour on-call Source Control Representative to respond to emergency spills and complaints. The direct call line for City staff has been included in City training for staff if they come into contact with an illicit discharge. EC responds to spill complaints to ensure appropriate actions are taken to mitigate damage, document events, and complete any necessary reporting. The Source Control Representative also responds to water pollution reports from the public water pollution hotline (TacomaFIRST 311 & SECLICKFIX).

The City has existing procedures for responding to spills and improper disposal to the storm system. Some departments also participate in regional emergency response programs.

In the course of regular duties, various City staff may encounter illicit discharges or spills that are from unknown sources. City staff may also accidentally cause spills. All Permit-required spills reporting is managed by ES EC. City staff have been trained to contact ES EC using various communication tools. ES EC will investigate, respond to, and report spills and illicit discharges to Ecology and other agencies as required by the Permit.

When a major spill occurs, Ecology or other agencies may assist or manage the spill response. Tacoma will provide assistance to these agencies upon request.

IDDE Inspection, Response, and Enforcement Record Keeping (S5.C.9.g)

The ES EC staff uses a database (ES EC spills and complaints database) to track IDDE, spill complaints, and source control inspection activities. The database has been updated to meet the requirements stated in Appendix 14.

The City IDDE program uses the City's asset management mapping system to manage field screening and any follow-up investigation. The referral information and final enforcement outcome for each potential illicit discharge or connection is tracked in the ES EC spills and complaints database.

S5.C.10 Operation and Maintenance Program

Maintenance standards and inspection programs are required for public and private stormwater facilities. BMPs are required to be implemented for the maintenance activities on public lands and roadways to reduce stormwater impacts.

Summary of Program Component

This section of the SWMP contains requirements to regulate and conduct public and private operation and maintenance activities to prevent and reduce stormwater impacts.

Each City division is responsible for performing those tasks discussed under the compliance measures below that are applicable and necessary for Permit compliance. These include:

- Implementing and enforcing maintenance standards for stormwater facilities
- Ensuring proper and timely maintenance of public and private stormwater facilities, including catch basins
- Establishing BMPs for reducing stormwater impacts associated with runoff from City property, parking lots, streets, and highways owned or operated by the City
- Implementing a training program for employees who have primary construction, operations, or maintenance job functions that may impact stormwater quality
- Establishing BMPs and SWPPPs for reducing stormwater impacts from heavy equipment maintenance or storage yards and material storage facilities owned or operated by the City
- Maintaining records of these activities

Adopt Maintenance Standards Equivalent to Ecology's SWMM for Western Washington (S5.C.10.a.)

TMC 12.08D.150.D references the SWMM Minimum Requirements and MR #9 contains the requirement for an operation and maintenance manual including maintenance standards for proposed stormwater facilities as described in the SWMM which are equivalent to Ecology's SWMMWW standards. Chapter 12.08D of the TMC also provides City personnel authority to enter private property to inspect and regulate the operation and maintenance of private facilities. The City requires owners of private stormwater facilities to submit an operation and maintenance manual to the City as part of the permit approval process to ensure that all current and future owners of the private stormwater facilities have operation and maintenance guidelines for regular inspection and maintenance of their permanent stormwater treatment and flow control facilities.

When maintenance is required according to the standards, the City will schedule typical maintenance to be performed within one year for all treatment and flow control facilities, within six months for all catch basins, and within two years for maintenance requiring capital construction of less than \$25,000.

Maintenance of Private Stormwater Facilities Regulated by the City (S5.C.10.b)

Inspect Private Treatment and Flow Control BMPs/Facilities

The City requires applicants installing private stormwater facilities to enter into a Covenant and Easement agreement. The Covenant and Easement agreement between the property owner

and the City is recorded to the title of the associated property prior to final permit approval. The agreement affirms a commitment on the part of the property owner to perform inspection and maintenance of the private drainage system and allow City staff access to the facilities for confirmatory inspections.

The City has an established inspection program for private storm drainage facilities. The ES EC Inspectors provide education and training to owners of private stormwater facilities on operations and maintenance needs for their treatment and flow control facilities. Inspection and enforcement records are tracked in the ES EC spills and complaints database. The City will provide inspection of each identified private treatment and flow control device regulated by the City. The City has analyzed the data from annual facility inspections over six years and concluded that a two-year inspection frequency is appropriate for the majority of private facilities. This analysis and frequency determination is allowed per Permit section S5.C.10.b.iii.

Inspection Program Shall Achieve Inspection of 80 Percent of all Sites Requiring Inspection

The City has an established inspection program designed to inspect and require maintenance of private stormwater facilities regulated by the City. The City tracks inspections in a database. The City will meet the inspection requirements described above in Section S5.C.10.b.iii, by achieving inspection of 80 percent of all known facilities requiring inspection on a yearly basis.

Catch Basin Cleaning Required where Identified by Inspection

The City has an established inspection program with the authority to inspect and require maintenance of private stormwater facilities, including catch basins, regulated by the City. TMC 12.08A.090 requires that all privately owned drainage facilities including catch basins must be regularly inspected and maintained by the owner and provides authority to the City to access private property to inspect catch basins connected to the municipal storm drainage system. City inspectors enforce required maintenance standards for cleaning private catch basins. The maintenance standards identify conditions requiring catch basin maintenance including sediment depth, vegetation and debris accumulation, structural integrity, and safety concerns. City inspectors also require catch basin cleaning where structures have been contaminated by pollutants from accidental spills or illicit discharges.

Maintenance of Stormwater Facilities Owned or Operated by the City (S5.C.10.c)

Inspection Schedule Established for Public Stormwater Facilities Owned or Operated by the City

ES has a program to annually inspect all City owned or operated stormwater treatment and flow control facilities and to provide necessary maintenance of these facilities. The inspection program's goal is to achieve at least 95 percent of required inspections. The list of City-owned facilities and associated maintenance procedures are documented in the SWMM and in the EC database.

Perform Spot Checks of Treatment and Flow Control Facilities after Major Storm Events

ES implements a flooding emergency response plan to inspect certain public stormwater facilities and potential flooding locations during major storm events, also called a "code red"

event. The plan identifies potential flooding areas and assigns ES personnel to designated drainage basins within the City. These personnel are responsible for inspecting the public storm system and calling the ES O&M Division to perform emergency maintenance if necessary to alleviate flooding. The flooding emergency response plan includes additional spot check inspections of potentially damaged treatment or flow control facilities during a “code red” flood response, which is triggered by a major storm event for Tacoma’s storm system. The flooding emergency response plan also documents the process for communicating inspection results to the ES O&M Division or ES Science and Engineering Division for follow-up with recommended maintenance or repair activities. The plan is updated as necessary.

For the purpose of this section, a major storm event is defined as the 24-hour storm with a ten-year or greater recurrence interval. After the event occurs, additional spot checks of potentially damaged facilities will be conducted. If spot checks show widespread damage or maintenance needs, additional stormwater treatment and flow control facilities that may have been affected will also be inspected.

Maintenance of Catch Basins Owned or Operated by the City (S5.C.10.d)

The City implements a circuit basis catch basin inspection and maintenance program in accordance with Permit Section S5.C.10 and applies the circuit basis alternative in S5.C.10.d.i.(b). The City follows Ecology’s guidance: [Catch Basin Inspection Alternatives for Phase I and II Municipal Stormwater Permittees](#)

ES O&M operates a dedicated catch basin crew that inspects and cleans catch basins during the inspection visit. The City inspects at least 25 percent of catch basins and inlets in each circuit annually, including all structures immediately upstream of MS4 outfalls, discharge points, or connections to other public or private systems. Inspection results are entered into the City’s asset management system, and the system schedules any follow-up cleaning or other maintenance per inspection findings. Inspection data are analyzed, and additional inspection and cleaning within the circuit are conducted as needed. Each year, a different portion of each circuit is addressed, and over the Permit term all catch basins within a circuits are inspected. The City conducts quality control by inspecting additional catch basins outside the 25 percent sample to confirm representativeness.

Catch basins are cleaned when the sediment level is 60 percent or more of sump depth or debris is within six inches of the bottom of the outlet pipe. If a basin meets the maintenance standard and cannot be cleaned at the time of inspection, cleaning is scheduled and completed within six months. The City’s maintenance standards are at least as protective as Ecology SWMMWW standards. If maintenance timelines are exceeded due to circumstances beyond the City’s control (e.g., access denial, permit delays, emergency work), the City documents the circumstances and resolution. Catch basins identified as out of compliance during Source Control or IDDE inspections are scheduled for cleaning per the maintenance standard and timelines.

Catch basins on City-owned or City-operated parcels are inspected annually. Depending on site management, annual inspection is performed either by the responsible department or by the

City's contracted cleaner. For department-led sites, the department conducts the inspection and coordinates any needed cleaning with the City's contracted cleaner. For contractor-led sites, the department schedules the City's contracted cleaner to complete both the inspection and any required cleaning. All inspection and cleaning activities are recorded in the City's asset management system. Cleaning may be completed during the inspection when feasible; otherwise, it is scheduled and completed within six months of the inspection, consistent with City maintenance standards. Repairs and other public works activities are performed by the City and are not part of the citywide catch basin cleaning contract.

The City owns and operates permitted decant facilities. Disposal of decant materials from catch basin maintenance is conducted in accordance with Appendix 6 – Street Waste Disposal of the Permit.

The City maintains records of inspections and maintenance activities and demonstrates compliance by achieving at least 95 percent of required inspections each year.

Reduce Stormwater Impacts from Lands Owned and Maintained by the City and Road Maintenance Activities (S5.C.10.e, f)

Practices, Policies, and Procedures

ES O&M crews maintaining City-owned treatment and flow control facilities, pipes, and catch basins may reference the SWMM and the specific O&M plan for the facilities for operation and maintenance of all City-owned stormwater facilities. ES EPG also serves as a technical resource for this work.

Crews performing street, utility, and grounds maintenance activities follow the guidelines in the City of Tacoma Utility BMP Manual, City of Tacoma SWMM, and the Regional Roadside Maintenance Program Endangered Species Act. This includes maintenance of parking lots, streets, and highways that are owned or operated by the City, as well as for the maintenance activities listed in the Permit Section S5.C.10.e including pipe cleaning, cleaning of culverts, ditch maintenance, street cleaning, road repair and resurfacing, snow and ice control, utility installation, vegetation management, dust control, pavement striping maintenance, application of fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides, sediment and erosion control, landscape maintenance, vegetation disposal, trash and pet waste management, and building exterior cleaning and maintenance. To comply with 2024-2029 Permit requirements for building exterior cleaning, maintenance, renovation, and demolition of Permittee-owned buildings constructed or renovated between 1950-1980, ES is updating policies, practices, and procedures to incorporate Source Control BMPs that minimize pollutant-generating building materials from entering the MS4 (S5.C.10.e.xv, xvi). These updates will be developed and implemented no later than December 2027.

Supervisors document use of best management practices by using a City-developed tablet app. PW, Street Operations, and TPU Grounds Maintenance Section collaborated with the Tacoma Public Schools and Parks Tacoma to write the 2011 Management Guidelines for Public Landscapes Including Integrated Pest Management. This document outlines strategies and methods for pest control used by the guideline partners.

The City typically sponsors two to three Ecology Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) crews. These crews maintain and restore the City's open space areas, mitigation and habitat restoration projects near shorelines, streams, and wetlands. All WCC crews are trained in proper operations to ensure their work does not create impacts to the stormwater system or receiving water bodies.

Municipal Street Sweeping Program

The City's street sweeping program removes sediment and associated contaminants from the street surfaces before they enter the stormwater system. The street sweeping program is one of the BMPs the City uses to reduce stormwater impacts from roadways. The program provides street sweeping services on a scheduled rotation for major arterials, 16 business districts, industrial/commercial, and residential areas. Street sweeping services are also provided as needed in response to emergency calls, special events, and customer requests. More information is available on the City website at: [Street Sweeping Schedule & FAQs | City of Tacoma](#).

Current Program Elements:

- Residential Areas – All residential streets are swept twice per year to minimize sediment buildup entering the MS4.
- Arterial Streets – Arterial roadways receive a minimum of six sweeps annually (approximately once every nine weeks) to address higher traffic volumes and associated pollutant loads.
- Business Districts – Sixteen designated business districts are swept one to three times per month based on activity levels and site-specific needs.
- Industrial Priority Areas – High-priority industrial zones are swept at least twice per month to control industrial sediment and pollutants.
- Responsive Services – Additional sweeping is conducted as needed for emergency response, special events, and customer service requests.

Program Assessment and Development for Permit Compliance (S5.C.10.f)

The city is assessing the existing street sweeping program to determine compliance with permit requirements for priority area identification, sweeping frequency and timing, operational procedures, street waste disposal, and data tracking. Based on this assessment, the program will be updated as necessary to ensure full compliance with all new permit requirements by the July 1, 2027, deadline.

The City will submit the required priority area-focused municipal sweeping program information with the Annual Report as specified in the permit by March 31, 2028.

Additional Practices

The ES O&M Division provides storm pipe cleaning services throughout the City prioritized based on pipe inspections, receiving water, spill response, or other source control observations in the stormwater collection system. The allocation of maintenance resources within the

stormwater utility is prioritized by the Asset Management Program, which includes impacts to receiving waters as key criteria. Special pipe cleaning projects are prioritized in specific subbasins each year.

Implement Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans for City Heavy Equipment Maintenance or Storage Yards and Material Storage Facilities (S5.C.10.g)

SWPPPs have been developed by TPU, ES EC, and ES EPG staff for the list of City-owned heavy equipment maintenance or storage yard and material storage facilities that meet the following criteria:

- Not required to have coverage under the General NPDES Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities or another NPDES permit that covers stormwater discharges associated with the activity; and
- Include heavy equipment maintenance and storage areas and/or material storage areas.

The list of facilities includes the following locations:

- Sewer Transmission and Maintenance Dock Street Yard (201 Puyallup Avenue)
- Sewer Transmission Cleveland Way Decant Facility (2101 Cleveland Way)
- Tacoma Fire Vehicle Maintenance Shop (3401B South Orchard Street)
- Tacoma Power Southwest Substation Training Facility and Pole Yard (4102 S 74th Street)
- Tacoma Power Utility Center (3628 S 35th Street)
- Tacoma Water Distribution Operations Center (3506 S 35th Street)
- Traffic Signal and Street Lighting Shop (3401A S Orchard Street)
- Street Operations Upper Yard (2335 Jefferson Avenue)
- Northeast Tacoma Storage Yard (100 Block Norpoint Way NE)
- Fleet Operations Maintenance Facility (3639 S Pine Street)
- Tacoma Power LaGrande Hydro-Project (Nisqually project headquarters), (SR 7 E – La Grande)
- Mountain Highway East (SR 7 E – Eatonville)
- Tacoma Power South Service Center (Loveland), (3022 224th Street E)
- Wilco in Gig Harbor (Potlach Trail Line), (3408 Hunt Street NW)
- Tacoma Rail (2601 SR 509 N Frontage Road)
- McMillin Reservoir (13004 Reservoir Road E)
- Tacoma Water Headworks – King County (37007 SE Green River)

SWPPPs for these facilities have been developed and implemented to cover operational BMPs and a visual inspection program to evaluate BMP effectiveness. SWPPP training is also provided on an annual basis to employees staffing these facilities.

As required by the Permit, all City SWPPPs are updated to include all permit required components. SWPPPs are maintained and updated as necessary.

Ongoing Training Program for Employees with Primary Construction, Operations, or Maintenance Job Functions (S5.C.10.h.)

ES EPG coordinates a training program for City staff with primary construction, operations, and maintenance job functions that may impact stormwater quality. The training includes discussions of BMPs, policies, and procedures for the maintenance activities listed in the Permit Section S5.C.10.e (outlined above). The City developed a module-based training program in Docebo, the City's learning management system, that specifies appropriate BMPs based upon the activities being conducted for Solid Waste Management, the Central Treatment Plant, Dock Street Yard, Cleveland Way Decant Facility, and TPU sites. SWPPP training PowerPoints the Tacoma Fire Department Vehicle Maintenance Facility, Fleet Operations Maintenance, Street Operations, and Traffic Signal Shop are also posted on the City's internal SharePoint site: [NPDES Stormwater Permit Compliance Training Page](#). These modules are presented at staff meetings or other training opportunities and reported for tracking through Docebo. As part of the module-based training a City of Tacoma Utility BMP Manual was created that provides a more detailed overview of the BMPs mentioned in the training and is also available on the same SharePoint site.

The training program includes regularly scheduled follow-up training reminders, and a list of trained staff is documented in Docebo. Half-day refresher O&M BMP trainings combining classroom overview and field practice are offered to all maintenance crews and supervisors. The training modules are updated as needed to comply with current permit requirements.

Inspection and Maintenance Records (S5.C.10.i)

The City keeps records of all maintenance activities of City-owned and -operated storm drainage facilities. Record-keeping processes and maintenance checklists are evaluated and updated as necessary.

EC Inspectors keep a database of all business inspections, which includes private stormwater facility inspections, maintenance, enforcement, and spill complaint information.

Maintenance activities for public facilities are tracked in SAP, the City's Information Management System database.

S5.C.11 Education and Outreach Program

The City will engage in Education and Outreach Programs to build general awareness, effect behavior change, and promote stewardship opportunities. Target audiences include the general public, including school-age children, college and trade students, overburdened communities, businesses, property owners and managers, engineers, contractors, developers, and land use planners. During this permit cycle, the City will more intentionally consider the needs of overburdened communities.

Permit Requirements

Permit Special Condition S5.C.11 requires the City to implement a stormwater education and outreach program for the area served by the MS4, based on local water quality information and target audience characteristics, designed to:

- Build general awareness among priority audiences about methods to address and reduce impacts from stormwater runoff (S5.C.11.a.i).
 - The 2024 Permit added “college/university and trade students” to the list of priority audiences that Permittees must reach (S5.C.11.a.i.a). This audience is described as “Post Secondary”, below.
 - The 2024 Permit also added a new priority audience “property owners/managers” associated with a new subject area related to source control BMPs for building materials to reduce pollution from stormwater, including stormwater pollution from PCB-containing materials (S5.C.11.a.i.b).
- Effect behavior change to reduce or eliminate behaviors and practices that cause or contribute to adverse stormwater impacts (S5.C.11.a.ii).
- Provide, partner with, or promote stewardship opportunities that encourage residents or businesses to participate in activities or events planned and organized within the community (S5.C.11.a.iii).

Summary of Program Components

Tacoma’s Education and Outreach Programs deliver the three elements required under S5.C.11: general awareness, behavior change, and stewardship to reduce stormwater impacts to local receiving waters. Target audiences include residents (schoolage through adult), businesses (including mobile/homebased), property owners and managers, engineers, contractors, developers, land use planners, and overburdened communities.

The Adopt-a-Drain (AAD) program uses community-based social marketing (CBSM), to foster behaviors that reduce stormwater pollution. This includes identifying barriers to an audience's ability to engage in sustainable behaviors and working to remove those barriers to participation. Evaluation is built into the program design to track performance metrics and changes in the audience's adoption of the priority behavior. The City created the marketing strategy and schedule by July 1, 2025, began implementation by September 1, 2025, and will evaluate effectiveness by March 31, 2029.

The City is increasing its focus on more equitable education and outreach programming to better serve diverse audiences and overburdened communities including improved language access. Educational materials have been translated, as appropriate, into eight of Tacoma’s primary languages other than English: Spanish, Russian, Ukrainian, Vietnamese, Korean, Chinese, Tagalog, and Khmer. The City’s Equity Index Map is used to identify overburdened neighborhoods and to better inform public outreach and program development. The Education and Outreach Program is informed by local water-quality information and targets priority audiences, subject areas, and BMPs. Per Permit section S5.C.4, T will document the methods

used to identify overburdened communities by December 31, 2026, and continue delivering multilingual content where appropriate.

The City has various active environmental stewardship, education and outreach programs and activities described in the following sections. Most of the City's surface water and stormwater education efforts are implemented by the following groups:

[ES Environmental Programs Group](#)

The Environmental Programs Group staff is responsible for coordinating all permit-mandated education and outreach. Staff coordinates with departments and divisions throughout the City. Staff develop messaging, create outreach materials, train other staff regarding outreach messaging, plan events, and conduct outreach opportunities.

[ES Environmental Compliance Section](#)

EC Inspectors provide education about BMPs to businesses during regular business inspections, stormwater facility maintenance inspections, and spills and complaints responses. Outreach audiences include commercial and industrial businesses, home-based and mobile businesses, landscapers, and property managers, among others. To ensure an equitable distribution of information, several of the handouts have been translated into various languages that include Spanish, Russian, Khmer, Korean, and Vietnamese.

[ES Solid Waste Management Division](#)

Staff assists with education related to the storage and disposal of hazardous waste, education related to natural yard care, yard waste disposal, picking up pet waste, litter prevention, and dumpster practices and maintenance.

[ES EnviroChallengers](#)

The EnviroChallenger environmental education program delivers free lessons to elementary and middle schools, homeschool groups, and represents ES at community events. Lessons and event activities include stormwater, wastewater, and solid waste topics. EnviroChallengers and EPG partner on activities and initiatives where messaging overlaps.

[Planning and Development Services Department](#)

Plan review staff, inspectors, planners, and regulatory compliance staff provide education about SWMM development requirements and technical standards, LID principles and BMPs, stormwater treatment and flow control BMPs, and source control BMPs to developers, engineers, contractors, property owners, and land use planners.

[ES Communications and Engagement Team](#)

This team assists program staff with developing communications plans, messaging materials, social media posts, website updates, community partner outreach, ES Community Ambassador program and engagement activity planning and implementation.

The ES Communication and Engagement Team provides strategic marketing and communications support for all ES utilities, including surface water, wastewater, and solid waste. Staff advise and support the EPG and the EC Section on public and media relations opportunities while also managing relevant social media outreach efforts.

- City of Tacoma Website (cityoftacoma.org/stormwater)
- [EnviroTalk](#)
- [Utility Bill Inserts](#)
- [TV Tacoma](#)
- [Stormwater Manual listserv](#)
- Tacoma EnviroNews Listserv
- City of Tacoma Environmental Services social media
- City of Tacoma social media

These communication efforts ensure that residents and businesses stay informed about stormwater management practices and available resources.

Table 1 – Education and Outreach Programs

Program Name	Program Type		
	General Awareness	Behavior Change	Stewardship
Adopt-A-Drain	x	x	x
Business Source Control Outreach	x		
Catch Basin Marking Program	x		x
College/University & Trade Student Education	x		
Community Event Participation	x		
Depave	x		x
Dumpster Sticker BMP Outreach	x		
EnviroChallengers K-12 Program	x		
EnviroHouse YouTube Resources	x		
Tacoma Green Resilience Opportunity Corps	x		x
Hazardous Waste Disposal Program	x		
High School Job Training Programs	x		
"If It Hits the Ground, It Hits the Sound" Campaign	x		
LID Rate Reduction Program	x		x
Make A Splash & Green Stormwater Mini-Grants			x
Mobile Toilet Kit Program	x		
Neighborhood Greening Programs & Urban Forestry	x		x
Open Space Management	x		x
PCBs in Building Material Resources	x		
Pet Waste Station Sponsorship Program	x		x
Pierce Conservation District Public Environmental Partnership (PEP)	x		x
Private Stormwater Facility Maintenance	x		
Purple Bag Program	x		
Sustainability Small Grant Program	x		x
TacomaFIRST 311 Water Quality Hotline	x		
Tidy-Up Tacoma	x		x
TPU Water Conservation Program	x		

Program Descriptions

Adopt-A-Storm Drain (AAD)

Program Description: AAD was developed by Hamline University using CBSM principles to foster behaviors that reduce stormwater pollution. The program provides a free, year-round stewardship opportunity for residents by encouraging regular and sustained actions to prevent flooding and reduce runoff pollution. Participants adopt storm drains/catch basins in their neighborhood and commit to keeping them clear of leaves, trash, and other debris.

Participants use a web application to adopt and un-adopt catch basins in their area. The web application allows users to track the amount and type of debris collected and directs users to contact the TacomaFIRST 311 hotline if an illicit discharge is discovered. Increased awareness of catch basin condition and what is going down the drain provides a bridge to educating participants about several other BMPs including yard care practices protective of water quality, car washing, pet waste management, and proper use and disposal of household chemicals and cleaners. This awareness-building also facilitates the City's source control efforts by increasing community reporting of pollution concerns.

The program uses CBSM to identify barriers to participation and works to remove those barriers through targeted outreach and support. In 2024, Tacoma coordinated with several Western Washington jurisdictions to run a Spanish Language AAD Campaign. This campaign included poster creation and distribution, a Spanish social media toolkit, TV commercials, and radio ads. All materials were created and distributed using input from a 2023 AAD Spanish Speaking Focus Group to ensure culturally appropriate messaging.

Priority audience: General public, school-age residents, Spanish speaking residents, South Tacoma residents, Businesses (including home-based and mobile businesses)

Subject areas: Preventing surface water pollution and BMPs to prevent non-point source pollution

2026 Priority Goals:

- New adopters: 220
- New storm drain adoptions: 250
- Target pounds of debris: 2000
- Increase reported cleanings by ten percent
- Increase Spanish welcome kit distribution by ten percent
- Increase storm drain adoption by 15 percent in South Tacoma
- Collaborate with other jurisdictions to recruit new Adopt-a-Drain participants regionally

Business Source Control Outreach

Program Description: Information is presented to business owners and property managers during source control site visits required by Permit Section S5.C.8. The intent is to make business owners and property managers more aware of the importance of regularly maintaining their onsite stormwater facilities and BMPs to help protect local waterways and reduce stormwater pollution. Educational materials have been translated into five languages (Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, Korean, and Khmer) to increase accessibility.

The City provides education for businesses and the development community focused on stormwater BMPs for both ongoing maintenance of water quality and flow control facilities and implementation of operational BMPs.

Priority audience: Businesses, mobile businesses, property owners and managers, engineers, contractors and developers

Subject areas: Preventing surface water pollution and BMPs to prevent non-point source pollution, maintenance of onsite stormwater facilities

2026 Priority Goals:

- Provide educational materials during routine inspections and when applicable during responses to reports of pollution generating activity.
- Continue providing multilingual educational materials in Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, Korean, and Khmer
- Maintain a focus within the Wheeler-Osgood Drainage Basin and additional business inspections and educational efforts in priority watersheds identified in the Urban Waters Protection Plan.

Catch Basin Marking Program

Program Description: Tacoma's catch basin marking program is a volunteer-based stewardship program that provides marking supplies and instruction for individuals and community groups to raise awareness about stormwater pollution and water quality by marking messages next to catch basins. Messages draw a connection between storm drains, water quality, and local waterways. The program engages college, trade, and high school students through workforce development initiatives, including the Environmental Services Certificate Program, Tacoma Green Resilience Opportunity Corps, and Next Move Internship program. The EPG provides Tacoma Community College (secondary permittee) with locally designed IIHTG catch basin markers to promote stormwater education through art on campus.

Priority audience: General public, school age residents, college and trade students, businesses

Subject areas: Preventing surface water pollution, including impacts from improper disposal of residential and commercial discharges into storm drains and catch basins

2026 Priority Goals:

- Goal number of catch basins to mark: 100
 - Coordinate with Tidy-Up Tacoma and Adopt-a-Spot clean up events to provide catch basin markers
 - Continue integration with workforce development programs
 - Pilot new catch basin markers
-

College/University and Trade Student Education

Program Description: The EPG partners with several universities, colleges, and trade schools, such as the University of Puget Sound, University of Washington, and Clover Park Technical College, to engage students through educational events, tours, and field trips focused on stormwater education. Activities depend on the professor's needs and the type of class or project. Activities range from giving in class presentation, paddleboarding field trips on the Thea Foss Waterway, tours of green stormwater infrastructure sites, including the Point Defiance stormwater treatment facility and bioretention installations along Pacific Avenue, and tours of the Flett Creek holding ponds and pump station. These experiences focus on LID principles, BMPs, impacts of stormwater runoff on surface waters, and the role of impervious surfaces.

Priority audience: Post-secondary students (college, university, and trade school)

Subject areas: General impacts of stormwater on surface waters, including impacts from impervious surfaces, LID practices and BMPs, hazards associated with illicit discharges and improper waste disposal

2026 priority goals:

- Number of educational events/tours: 4-6
 - Continue partnerships with the current list of schools
 - Expand partnerships with schools within the City of Tacoma
-

Community Event ES Participation

ES staff participate in community events throughout the year to promote stormwater education. The following groups attend community events and provide education on stormwater-related topics: EnviroChallengers, EPG Stormwater Management, EPG Natural Systems Management (Open Space), Urban Forestry, Tidy-Up-Tacoma, ES Community Ambassadors, IIHTG, and TAGRO.

2026 Priority Goals:

- Participate in a minimum of 20 events
 - Prioritize events in overburdened communities representing 25 percent of total events
-

Depave

Program Description: The City of Tacoma partners with Pierce Conservation District (PCD) to identify and remove unnecessary paved areas on residential and community properties. Depave projects reduce impervious surface area, improve stormwater infiltration, and increase access to green space. The Depave program has supported projects in partnership with the Proctor Business District, Green Blocks Program, Grit City Trees Program, South End Neighborhood Council, and various community organizations.

Priority audience: General public, homeowners, and community groups

Subject areas: Reducing impervious surfaces, improving stormwater infiltration, supporting green stormwater infrastructure, and community greening

2026 Priority Goals:

- Goal number of Depave events: 10
- Goal number of pavement removed: 6,000 sq ft
- Goal number of volunteers to engage in community Depave projects: 20
- Continued coordination with PCD for project selection, outreach, and volunteer support
- Focus on neighborhoods with opportunities for increased green space and stormwater benefits

Dumpster Sticker BMP Outreach Program

Program Description: The City of Tacoma educates businesses on BMPs for dumpster and trash compactor maintenance through the Dumpster Sticker Outreach Program. Stickers are placed on commercial dumpsters to provide a visible and ongoing educational reminder to keep lids closed, prevent leaks, and report pollution concerns. Stickers include BMP messaging and contact information for TacomaFIRST 311, the City's spill and pollution reporting hotline.

Priority audience: Businesses

Subject areas: Preventing surface water pollution, promoting proper waste management practices, and illicit discharge prevention

2026 Priority Goals:

- Apply stickers on all new commercial dumpsters
- Update dumpster stickers for better visibility and accessibility with a larger format and multiple language options
- Continue to apply stickers during appropriate business inspections

EnviroChallengers K-12 Program

Program Description: The EnviroChallenger environmental education program delivers free lessons to elementary and middle schools and homeschool groups and represents ES at community events. Lessons and event activities include stormwater, wastewater, and solid

waste topics. The program uses interactive activities including games, demonstrations, and hands-on projects to teach students about preventing stormwater pollution and protecting local waterways.

Priority audience: School-age children (K-12)

Subject areas: General impacts of stormwater on surface waters, BMPs to prevent non-point source pollution, pet waste management, natural yard care

2026 Priority Goals:

- Deliver 200 stormwater-focused classroom lessons (topics: salmon, litter, storm pollution prevention, trees, greener cleaners)
- Deliver 500 total lessons across all ES topics
- Engage 6,000+ students in stormwater classroom lessons
- Engage 12,500+ students in all classroom and after-school lessons combined
- Conduct lessons at five special school events, after-school programs, library events, and winter programs
- Co-facilitate a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) professional development series with TPU and Pierce County, serving 300+ teachers
- Participate in 13 community events
- Host 10 ES facility tours
- Partner with Tidy-Up Tacoma on litter prevention initiatives and promote Adopt-a-Storm Drain and "If It Hits the Ground, It Hits the Sound" programs

EnviroHouse YouTube Resources

Program Description: Following the closure of the EnviroHouse facility on December 31, 2024, the educational legacy of the EnviroHouse continues through a library of "How-To" videos and educational content available on YouTube. These resources provide valuable information and best practices regarding LID, natural yard care strategies, and sustainable stormwater management. Topics include building healthy soils, alternatives to pesticides, native plants, composting, rain gardens, and tree care.

Priority audience: General public, homeowners, property managers

Subject areas: LID practices, natural yard care, BMPs to prevent non-point source pollution, sustainable landscaping

Tacoma Green Resilience Opportunity Corps (previously known as: Green Stormwater Infrastructure Workforce Training)

Program Description: The Tacoma Green Resilience Opportunity Corps is an eight-week paid workforce training program for young adults ages 18-26, with a focus on green infrastructure careers and sustainable stormwater management. The program graduates two cohorts annually. The program is a collaborative effort sponsored by the City and delivered through a

partnership between PCD, ES, Clover Park Technical College, The Nature Conservancy, and Palmer Scholars.

The curriculum emphasizes watershed and habitat protection, sustainable stormwater strategies, stormwater BMPs, and hands-on learning through place-based projects throughout the Tacoma area. Participants receive both classroom instruction and field training from environmental professionals representing regional partner organizations.

ES leads multiple training sessions featuring expert guest speakers, including:

- Source control representatives
- Green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) maintenance crews
- Regulatory compliance analysts
- Stormwater management specialists
- Stormwater engineers
- Construction management specialists
- IDDE inspectors
- Stormwater field sampling experts
- Natural systems management specialists
- Urban forestry specialists

EPG and Urban Forestry staff serve on the Green Infrastructure Curriculum subcommittee, which guides the eight-week training program. Originally formed to develop the curriculum, the subcommittee now focuses on gathering feedback from organizations piloting the curriculum, identifying opportunities for improvement, and supporting workforce development efforts across the Central Puget Sound region. The City is actively exploring new implementation approaches to expand program reach and enhance career opportunities for participants.

Priority audience: College and trade students

Subject areas: LID principles and LID BMPs, watershed protection, stormwater regulations, pollution prevention, GSI maintenance, stormwater BMPs and implementation, career pathways in environmental fields, General impacts of stormwater on surface waters, including impacts from impervious surfaces and the hazards associated with illicit discharges and improper disposal of waste

2026 Priority Goals:

- Train 30 young adults through two annual cohorts
- Feature guest speakers 10+ from various stormwater-related fields

Hazardous Waste Disposal Program

Program Description: The ES Solid Waste Management Division collects and properly disposes of [household hazardous waste](#) from Tacoma residents at the Tacoma Recovery and Transfer Center. This service is free of charge for residents in order to prevent hazardous materials from entering the stormwater system, surface waters, groundwater, or general garbage stream. The

program educates the public about the need for proper disposal and where hazardous wastes can be disposed of through ES publications, website, social media, utility bill inserts, and the [Recycle Coach app](#). Solid Waste partners with the TPCHD and Source Control to offer informational assistance to businesses.

Priority audience: General public (residents), businesses, and mobile businesses

Subject areas: Preventing surface water pollution, proper disposal of hazardous materials, source control

2026 Priority Goals:

- Collect 515,000 pounds of hazardous waste
 - Serve 10,200 resident
 - Pilot program to collect hazardous waste from City of Tacoma businesses that qualify as Small Quantity Generators
 - Continue promotion through multiple communication channels
 - Partner with Green Sheen for a paint collection event
-

High School Job Training Programs

Program Description: The City offers two high school job training programs focused on environmental services and stormwater management. The Tacoma Public Schools Next Move Internship Program places high school students with City staff supervisors to gain experience in ES. The ES Certificate Program is designed to engage and train students from overburdened communities to gain skills needed to apply for jobs at the City or other union-supported jobs. Students earn certificates, including CESCL (Certified Erosion and Sediment Control Lead), Flagger, OSHA, CPR, and Six Sigma White Belt. Participants learn tree stewardship practices, stormwater sampling, chain-of-custody documentation, water quality testing, and tour environmental laboratories at the ES Center for Urban Waters.

Priority audience: High school students, particularly from overburdened communities

Subject areas: General impacts of stormwater on surface waters, pollution prevention, water quality monitoring, BMPs, identifying and preventing illicit discharges, LID, professional skills development, career pathways

2026 Priority Goals:

- Host four Next Move Internships
 - Train 20 students through ES Certificate Program
 - Award 100 certifications (up to five per student)
 - Train five students through the Jobs 253 program
-

"If It Hits the Ground, It Hits the Sound" Campaign

Program Description: The IIHTG campaign is a community art campaign that raises awareness about the City's stormwater system and its impact on local waterways. The campaign leads the design and installation of murals featuring stormwater awareness messaging in public locations throughout Tacoma. The campaign also partners with local schools, artists, and community organizations to create storm drain murals that help communicate the importance of preventing stormwater pollution and protecting Tacoma's waterways. Educational content is promoted through social media, websites, and community events.

Priority audience: General public, artists, school-age children, businesses, and mobile businesses

Subject areas: General impacts of stormwater on surface waters, preventing non-point source pollution through behavior change

2026 Priority Goals:

- Measure five percent increase in residents' understanding of the MS4 system through pre- and post-campaign surveys
- Design and install three public murals featuring stormwater messaging in partnership with local artists
- Evaluate durability and cost-effectiveness of AlumiGraphics® material for mural installations
- Deliver two stormwater education presentations at IDEA schools
- Complete one art installation through SAMI (Science and Math Institute) School summer micro-term partnership
- Present campaign methodology and outcomes at one stormwater professional conference
- Develop and distribute 4th-grade stormwater activity books to Tacoma elementary schools
- Distribute 5,000 educational stickers through community events and partner organizations
- Provide stormwater educational materials for distribution across ES programs

LID Rate Reduction Program

Program Description: The City has implemented an LID Surface Water Rate Reduction program. Property owners may qualify for a surface water rate reduction if they choose to utilize permanent LID BMPs beyond what is required per the SWMM for development, redevelopment, or as a retrofit for stormwater management. TMC 12.08D.250 outlines the program requirements. In order to qualify for the LID surface water rate reduction, all BMPs must be permanent LID BMPs per the SWMM, as approved by ES.

Priority audience: Residential property owners, commercial property owners, developers, businesses, homeowners' associations

Subject areas: LID practices, GSI, incentives for pollution reduction

2026 Priority Goals:

- Identify and reduce administrative and technical barriers to encourage greater program participation
 - Expand outreach efforts to the development community, property owners, and real estate professionals to increase program awareness
 - Provide technical assistance and guidance to interested applicants throughout the application and installation process
-

Make A Splash and Green Stormwater Mini-Grants

Program Description: The City of Tacoma partners with PCD to offer grants of up to \$4,000 for community projects that prevent stormwater pollution and protect local surface waters. Applications are accepted in the fall and awarded in January. Eligible projects must provide a clear stormwater benefit or advance stormwater education, such as rain gardens, rainwater cisterns, habitat improvements with infiltration benefits, community Depave projects, and K–12 lessons or activities focused on stormwater impacts. Projects must support one or more program goals: stormwater education, pollution prevention, or habitat restoration that improves stormwater quality. In 2025, the City awarded four Make a Splash projects, including one education-focused grant that delivered two stormwater learning events and engaged approximately 50 K–5 students in hands-on activities about runoff, watershed health, and pollution prevention.

Priority audience: General public (including school-age children, college/university and trade students, and overburdened communities), businesses (including home-based and mobile businesses).

Subject areas: General impacts of stormwater on surface waters, including impacts from impervious surfaces and the hazards associated with illicit discharges and improper disposal of waste. LID principles and LID BMPs

2026 Priority Goals:

- Award seven Make a Splash and Green Stormwater Mini-Grant projects.
 - Fund projects totaling \$28,000
 - Provide at least one educational Make a Splash award, with the exception of no education project applicants.
 - Continue partnership with PCD for grant administration and technical support
 - Prioritize projects that provide measurable stormwater benefits and expand community understanding of stormwater pollution prevention.
-

Mobile Toilet Kit Program

Program Description: The Mobile Toilet Kit Program provides personal sanitation kits to individuals living unsheltered to help prevent human waste from entering the stormwater system. The program offers portable toilet supplies, waste disposal bags, disposal service, and hygiene materials, along with education on proper disposal practices. The City coordinates distribution with the Neighborhood and Community Services Homeless Engagement Alternatives Liaison (HEAL) Team and ES, supporting both public health and stormwater pollution prevention. The program also gathers participant feedback to refine materials and inform future behavior-change strategies.

Priority audience: Unhoused community members, service outreach teams, and encampment support providers

Subject areas: Stormwater pollution prevention, sanitation and waste management, behavior change, community outreach, and public health protection

2026 Priority Goals:

- Distribute a minimum of 200 mobile toilet kits annually
- Expand the program to 250 active participants across priority locations
- Continue coordination with the Neighborhood and Community Services HEAL Team and local service providers for kit distribution, restocking, and participant engagement
- Implement expanded program evaluation, including tracking kit usage, disposal behaviors, and stormwater pollution-prevention outcomes
- Develop education video about the Purple Bag and Toilet Kit programs
- Identify opportunities to integrate the program with neighboring jurisdictions, broader encampment hygiene services, and stormwater education

Neighborhood Greening Programs and Urban Forestry

Program Description: The City's ES [Urban Forestry Program | City of Tacoma](#) supports urban tree canopy growth through a combination of tree planting initiatives and community-centered education, training, and stewardship opportunities. Together, these efforts advance Citywide goals related to urban forestry, watershed health, and community-based environmental education.

The City offers several tree planting programs, each with a distinct scope and service delivery model. These include:

- **Grit City Trees**, which provides free street trees, planting supplies, and assistance
- **Urban Tree Sale**, which offers discounted trees paired with training for long-term care
- **Tree Coupon Program**, which provides tree discounts at participating local nurseries

Program service areas vary, with some programs available countywide, others limited to Tacoma city limits, and others serving both the City and unincorporated areas of Pierce County. Some

planting programs are supported through partnerships, reflecting the City's goal of collaborative service delivery.

In addition to planting, the Urban Forestry Program invests in education, training, and stewardship to support long-term tree health and canopy retention. The Community Tree Program is an equity-focused initiative designed to reduce barriers to tree access and education in Tacoma's most underserved and overburdened neighborhoods. The program combines focused outreach, education and training, and community-based tree planting efforts—including a multi-lingual community tree giveaway (Branch Out) and a neighborhood focused planting program (Green Blocks)—to support long-term canopy growth and community stewardship. By centering community needs, this program helps ensure all residents have access to the benefits of a healthy urban forest.

These efforts advance the City's goal to increase urban tree canopy from 20 percent to 30 percent by 2030.

Priority audience: General public, residents, students, college and trade students, and overburdened communities

Subject areas: Urban forestry, GSI, watershed protection, habitat improvement, community stewardship, LID principles and LID BMPs, and watershed protection

2026 Priority Goals:

- Distribute 2,000 trees
- Get participation from 800 households
- Engage 200 volunteers
- Host 13 outreach events
- Train 40 residents
- Suggest School Walking Route Tree Planting pilot project

Open Space Management

Program Description: The City owns and stewards approximately 515 acres of open space properties for goals of improved stormwater interception and infiltration, healthy tree canopy, ecosystem function, biodiversity, and community health and wellbeing. This stewardship is primarily conducted by two WCC crews who lead ecological restoration efforts in environmentally critical areas such as steep slopes and wetlands. Stewardship is also supported by community volunteer work parties, through the [Tacoma Habitat Stewardship Program](#). The City holds a lead role in the Green Tacoma Partnership, established in 2005, which promotes restoration and community stewardship in urban natural areas. In 2025, Open Space Management began a partnership with PCD to grow the volunteer stewardship program, including training habitat stewards, onboarding more volunteer sites, and hosting regularly scheduled volunteer events.

Priority audience: General public, volunteers, partner organizations, property owners adjacent to open space areas

Subject areas: Protecting water quality through stewardship activities, habitat restoration, watershed protection, biodiversity, community health and wellbeing, community access to green space, LID principles, and LID BMPs

2026 Priority Goals:

- Partner with PCD to expand the volunteer stewardship program to at least one additional site
- Increase volunteer attendance at work parties
- Train two new Habitat Stewards to assist with leading work parties and restoration activities
- Host 39 volunteer work parties
- Engage a minimum of 300 volunteers contributing 900 volunteer hours
- Plant 500 native trees and shrubs
- Remove 50,000 sq ft of non-native weeds
- Develop the Tacoma Habitat at Home Backyard Habitat Certification Program in partnership with PCD to improve habitat and stormwater benefits on private properties and educate property owners adjacent to City-critical areas and open spaces
- Launch a pilot version of the Tacoma Habitat at Home Program
- Host a minimum of one Tacoma Habitat at Home Educational Workshop
- Host 10 Green Tacoma Day events
- Recruit a minimum of 150 volunteers for Green Tacoma Day, contributing 450 volunteer hours

PCBs in Building Material Resources

Program Description:

PCBs were commonly used in construction materials from the 1950s through 1980, particularly in caulks, sealants, paint, and other building products. When these materials are disturbed through activities such as pressure washing, renovation, or demolition, PCBs can enter the stormwater system and contaminate receiving waters. The City launched PCB building material resources on its website in 2025 and collaborated with Pierce County and Seattle 2030 District to host PCB educational training workshops for priority audiences, including property owners, contractors, engineers, planners, and City staff. The City has identified buildings constructed or renovated during this timeframe.

This program is designed to prevent illicit discharges by educating property owners that pressure washing or cleaning building exteriors with suspected PCBs is prohibited until proper testing and remediation protocols are followed.

This program supports compliance with permit requirements under S5.C.10.e.xv and .xvi for City-owned buildings while extending proactive education to the private sector to protect water quality.

Priority audience: Property owners/managers, developers, contractors, engineers, planners, and other MS4 Permittees

Subject areas: Source control BMPs for building materials, hazards associated with improper handling of PCB-containing materials, prevention of illicit discharges from building washdown, and proper testing and remediation procedures

2026 Priority Goals:

- Co-host one Seattle 2030 District PCB training session
- Complete mapping of buildings within Tacoma constructed or renovated between 1950-1980 that are suspected to contain PCBs
- Add mapped buildings to the Source Control database, alerting source control inspectors to provide PCB education during business inspections
- Distribute mailer containing PCB educational materials to properties that are suspected to contain PCBs

Pet Waste Station Sponsorship Program

Program Description: ES Neighborhood Pet Waste Station Sponsorship Program lowers barriers to the proper disposal of pet waste. Through this program, volunteers apply to sponsor a pet waste station, and ES provides the station and installs the station in the right of way and provides pet waste bags and pet waste disposal encouragement signs featuring local dogs. Sponsors are responsible for monitoring the station and replenishing bags as needed, with free replacement bag rolls provided by the EPG. Educational outreach on proper pet waste management and impacts of pet waste on water quality is integrated into City communications, including signage, websites, social media, utility bill inserts, EnviroTalk newsletter, mailers, business inspections and community events featuring the Scoopy Doo mascot, free rolls of pet waste bags, and a crowd favorite Poo Toss game.

Priority audience: General public, residents living within a half mile of City-owned UIC sites

Subject areas: Preventing surface water pollution, BMPs to prevent non-point source pollution

2026 Priority Goals:

- Support 79 volunteers
- Distribute 20,000 pet waste bags
- Recruit 15 new volunteers
- Install 15 new pet waste stations
- Continue partnership with EC Source Control team for multi-family property outreach
- Update pet waste station signs to include Poo-llution school contest winners' pets pictures

- Distribute pet waste awareness materials to residents living within a half mile of City-owned UIC sites
-

Pierce Conservation District Public Environmental Partnership (PEP)

Program Description: The City continues to promote sustainable practices through an ongoing partnership with the PCD, focusing on LID training, natural yard care education, rain garden technical assistance, and volunteer stewardship programming. PCD staff visit with interested homeowners upon request to evaluate the potential of rain garden installation on their property and provide free design services. The partnership supports multiple City programs, including Make A Splash grants, Depave events, GSI mini-grants, Open Space volunteer stewardship, and educational workshops on stormwater-related topics.

Starting in 2026, ES and the PCD will increase advertising to overburdened communities about existing LID assistance programs and launch a community ambassador program with multilingual outreach on general stormwater topics and LID assistance programs.

Priority audience: General public, property owners, homeowners

Subject areas: LID practices and BMPs, natural yard care, rain gardens, green stormwater infrastructure, habitat restoration

2026 Priority Goals:

- Perform 100 GSI site feasibility assessment consultations
 - Install 20-30 stormwater BMPs through technical assistance
 - Conduct workshops or training events planned to promote GSI mini-grant and Depave program resources to 100 audience members from overburdened communities.
 - Continue partnership support for grant programs, Depave events, and volunteer stewardship
-

Private Stormwater Facility Maintenance

Program Description: This program assures property owners have access to their drawings and operation and maintenance instructions for privately owned stormwater facilities and provides technical assistance to homeowners and business owners, as requested. For properties with permitted stormwater facilities, a Stormwater Covenant and Easement Agreement is recorded with the county and would therefore be listed on the title report and a copy viewable on the Auditor's website. The Covenant and Easement Agreement lists the permit number the facility was approved under and a written description of the facility. Stormwater facility O&M manual and design drawings can be requested from the City through a Public Disclosure Request:

[Public Records Office | City of Tacoma](#)

Priority audience: Property owners.

Subject areas: LID BMPs, stormwater treatment and flow control BMPs/facilities.

2026 Priority Goals:

- Continue to offer information to property owners upon request.
-

Purple Bag Program

Program Description: The Purple Bag Program was launched in 2021 by ES Natural Systems Management, in partnership with Neighborhood and Community Services, to provide regular waste pickup service at homeless encampments within the City. The purple bags are distributed with ongoing outreach and resource services by the HEAL Team and community partners including St. Vincent de Paul and the Tacoma Rescue Mission. Waste management contractors regularly pick up the full bags placed on the edge of the roadway adjacent to encampments. The program provides individuals experiencing homelessness with tools and services to keep their encampment area clean and properly dispose of trash and contaminated objects to protect their health and downstream water quality. The program has been expanded to include a mobile toilet kit with waste pick-up service.

Priority audience: Unhoused community members, service outreach teams, and encampment support providers

Subject areas: Preventing surface water pollution, proper waste disposal, hazards associated with illicit discharges and improper disposal of waste, General impacts of stormwater on surface waters, protecting water quality, litter and debris prevention

2026 Priority Goals:

- Distribute 5,000 bags annually
 - Expand the Purple Bag Program to include collection of human waste through the Mobile Toilet Kit program
 - Continue partnership with Neighborhood and Community Services HEAL team and service providers
-

Sustainability Small Grant Program

Program Description: Through the Sustainability Small Grant Program, reimbursable awards of up to \$5,000 are available to individuals or groups interested in helping educate residents and/or businesses about the environment and sustainable practices. Priority consideration is given to proposals that have surface water benefits by keeping pollutants out of local receiving waters or prevent polluted runoff. Examples of funded projects include planting trees or encouraging transit use and other sustainable transportation options. The program brochure includes information in Spanish, Vietnamese, and Khmer.

Priority audience: General public (including school age children, college/university and trade students, and overburdened communities), businesses (including home-based and mobile businesses)

Subject areas: General impacts of stormwater on surface waters, including impacts from impervious surfaces and the hazards associated with illicit discharges and improper disposal of waste, LID principles and LID BMPs

2026 Priority Goals:

- Distribute all available funding
- Continue partnership with PCD for grant administration and technical support.
- Prioritize projects that provide measurable stormwater benefits and expand community understanding of stormwater pollution prevention.

TacomaFIRST 311 Water Quality Hotline

Program Description: The City provides a dedicated phone number (TacomaFIRST 311) for the public to report water quality concerns to facilitate prompt City response. This hotline creates an easy channel for the public to communicate water quality concerns, which ensures water quality issues are reported quickly, improving the effectiveness of the City's response program. The hotline is promoted through dumpster stickers, Adopt-A-Drain materials, website, social media, pet waste stations, Tidy-Up Tacoma city trash cans, tabling events and other outreach materials.

Priority audience: General public, businesses

Subject areas: Preventing surface water pollution and reporting illicit discharges, spills, and pollution concerns

2026 Priority Goals:

- Maintain 24/7 hotline availability
- Continue promotion of hotline through education and outreach materials
- Track call data to identify trends and inform source control priorities

Communication and Media Outreach

The City Media and Communications Office provides strategic marketing and communications support for ES, including stormwater education and stormwater stewardship program information. Topics include car washing, pet waste management, application of pesticides and fertilizers (natural yard care practices), trash and litter control, proper disposal of hazardous household products, GSI benefits, reporting illicit discharges (TacomaFirst 311), stewardship opportunities, and more stormwater BMPs to protect downstream water quality.

Communication tools include:

- City of Tacoma Website (cityoftacoma.org/stormwater)

- [EnviroTalk](#)
- [Utility Bill Inserts](#)
- [TV Tacoma](#)
- [Stormwater Manual listserv](#)
- Tacoma EnviroNews Listserv
- Environmental Services social media

2026 Priority Goals:

- Minimum of one stormwater social media post a month
- Update IIHTG stormwater education website page
- Publish three EnviroTalk newsletters
- Continue multilingual content in Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, Korean, and Khmer

Tidy-Up Tacoma

Program Description: Tidy-Up Tacoma, part of the City's ES Department, works to keep Tacoma clean and visually appealing. The City collaborates with residents, businesses, and community organizations to guide clean-up efforts and address immediate cleanliness and litter concerns. The program supports community involvement, fostering pride and creating a healthier, more inviting Tacoma.

Environmental Services Solid Waste Management sponsors both the Adopt-a-Spot and Neighborhood Litter Patrol programs, which provide residents with opportunities to take an active role in keeping public spaces clean and reducing stormwater pollution. Community volunteers apply to adopt a location or host a one-time litter clean-up event. By removing trash from streets, sidewalks, and parks, these programs help prevent litter from entering the stormwater system and impacting local waterways.

Volunteers are provided with free safety gear and litter collection supplies. Solid Waste Management also offers collection services for bagged trash following clean-up events. These programs support long-term community stewardship and promote shared responsibility for maintaining clean, healthy neighborhoods and watersheds.

Services Provided by Tidy-Up Tacoma:

- Litter and debris clean-up in public spaces
- Graffiti mitigation and removal
- Trail maintenance
- Public garbage can operation and maintenance
- Bill credit payment assistance for low-income households
- Support for community-based volunteer clean-up organizations
- Encampment garbage and debris removal

Subject area: Litter prevention and removal, graffiti mitigation, trail maintenance, public garbage can management

Priority audience: Residents, businesses, community organizations

2026 Priority Goals:

- Increase the public trash can program by adding 33 percent more cans
- Increase public trash can operation and maintenance to improve our level of service
- Add a CDL litter vacuum that helps reduce the litter in the public right-of-way
- Launch a revamped community cleanup program in all districts that focuses on litter and illegally dumped materials

TPU Water Conservation Program

Program Description: Tacoma Public Utilities (Tacoma Water) Water Conservation Team provides education, incentives, and technical assistance to reduce potable water use and minimize stormwater runoff from outdoor practices. The program targets residential and commercial audiences, promoting behavior changes (e.g., letting lawns go dormant in summer and sweeping instead of pressure washing), device-based efficiency (e.g., smart irrigation controllers, hose nozzles, timers, and rain gauges), and hands-on support for businesses through site assessments and water-use reporting.

Residential

The team distributed free hose spray nozzles, hose timers, and rain gauges to help residents right-size irrigation and prevent runoff, and promoted EPA WaterSense-qualified smart irrigation controller rebates. In partnership with Pierce Conservation District, TPU, and Pierce County, Tacoma Water launched the Golden Lawn campaign, encouraging lawn dormancy during summer to reduce irrigation demand and runoff; 200 residents pledged and received yard signs to show their commitment. Residential messaging was delivered at community events—143 events attended in 2025—and via social media to encourage sweeping sidewalks and driveways instead of pressure washing to conserve water and keep wash water out of storm drains.

Business & CII

Tacoma Water’s Customizable Rebate program for Commercial/Institutional/Industrial customers offered financial incentives based on estimated water savings to offset the cost of efficient equipment and systems. The team provided no-cost site assessments, consultation sessions, presentations, and detailed water-use reports to identify savings and reduce irrigation overspray and runoff. Smart irrigation controller rebates are available to commercial customers; 29 businesses enrolled in smart irrigation incentives, and 3 site visits were completed.

Smart Irrigation Rebate

Tacoma Water offers residential, business, and multifamily customers a 50% rebate (up to \$500 per account) for qualifying WaterSense-labeled smart irrigation controllers (and compatible add-ons/plug-ins). The rebate supports MS4 education goals by reducing overwatering and irrigation runoff on Tacoma Water served properties.

Subject Areas: Water conservation, outdoor irrigation & lawn watering runoff - minimize through public education and water conservation efforts. Street and sidewalk wash water - minimize volumes used and reduce these discharges through public education and water conservation messaging

Priority Audiences: General public, businesses, engineers, contractors, property owners/managers, developers, and land use planners.

S8 Monitoring and Assessment

Summary of Program Components

The stormwater monitoring program consists of Regional Status and Trends Monitoring and Stormwater Management Program Effectiveness and Source Identification Studies. The Permit allows Permittees to either pay into these collective funds or to conduct studies relevant to these topics. The City has chosen to pay into the Regional Status and Trends Monitoring fund and conduct a Stormwater Management Program Effectiveness and Source Identification Study. These choices are the same as were chosen in the 2013 and 2019 Permit cycles.

Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), also referred to as Superfund, contaminated bottom sediments were remediated in the Thea Foss and Wheeler-Osgood Waterways in Tacoma under the oversight of the EPA at a cost of \$105 million. Based on the success of the cleanup, EPA has initiated the process of delisting the Thea Foss and Wheeler-Osgood Waterways from the National Priorities List as part of the Commencement Bay Superfund Site. It is unknown at this time when the delisting will be completed.

Regional Status and Trends Monitoring (S8.A)

The City notified Ecology of the choice to pay into the collective fund for the regional stream status and trends monitoring prior to the December 1, 2024, deadline. Payments into this collective fund are due on August 15 of each year. This program is implemented by Ecology through the [Stormwater Action Monitoring Group \(SAM\)](#). The City has been implementing a comprehensive monitoring and source control strategy in the Foss Waterway Watershed since 2001. Stormwater monitoring is required to be conducted under a Stormwater Work Plan Addendum to the Thea Foss Waterway Consent Decree with EPA and currently by Section S8.C of the NPDES Permit and State Waste Discharge General Permit for Discharges from Large and Medium Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems, which supersedes previous NPDES requirements.

Provide SWMP Effectiveness and Source Identification Studies (S8.B and C)

The City has chosen to meet this requirement by continuing to monitor stormwater discharges at seven outfalls to the Thea Foss Waterway. The City notified Ecology of the choice to monitor the Thea Foss Waterway outfalls prior to the December 1, 2024, deadline. The Quality Assurance Program Plan (QAPP) for the outfall monitoring was provided for Ecology review prior to the February 1, 2025, deadline. Monitoring results will be reported annually with the NPDES Annual Report due on March 31 of each year.

Click the link to view the entire updated monitoring report [Thea Foss and Wheeler-Osgood Waterways Source Control and Water Year Stormwater Monitoring Report](#). A link to the updated Thea Foss and Wheeler-Osgood Monitoring Report will be posted with the final SWMP available no later than May 31, 2026.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AAD	Adopt-A-Drain
BMP	Best Management Practice
CBSM	Community-Based Social Marketing
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CIP	Capital Improvement Project
City	The City of Tacoma
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
EC	Environmental Compliance
ES	City of Tacoma Environmental Services Department
EPG	Environmental Programs Group
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ES	Environmental Services
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GSI	Green Stormwater Infrastructure
HEAL	Homeless Engagement Alternatives Liaison
IDA	Illicit Discharge Awareness
IDDE	Illicit Connection and Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
IDT	Interdisciplinary Team
IIHTG	“If It Hits the Ground, It Hits the Sound”
LID	Low Impact Development
LIDAR	Light Detection and Ranging
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
NAICS	North American Industry Classification System
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
PCB	Polychlorinated Biphenyls
PCD	Pierce Conservation District
PDS	Planning and Development Services

Permit	Phase I Municipal Stormwater Permit
PW	Public Works
RCW	Revised Code of Washington
SAP	The City's Information Management System database
SEPA	The Washington State Environmental Policy Act
SCP	Source Control Program
STGPD	South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District
SAM	Stormwater Action Monitoring
SIC	Standard Industrial Classification Code
SWI	Surface Water Inventory
SMED	Stormwater Management for Existing Development
SWMM	Stormwater Management Manual
SWMMWW	Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington
SWMP	Stormwater Management Program
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
STRAP	Stormwater Rapid Assessment Program
SSC	Structural Stormwater Controls
TAGRO	Tacoma Grow
TMC	Tacoma Municipal Code
TPU	Tacoma Public Utilities
TPCHD	Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department
TESC	Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control
UIC	Underground Injection Control
UWP Plan	Urban Watershed Protection Plan
Ecology	Washington State Department of Ecology
QAPP	Quality Assurance Project Plan
WCC	Washington Conservation Corps
WRIA	Water Resource Inventory Area

Appendix A

Chapter 12.08A and 12.08D of the Tacoma Municipal Code

For the most current version of Chapter 12.08A and 12.08D of the Tacoma Municipal Code go to: [Tacoma Municipal Code Title 12.08](#)

Appendix B

NPDES Internal Coordination Memorandum



City of Tacoma

TO: General Government Department Directors
TPU Deputy Directors and Superintendents

FROM: Elizabeth A. Pauli, City Manager
Jackie Flowers, Tacoma Public Utilities Director

SUBJECT: City of Tacoma Compliance with Ecology Phase I Municipal Stormwater Permit

DATE: March 28, 2025

Initial DS
EAP JF

On August 1, 2024, the new Washington State Department of Ecology Phase I Municipal Stormwater Permit (Permit) under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) became effective (see [PhaseIPermit](#)). This Permit covers stormwater discharges from large and medium municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s), including the City of Tacoma’s stormwater system, into Waters of the State such as creeks, rivers and Puget Sound.

Environmental Services - Environmental Programs Group (EPG) administers and interprets the Permit. The Permit provisions apply to the City of Tacoma’s MS4, which includes the system of conveyances owned or operated by the City of Tacoma, including General Government departments and the Department of Public Utilities (TPU.) The MS4 is located on City-owned properties or within easements and rights-of-way within the City of Tacoma and may include conveyances owned or operated by the City of Tacoma on City-owned properties or within easements within Phase I Municipal Stormwater Permit jurisdictions, currently Pierce County and King County or Western Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit jurisdictions. This area of coverage may evolve over time.

Permit requirements and general responsibilities are outlined in the Stormwater Management Program Plan (SWMP) available at www.cityoftacoma.org/stormwater. EPG can assist other departments with training and technical assistance as needed or requested.

This memorandum directs the coordination efforts expected from all General Government and TPU staff to meet the requirements for cross-departmental coordination under Section S5.C.3 of the Permit.

Pursuant to Permit Section S5.C.3, a written Stormwater Permit Coordination Plan (Plan) has been developed for each City department and TPU which has key staff roles and responsibilities for facilitating compliance with the Permit and reducing stormwater impacts on receiving waters from Tacoma’s MS4. Links to these Plans are available on the Environmental Services Science and Engineering NPDES SharePoint site <https://cityoftacoma.sharepoint.com/sites/ES-ScienceEng/SitePages/NPDES.aspx>. The Plans document the applicable Permit requirements and how EPG staff may interact with each City Department, which may vary depending on the operating group job function. Environmental Programs Group needs your support and involvement in meeting our Permit requirements.

For any questions or concerns, contact:

General Government	Tacoma Public Utilities
Shauna Hansen, Stormwater Management Program Coordinator (253) 281-5206 Shansen2@cityoftacoma.org Sharepoint Site: Environmental Services, Science and Engineering, NPDES	Ramiro Sanchez, TPU Environmental Compliance Stormwater Programs Manager (253) 392-4258 Rsanchez1@cityoftacoma.org Sharepoint Site: TPU Environmental Compliance

All of our efforts together play an important role in protecting local wetlands, streams, rivers, lakes, and Puget Sound. Thank you in advance for your assistance with this important program.

www.cityoftacoma.org

Appendix C

Department Coordination and Compliance Plans

Department Coordination and Compliance Plans

The Permit allows the City to discharge stormwater to receiving waterbodies, and the City is required by Ecology to maintain this Permit. Nearly every department within the City plays a role in Permit implementation.

Starting in 2020, the City determined it would be helpful to create specific Coordination and Compliance Plans for each department that owns or operates sites with stormwater facilities. These plans are intended to clarify Permit requirements for departments that may not be as familiar with the Permit. The majority of Coordination Plans were completed in 2022 and updated in 2025 to include current permit requirements. Additional Coordination Plans are being developed as the need arises.

Each Coordination Plan describes the Permit sections that are most relevant to that department, department roles and responsibilities to fulfill those Permit requirements, and processes in place to meet Permit compliance. This information is meant to evolve over time and to be a tool to aid in internal coordination. Department specific plans are available for the groups in Table 2 and Table 3, below.

If you do not see a Coordination and Compliance Plan for a department that should have one in Table 2 or Table 3 below, or have questions about a group's role in Permit implementation, please contact swnpdespermits@cityoftacoma.org

Table 2 – City of Tacoma General Government Completed Department Coordination and Compliance Plans

Department	Group
Environmental Services	Solid Waste
Environmental Services	Transmission O&M
Library	Facilities
Public Works	Fleet Services
Public Works	Facilities Maintenance
Public Works	Parking Enforcement
Venues and Events	Venues and Events

Table 3 – Tacoma Public Utilities Completed Department Coordination and Compliance Plans

Department	Group
Power	Power Nisqually Project
Power	Power Substations
Power	TPU Grounds Maintenance
Power	TPU Headquarters Site
Power	TPU Environmental Compliance
Power	Southwest Service Center
Power	Power Shared Services Craft Shops
Power	North Service Center
Rail	Rail
Water	Water Headquarters Site
Water	Water Supply and Transmission (Water Pumps and Storage)
Water	McMillin Reservoir
Water	Green River Headworks

Appendix D

Stormwater Management Program for UIC Well

Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) for UIC Wells

March 2025



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Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) for UIC Wells

1.0 Introduction

The purpose of this document is to outline the necessary steps to comply with the regulations regarding class V UIC wells owned or operated by the City of Tacoma (City) as regulated by the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) and set forth in the 2024 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington (SWMMWW) and Chapter 173-218 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC). For more details on the full UIC requirements, see the following reference material;

1. Ecology's Underground Injection Control (UIC) Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) Components: <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/summarypages/2110024.html>
2. Ecology's SWMMWW for full details on UIC (I-2.9, and I-4)
3. Chapter 173-218 WAC <https://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=173-218>
4. Link to Ecology's UIC information page: <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Guidance-technical-assistance/Underground-injection-control-program>
5. City of Tacoma SWMP: [Stormwater Management Program - City of Tacoma](#)
6. Stormwater Management Manual July 2021 Edition (SWMM): [2021TacomaSWMM.20210819.pdf \(cityoftacoma.org\)](https://www.cityoftacoma.org/2021TacomaSWMM.20210819.pdf)

Ecology's goals for the UIC Program are to:

1. Ensure that UICs are constructed, operated, and maintained in a manner that meets UIC program requirements and protects groundwater.
2. Emphasize management actions that prevent, minimize, and treat pollutants in stormwater before they can be discharged to a UIC.
3. Ensure that UICs that are identified as non-compliant are operated, modified, or decommissioned in a manner that brings them into compliance.

Pursuant to Chapter 90.48 RCW, WAC 173-218 requires owners of Class V injection wells (underground drywells and infiltration trenches with perforated pipes that dispose stormwater into the ground) to comply with regulations designed to protect groundwater quality. The City currently owns 21 wells that are regulated under this rule.

1.1 Compliance Pathway

The City has elected to use the presumptive approach for compliance. Tacoma has developed this UIC SWMP to meet the presumptive approach.

Per Ecology's UIC SWMP Components dated June 2021, Tacoma is required to:

1. Register all UIC Wells
2. Complete or have completed well assessment for UIC wells in use prior to 2/3/2006.
3. Site, design, construct, operate and maintain new UIC wells according to the 2019 SWMMWW, Section I-4 Underground Injection Control Wells.

2.0 New and Existing City UIC wells

**Table 2.1
UIC Class V Infiltration Trench List**

UIC ID	Status	Area	Description	Construction Date	Approx. Latitude and Longitude
SWFA-100420	New	South Tacoma Channel	Rain garden; includes 100-ft long, 12-in perforated PVC pipe with catch basins	1/15/2015	47.212204°, -122.473811°
SWFA-100421	New		Rain garden; includes 100-ft long, 12-in perforated PVC pipe with catch basins	6/15/2015	47.213357°, -122.473750°
SWFA-100422	New		Contech Stormfilter and rain garden; includes 170-ft long, 12-in perforated	6/15/2015	47.211858°, -122.474253°
SWFA-102019	New	Cheney Stadium	210-ft long, 12-in perforated pipe, within 30-ft wide underground	1/1/2013	47.237138°, -122.498696°
SWFA-100412	Existing	Northeast Tacoma	274-ft long, 12-in perforated pipe within 3-ft wide trench	1/1/1979	47.284668°, -122.388357°
SWFA-102487	Existing		80-ft long, 12-in perforated pipe within 5-ft washed drain rock trench, catch	1/1/1999	47.273747°, -122.365042°
SWFA-103108	Existing	Flett Wetland	100-ft long, 6-in perforated pipe in 30-in wide by 3-ft deep washed drain rock	1/1/1997	47.189071°, -122.482819°
SWFA-100294	Existing	Hilltop Neighborhood	60-ft long by 40-ft wide by 2.33-ft deep infiltration trench with 4 rows of 60-ft	7/7/2005	47.247349°, -122.451081°
SWFA-101708	Existing	South Tacoma Channel	660-ft long, 15-in perforated pipe in 5-ft gravel trench	3/12/1979	47.213664°, -122.489114°
SWFA-100545	Existing		2,827-ft long, 12 to 36-in perforated pipe in 5-ft gravel trench	3/12/1979	47.210511°, -122.487544°
SWFA-102485	Existing	South East Tacoma	50-ft long, 21-in perforated pipe in 4-ft wide washed drain rock trench	1/1/1980	47.171101°, -122.460347°
SWFA-102486	Existing		88-ft long, 21-in perforated pipe in 4-ft wide washed drain rock trench	1/1/1980	47.171108°, -122.458613°
SWFA-103707	Existing	South Tacoma	CB with grate with sump with 20 feet of perf pipe running west	1900s	47.19438011°, -122.50459233°

**Table 2.2
UIC Class V Infiltration CB List**

UIC ID	Status	Area	Description	Construction Date	Approx. Latitude and Longitude
SWFA-103701	Existing	North Tacoma	CB with grate with no bottom	1900s	47.29409311°, -122.52436539°
SWFA-103711	Existing	South Tacoma	CB with grate with no bottom	1/1/2006	47.22829867°, -122.4885942°
SWFA-103704	Existing		CB grate with perforated cylinder vault	1900s	47.18663972°, -122.47120779°
SWFA-103691	Existing	South Tacoma (S Mason Ave)	CB with grate with perforated sides	1900s	47.19450346°, -122.49400934°
SWFA-103693	Existing		CB with grate with perforated sides	1900s	47.19522526°, -122.49401263°
SWFA-103689	Existing		CB with grate with perforated sides	1900s	47.19901426°, -122.49952887°
SWFA-103690	Existing		CB with grate with perforated sides	1900s	47.19918847°, -122.49952211°
SWFA-103692	Existing		CB with grate with perforated sides	1900s	47.19476101°, -122.49388881°

3.0 UIC Program Requirements and Implementation

Tacoma is choosing to develop and implement a separate UIC SWMP in areas served by Class V UIC wells. The City's overall SWMP will be in effect in these areas as well and this UIC SWMP will be in addition to the SWMP activities.

1. Pursuant to the Safe Water Drinking Act and Chapter 90.48 RCW, WAC 173-218 requires new UIC-regulated stormwater disposal wells, also called Class V injection wells, to be registered with the Washington State Department of Ecology prior to construction
 - a. Register all UIC wells, including existing (in use before 2/3/2006) and new UIC wells with Ecology, unless already registered. Registration is only required once for each UIC well.
 - i. New wells must be registered 60 days prior to construction.
 - b. For privately-built projects (Work Order Permits) that include new UICs that will be owned or operated by the City, the applicant shall coordinate with the UIC Program Manager and the Site Reviewer to have the UIC Program Manager register the UICs with Ecology. For all such UICs, the City shall be designated as the owner on the registration form. Registration materials must be submitted to Ecology 60 days prior to construction.
2. Complete the well assessment for UIC wells in use prior to 2/3/2006, if not already completed. For information on a well assessment, go to the UIC section, Well Assessment subsection, Volume I - Chapter 4 of the SWMMWW.
 - a. A well assessment was completed for 12 UIC wells on June 1, 2022. See Appendix A for the Technical Memorandum from Landau Associates.
 - b. A well assessment was completed for the remaining 9 UIC wells on May 18, 2023, see Appendix B for the report.
3. Site, design, construct, operate, and maintain new UIC wells according to the specifications in SWMMWW Section I-4 Underground Injection Control Wells and the SWMM.
 - a. See SWMM Volume 4 Chapter 10 for Best Management Practices (BMP) design requirements.
 - b. All new UIC wells will be reviewed by either the City's Planning and Development Services – Site Development Group or Environmental Services - NPDES Compliance Group and the UIC Program Manager to ensure regulatory compliance.
 - c. Prior to installation, maintenance plans are developed for all new City owned stormwater facilities by the Environmental Services – Asset Management Group.
4. Fulfill the source control requirements for new and existing (in use before 2/3/2006) municipal UIC wells.
 - a. These requirements are listed in I-4.11 and I-4.13 of the SWMMWW. The City meets these requirements through its Source Control Program.
 - b. For additional details regarding Tacoma's Source Control Program See S5.C.8 of the City's SWMP Plan. The Source Control Program includes Implementation of Operational and Structural Source Control BMPs and Treatment BMPs on Existing Sites, Inspection of Pollutant Generating Sources, Application and Enforcement of Local Ordinances at Sites Including Sites that are covered by

Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) for UIC Wells

other NPDES Permits Issued by Ecology, Practices to Reduce Pollutants Associated with Pesticides, Herbicides and Fertilizers.

5. Operate and maintain new and existing wells according to the specifications in SWMMWW Section I-4 Underground Injection Control Wells and Tacoma's SWMM Volume 4 Appendix C Maintenance Standards.
 - a. All City owned or operated, UIC wells will be inspected annually as stormwater facilities owned or operated by the City.
 - b. For additional details regarding the City's Operation and Maintenance Program see S5.C.10 of the SWMP which includes the following sections: Implementing and enforcing maintenance standards for stormwater facilities, Ensuring proper and timely maintenance of public and private stormwater facilities, including catch basins, Establishing BMPs for reducing stormwater impacts associated with runoff from City property, parking lots, streets and highways owned or operated by the City, Implementing a training program for employees who have primary construction, operations, or maintenance job functions that may impact stormwater quality, Establishing BMPs for reducing stormwater impacts from heavy equipment maintenance or storage yards and material storage facilities owned or operated by the City, and Maintaining records of these activities.
 - c. For more information on specific BMP Maintenance see the SWMMWW BMP Maintenance Table V-A.3: Maintenance Standards – Infiltration, also see the City's SWMM Volume 4 Appendix C Maintenance Standards for Infiltration Trenches, for Catch Basins/Manholes, and for Downspout Infiltration Trench or Drywell.
6. Provide source control activities (including targeted education and outreach) that are well-suited for the land uses associated with your UIC wells and to the specifications in the 2019 SWMMWW and SWMM.
 - a. Source control activities are accomplished through the City's Source Control program. See S5.C.8 of the City's SWMP Plan for Source Control Program details.
 - b. Source control education and outreach is met through the City's ongoing Education and Outreach programs See S5.C.8 and S.5.C.11 of the City's SWMP for Education and Outreach Program details.
7. Provide illicit discharge detection and elimination (IDDE) programs in areas served by UIC wells to prevent pet wastes from contaminating stormwater and to control other sources of pathogens.
 - a. This requirement is satisfied through the City's ongoing IDDE programs. See S5.C.9 of the City's SWMP Plan for IDDE Program details.
 - b. The City has a variety of programs to educate the public about proper disposal of pet waste, including a pet waste station program to assist in proper pet waste management. Refer to Section S5.C.11 of the SWMP Plan for additional information regarding public education and outreach.
 - c. Tacoma's IDDE program actively works to identify and eliminate all sources of contamination from entering the stormwater system and BMPs, including UIC BMPs.

4.0 City UIC Well Registration Procedures

Public UIC wells may be constructed as capital improvements by the City's Environmental Services Capital Delivery Group and Public Works Engineering/Special Projects Group. UIC wells that are or will become public may also be constructed by private developers as part of required Right of Way improvements and City Departments that are developing fee simple parcels as required stormwater mitigation.

UIC Program Manager: Kyle Amoroso, kamoroso@cityoftacoma.org, (253) 325-1159.

The UIC Program Manager is responsible for ensuring that all relevant City staff are aware of the registration requirements and that registration is done accurately and in full.

To meet the registration requirement that new UIC wells must be registered 60 days prior to construction, the City has the following procedures:

4.1 Capital Improvement Projects

When an infiltration facility or UIC well project is constructed under a Capital Improvement by a City department:

1. The Project Manager or Design Engineer will contact the UIC Program Manager as soon as they begin the design process for any infiltration BMP to determine if the BMP will be classified as a UIC well.
2. If the BMP will be classified as a UIC well, the design engineer will review the design requirements in the SWMM and the SWMMWW to ensure that the BMP meets all applicable design requirements.
3. The Project Manager or Design Engineer will coordinate with the City's UIC Program Manager throughout the design process.
4. The design will be reviewed and approved by either SDG or ES EPG staff.
5. The Project Manager or Engineer will coordinate with the City's UIC Program Manager to ensure that the UIC is registered a minimum of 60 days prior to construction.

Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) for UIC Wells

4.2 Site Development

When a public infiltration facility is proposed by a private developer through the City's Planning & Development Services Permitting Process:

1. The Site Reviewer for the project shall coordinate with the UIC Program Manager to determine if the proposed facility is an Underground Injection Control facility, which is subject to Washington State Department of Ecology review and registration, as soon as a public infiltration BMP design is submitted. See the SWMMWW for definition and examples of UIC wells.
2. The Site Reviewer shall advise the applicant of Ecology's UIC program and registration requirements using the standard review comment, which shall include the requirement to register 60 days prior to construction..
3. The Site Reviewer shall advise the UIC Program Manager of the proposed project, including the Accela Permit No. and Applicant's Design Engineer contact information.
4. In addition to the SWMM design requirements for the proposed infiltration BMP, the Site Reviewer will review the proposed design to determine if the SWMMWW requirements are met.
5. The Site Reviewer and UIC Program Manager will coordinate with the applicant to obtain any information required for registration.
6. The Site Reviewer shall document the date of the Ecology Registration application submittal date in the Accela permit record and add a Permit Condition that restricts start of construction of the facility no sooner than 60 days after application, or upon receipt of Ecology approval.
7. The UIC Program Manager shall provide a copy of the Ecology UIC approval to the Site Reviewer.
8. The Ecology UIC approval shall be added to the permit record Documents by the Site Reviewer.

4.3 City Departments installing an infiltration facility or UIC on a parcel of land owned or operated by the City

1. When the project will be issued a construction permit by the City of Tacoma, follow Section 4.2.
2. When the project will not be issued a construction permit by the City of Tacoma, follow Section 4.1.