

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System 2014/2015 Report

Permit Number 07-09-0-04

August 2015

Prepared by:

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Introduction

The following is the Stormwater Annual Report for the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) prepared in accordance with Part III of the Municipal Separate Stormwater System (MS4) Permit Number 07-09-0-04. This report summarizes stormwater compliance activities within the boundaries of the University of Northern Iowa as identified in the permit.

1.0 Status of Implementing the Components of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention and Management Program.

The bullet points in 4.0 identify the required tasks for fiscal year 2015 that were completed as stated in Part II of the MS4 permit for the University of Northern Iowa. The tasks are based on six Best Management Practices (BMP's) listed in the MS4 permit. All required tasks for fiscal year 2015 were completed.

2.0 Status of compliance with any compliance schedule established by this Permit of any modifications to this permit.

The University of Northern Iowa fulfilled all schedule requirements as stated in Part II of the MS4 permit for the period of 8/1/14 to 07/31/15. No modifications of the permit were made within the reporting period.

3.0 A summary of all revisions to the approved management program.

No modifications of the permit were made within the reporting period.

4.0 A summary of the data, which is generated within the reporting period, includes narrative descriptions of storm water quality improvements or degradation.

- A storm water drain-stenciling program involves checking each of the storm water intakes to ensure the medallion remains in place and the stenciling information continues to be readable. The medallions used by the university are the same as those purchased by the City of Cedar Falls so contractors will readily recognize the storm water intakes. All storm water intakes have been inventoried and medallions replaced where missing. New storm water intakes installed due to the reconstruction of the Baker Hall parking lot have been marked and added to the inventory.

- The locations of the intakes and outflows have been mapped and new intakes documented during the summer months will be added to the files.
- A Spill Response and Prevention Plan was updated by Brown Engineering Company in April 2011 and will be renewed in 2016.
- Wetland plants installed during 2009 at the Wetland Demonstration Park located north of the UNI Dome parking lot continue to be monitored and collaboration continues with the City of Cedar Falls regarding that project
- Additional trees and shrubs were added to campus as part of the university's landscaping plans.
- Campus Sustainability Forum held on April 22, 2015 to support Earth Day and environmental education events that week.
- The 2015 Princeton Review's "[Guide to 353 Green Colleges](#)" listed UNI as one of the most environmentally responsible higher education institutions (41/353).
- UNI achieved Gold rating from the Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS).
- Signage providing information about naturalized areas of campus has been installed.
- Recycling and composting collaboration with Dining Services continues to expand.
- Mixed waste recycling initiated in summer 2015.
- A Dry Run Creek stream bank stabilization project has been completed west of the Wetlands Demonstration Park at a cost of \$127,175. The project involved reshaping stream banks, installing stabilizing materials and planting native plant species on the stream banks. The project was funded by a combination of university and grant funds.
- UNI initiated mixed stream recycling during RAGBRAI 2015.
- CDI Bus Tour (Conservation Districts of Iowa): Black Hawk County Dry Run Creek Advisory Board hosted a bus tour on June 23, 2015 for about 70 people from across the State. UNI was selected as one of the stops due to its large quantity of installed urban storm water BMP's. Representatives from UNI's Physical Plant provided a demonstration of infiltration in permeable pavements.
- AmeriCorps initiated a rain garden installation near the future Panther Plots produce wash stations. Final completion will be in the fall 2015, with native plant donations from the Tallgrass Prairie Center.
- Two bio-cell soils were installed in the S. Art Parking Lot in fall 2014, with final native prairie planting completion anticipated by September 2015.
- The Baker Parking Lot bio-cell was planted with native prairie plants in May 2015.
- A bio-cell was installed in the Kamerick Art Building Courtyard in fall 2014.

- Repairs were completed in selected erosion areas in spring 2015 with drop structures and/or hard armoring and native plantings adjacent to the parking lot south of Panther Village.
- UNI's GeoTree issued a final report in May 2015 for a project performed on behalf of Black Hawk Soil and Water Conservation District. The report uses ARC WinSLAAM urban storm water modeling to map over 5000 acres of micro-sub-watersheds (and digitize data from nearly 3000 acres of that area) within urban portions of the Dry Run Creek watershed. Modeling provided data that not only showed impacts of installed BMP's, but also provided a predictive model of expected storm water runoff improvement in the future if a BMP would be installed. Data was input to an accessible digital database and output into a legible graphic. This work was also presented at the Iowa Geographic Information Council Bi-annual Conference in April 2015

Future Environmental Sustainability Projects Planned

The university's landscape architect is developing a 3-year plan for future storm water quality improvement projects. Future projects involve installing bio-cells, repairing and upgrading existing green roofs, repairing permeable paving, installing vegetated filter strips and bio-swales. The projects will be funded by a combination of grants and matching university funds.

5.0 An estimate of the previous fiscal year's expenditures for implementation of the management program and the budget for the current fiscal year.

The storm water management budget for fiscal year 2015 was funded "as needed" by the Senior Vice President for Administration and Financial Services, the Physical Plant Department, the Environmental Health and Safety Office, applicable grants and the University's general education fund. Environmental Health & Safety staff continues to expand the information on the web site and inform the campus community of the new information through the use of the UNI on-line notification vehicle.

Grounds staff continues to be involved in post-event clean up of the turf and parking lots. The campus' Sustainability Coordinator initiated student activities for recycling during outdoor events to reduce the amount of clean-up post event. The Student Garden has been a success and was expanded this reporting year.

Costs associated with staff activities to support sustainability projects that impact water quality are absorbed by the University and are not included

in the estimate of expenditures, e.g. Sustainability Coordinator, educational program development, etc.

6.0 A summary describing the number and nature of inspections, enforcement actions and public education programs conducted during the reporting period.

Inspections were conducted by Owner Construction Representatives and/or Environmental Health and Safety staff on all University of Northern Iowa's construction sites requiring an NPDES General Permit No. 2 to verify that contractors were following specified BMPs that had been approved in each construction site's pollution prevention plan. Areas of focus during inspections include proper placement and maintenance of silt collection fences, installation of gravel areas to collect soil from vehicle tires and proper sweeping of streets on which truck traffic traveled after leaving construction sites.

The Storm Water Committee continues to meet and UNI student members are active participants. Information updates are periodically completed to remind members of the University Community about the importance of storm water management; updates are placed on the Environmental Health and Safety web site under the Storm Water Program heading. The notification of the addition to the web site is placed on the UNI notification vehicle the university uses to announce new information to faculty, staff and students.

The university's Reuse, Recycle Technology Transfer Center (RRTTC) led the 2015 UNI Earth Week Celebration, a week long, campus-wide event that provides various opportunities for students, faculty, staff and the general public to receive education on relevant topics, participate in local clubs and recreation and volunteer in service projects. The goal of the Earth Week celebration is to improve the local environment and the week culminated with an Earth Day Fair with a number of booths providing information to those who attended the events. The RRTTC develops and implements several environmental education outreach programs to serve various focus groups at the university and in the community.

The Tall Grass Prairie Center hosted the Iowa Prairie Conference on July 16-18, 2015 with over 200 registrants. Fourteen exhibitors were at the conference and provided information to participants. Participants also took advantage of field trips provided by the Center's staff. The University of Northern Iowa continues to be a leader in the area of environmental sustainability.

The Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) staff provided storm water education at the University's Earth Day celebration event on April 22, 2015, as one of a number of organizations that provided sustainability information to students, faculty, staff and community members who attended the event. Sustainability and environmental initiatives in which the Physical Plant Department is involved were shared with those who attended the Earth Day event by EH&S staff.

7.0 Summary

This report summarizes required storm water compliance activities completed by the University of Northern Iowa for reporting year 2015. The 2007 reporting year was the first year of compliance activity associated with MS4 Permit number 07-09-0-04 issued to the University of Northern Iowa by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources

All permit activities for the reporting year 2015 permit period were completed on or before specified timelines. The University of Northern Iowa will continue to evaluate opportunities to improve storm water quality.

Individuals with questions, comments or concerns about storm water quality issues at the University of Northern Iowa should contact Dean Shoars, Director of Environmental Health and Safety, 122 Lang Hall, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614-0003, phone (319)273-3189 or email to dean.shoars@uni.edu.