

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System 2014 Report

Permit Number 07-09-0-04

August 2014

Prepared by:

Environmental Health and Safety Office
University of Northern Iowa
8628 University Avenue
Cedar Falls, IA 50614

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 2014 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 2014 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 9/1/13 to 08/31/14. 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.
- The locations of the intakes and outflows have been mapped and new intakes were documented during the summer months.

- A Spill Response and Prevention Plan was updated by Brown Engineering Company in April 2011.
- 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. A stream bank stabilization project will be completed on Dry Run Creek west of the Wetland Demonstration Park.
- Additional trees and shrubs added to campus.
- Campus Sustainability Forum held on April 22, 2014 to support Earth Day and environmental education events that week.
- The 2014 Princeton Review “Guide to 332 Green Colleges” listed UNI as one of the most environmentally responsible colleges.
- 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.

The costs of the projects completed this reporting year are enumerated below (all projects are in process and will be completed prior to the end of September, 2014):

- A bio-retention cell island and an enlarged detention basin are being added to the reconstructed and concrete paved South Art Parking Lot at a cost of \$30,000.
- Baker Hall was demolished and a new concrete parking lot has been constructed with a bio-retention cell on its south side to capture storm water runoff from the lot at a cost of \$20,000.
- Kamerick Plaza is being repaired and a new bio-retention cell is being constructed to capture storm water from the plaza area at a cost of \$20,000.
- Forty-five water filling stations were installed in most of the university’s buildings at a cost of \$40,000. As of April 25, 2014, the university estimates that over 530,000 water bottles were removed from the system.

Projects Planned

- A Dry Run Creek stream bank stabilization project will involve planting native species on stream banks west of the Wetlands Demonstration Park at a cost of \$50,000.00. The project is projected to be completed by December 2014 and will be funded by a combination of university and grant 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 2014 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 Sustainability Action Committee is active on campus with planning for educational events and encourages involvement of student groups with "green" activities.

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 2014 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 where over 35 booths participated. The RRTTC develops and implements several environmental education outreach programs to serve various focus groups at the university and in the community.

The Creekside Harmony Garden is another initiative of the RRTTC and the garden provides several types of educational and learning activities and welcomes students of the university and local schools and members of the Cedar Valley Community.

The RRTTC also provides the program, "Get Your Green On", a K-6 educational program to bring environmental awareness and responsibility to participants and incorporates several aspects of learning, including water quality and conservation.

The Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Center provided professional development scholarships to Johnson, Jones and Story counties for Certified Inspector in Sediment & Erosion Control that qualifies county roadside managers to inspect road construction sites for water quality impacts due to erosion and sedimentation.

The Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Center staff provided technical assistance and recommendations to the Iowa DOT regarding their internal storm water management and MS4 program goals.

The Environmental Health and Safety staff provided storm water education at the University's Earth Day celebration event on April 22, 2014 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 members of the Physical Plant Department.

7.0 Summary

This report summarizes required storm water compliance activities completed by the University of Northern Iowa for reporting year 2014. 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 2014 permit period were completed on or before specified timelines. UNI will expend a total of approximately \$110,000 during this reporting period as part of parking lot and plaza reconstruction projects and installation of water filling stations in university buildings. 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.