

NPDES PHASE II STORMWATER PERMIT ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

Pursuant to: **APPENDIX A of the ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ORDER (ACO)**
ACO-000136

Issued: **September 12, 2011**

COUNTY: Sanilac

AGENCY: Sanilac County Road Commission

CONTACT PERSON: Robb Falls

TITLE: Engineer-Manager

ADDRESS: 35 N. Flynn St., Sandusky, MI 48471

PHONE: 810-648-2185, extension 114

REPORTING PERIOD: 2015/2016 (**next** reporting period will cover from May 1, 2016 to April 30, 2016)

SUBMITTED: April, 2016

SUBMITTED BY: _____
ROBB FALLS (SIGNATURE ABOVE)

DATE: _____

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1. PURPOSE & INTRODUCTION

This annual report has been prepared by the Sanilac County Road Commission (SCRC) to fulfill the requirements of the Phase II Storm Water as they relate to Appendix A of the Administrative Consent Order **ACO 000136** issued September 12, 2011.

Annual Progress Reports are on file for the following time periods:

October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012
October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013
October 1, 2013 to September 30, 2014
October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015

This report is for the period from October 1, 2015 to May 1, 2016

The next report is due on May 1, 2017, will cover from May 1, 2016 to April 30, 2017. If that is the date in the COC per MDEQ correspondence emailed on April 19, 2015 to Keith Noble requesting information on the correct submittal dates for progress reporting. Six month progress reports or semi-annual progress reports are incorporated into the annual progress reports. Per the ACO these do not need to be submitted.

The ACO issued by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) requires that a report be submitted annually, their original COC had a submittal date of October 1 annually. The Sanilac County Road Commission is functioning under the ACO issued in the Fall of 2011. This report summarizes permit activities performed during the latter part of 2010 when the original Storm Water Management Plan was submitted to the Saginaw Bay Regional MDEQ office in November of 2010. It should be noted that the Sanilac County Road Commission does not have any maintenance, fueling, or storage facilities located within the Port Huron Urbanized Area (UA) that reaches into Sanilac County from the southern county line along M-25, through Worth Township, Village of Lexington and Lexington Township. The approximate area under jurisdiction of the Sanilac County Road Commission is about 1,300 acres +/-, or 0.2% of the area of Sanilac County.

The Sanilac County Road Commission (SCRC) is implementing its SWMP in the county and is still active in providing resources to the local Watershed Advisory Group. The display board is still being used to reach out to the general public of Sanilac County and present materials as will be discussed later.

2. STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM PLAN

An updated Storm Water Management Program Plan was submitted to the MDEQ in April of 2014 as part the application for a new Individual MS4 NPDES permit. All programs and plans were updated in 2014 during the MS4 Permit Application Process to meet the new requirements as presented in the individual permit. The SWMP is being implemented in the Urbanized Area of Sanilac County (road right of ways) where the SCRC has jurisdiction.

a. Best Management Practices

The SCRC implemented managerial practices that address or impact water quality in the areas they are implemented. A **public education plan** was revised, submitted as part of the

MS4 Application process, and is in the process of implementation. The SCRC continues to offer the Drain office, Soil Conservation District, environmental groups, and the Village of Lexington its free standing display with a table to stage handout materials for public education every year. The Sanilac County Drain Commissioner, Greg Alexander, has cooperated in this venture and has scheduled this display at many sites around the County.

The SCRC also maintains a web presence at;

<http://www.sanilacroads.com/>

to provide information to the general public relative to stormwater education.

Surveys, handed out and collected at events around the state, have been used to help determine quantifiable measurements of the effectiveness of this I&E plan. To date the opportunity to hand out and collect the surveys has presented itself in the Saginaw, St. Clair, Howell area. The results will be used to assist Sanilac County Road Commission in its PEP as needed.

The SCRC has a children's activity book related to storm and surface water quality they print out and hand out when interacting with school programs or other venues where this booklet is suited. This book was updated in 2016.

Public Participation is an activity being done by the Road Commission. They still participate in a Watershed Advisory Council for their region when meetings occur. The Engineer-Manager of the Road Commission has been attending the local Watershed Advisory Council monthly since the fall of 2011 and has attended the meetings when they occurred in 2015/16. Currently, the group is not as active as it initially was and has not had any meetings recently. The standup display for providing stormwater education in the watershed is still making the rounds. Below is a picture of the display board at a location in Sanilac County.



On this board the phone number is displayed for reporting illicit connections or Spills in Sanilac County.

The board was on display in September, 2015 at the NRCS Annual Meeting and was also at the Farm Show in Ubyly Heights in December 2015.

In Appendix A is a list of dates that the display will be at the Octagon Barn where it will be part of the Sanilac County Conservation District's ***"Our Wonderful World of Water"*** presentation in cooperation with the MDEQ and MDNR. It is anticipated that roughly 1,500 children from 28 school districts around the Thumb area covering 6 counties will view the display and other activities.

The Road Commission with its equipment and staff still assist the Sanilac Soil Conservation District on an as needed basins with stream cleanup projects. Due to the short time frame this report covers this year there have been no stream cleanup activities to report on.

The Road Commission is still partnering with the Sanilac Soil Conservation District to address erosion control in the county. They are still researching opportunities to obtain funds / grants to address some of the outreach programs and address erosion issues as they are discovered in the county. As of this report no sediment repairs in road side drainage in the Urbanized Area. Again, primarily because of the short nature of this report.

Construction Controls are implemented by the SCRC on all road projects undertaken by staff. The SCRC is an APA. No road construction was completed on county roads during this reporting period. However, several roadside ditch cleanouts will be scheduled soon for the summer construction season. These will be reported on in the next annual report

SESC measures are implemented and inspected for effectiveness during construction. Any deficiencies are corrected in a timely manner. It must be noted that in the UA almost all of the stormwater conveyances are grassed swales which help with removal of sediment from runoff before reaching Lake Huron. Some of these swales go through private property and have no easements for access.

Illicit Discharge Elimination Program.

There were no illicit connections to the SCRC MS4 discovered as part of this original screening or subsequent screening in 2012. The Road Commission only has 7 outfalls in the UA. The dry weather screening for this five year cycle of the permit has to be completed in 2017/18.

There were no new outfalls added during 2015/16. MDOT requires any new construction to obtain a permit to discharge to their MS4 and we assume that any site review along M-25 went through the routine site review by MDOT staff.

Reporting of illicit discharges is done via the SCRC web site or by calling (810) 648-2185 to report illicit activities. The display board for the Watershed Advisory Group also displays information as to where to call to report illicit dumping or discharges to road drainage systems. This information is in the appendix of this report. When observing the picture of the display board you can see the phone number on the board.

Post Construction Controls were developed and adopted in 2011 by the SCRC for the UA. This document was revised for the new permit application process in 2014 and will be reviewed during that permit issuance process.

These controls are activated by a request for a culvert permit in the UA by a commercial business. This plan can only be activated by a commercial, subdivision or condominium development that will be using a road commission storm water drain. It must be noted these drains are very shallow and typically cannot be used by a commercial or large residential development of any kind as they would require significant engineering and improvement before they can function as an outlet for a development.

No development in 2015/16 which fell under the jurisdiction of the SCRC in the Urbanized Area of Sanilac County.

Pollution Prevention / Good Housekeeping the SCRC has taken steps in this area, as it is the one plan that can have a significant impact. The following has occurred:

A salt use reduction program is still being implemented county wide by the SCRC. Staff of the SCRC has been sent to training at specific seminars for salt reduction. The SCRC has adopted MDOT Winter Operations Best Practices to reduce its deicer use. The SCRC will have reduction statistics available by the next annual report.

For the 2015/16 winter season the salt usage was **609 Tons of salt out of the Crosswell Garage** on county roads and **2,676 Tons of salt** county wide on all roads. SWPPP – The Road Commission does not have any maintenance or storage facilities within the Urbanized Area that requires a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan.

Education – Staff of the Road Commission and Village of Lexington has completed their original PP/GH training on February 1, 2012. The seven (7) staff permanently assigned to the Crosswell Station of the Road Commission attended the training. This staff works exclusively in the region where the Urbanized Area is located. There is one new staff person in the Crosswell station and it has been decided that training for PP/GH will be done by video. Training videos have been sent to the Road Commission for staff training.

b. Measurable Goals

Six (6) personnel from the Road Commission assigned to work in the Urbanized Area of Sanilac County received training related vegetation management in 2016, sign in sheet is in the appendix.

3. RECEIVING WATER QUALITY STATUS

The Urbanized Area in Sanilac County along M-25 discharges surface water runoff to Lake Huron. In this region there are a series of vernal streams along the coast line that discharge into this Great Lake. There is a large body of information on Lake Huron, a number of reports have been done on the coastal region. The public is becoming increasingly aware of problems with beaches in regards to bacteria, fungi and viruses that have the potential to cause a human health concern. The visual aspect of the coastal waters of Lake Huron displays a clarity that is exceptional, it is not “clean” water. There are issues with nutrients in runoff from the agricultural lands, and failing septic systems. The dissolved oxygen levels and pH in this area are good. Lake Huron supports a substantial fishery and recreational fishing is relatively good. The area around the Village of Lexington has a well-known warm and cold water fishery supporting bass, perch, pike, smelt, walleye, lake trout and brown trout. In the past numbers of salmon were also caught in deeper offshore areas. Overall the status of the water quality is good, and based on the 2014 303(d) and 305(b) reports the water quality is still improving in the Great Lakes. Off the coastal region of Sanilac County there are no BUI’s listed in the report. There are issues with E.coli as one approaches the St Clair River.

4. RECEIVING WATER QUALITY STRESSES

Water quality has become a major issue along the southern shores of Lake Huron in recent years. The sources of this pollution are many and diverse. Nonpoint-source pollution is another term for polluted runoff. Water washing over the land, whether from precipitation, car washing or watering crops or lawns, picks up an array of contaminants including oil, sand and salt from roadways, agricultural chemicals, and nutrients and toxic materials from both urban and rural areas. Nonpoint-source pollution is the cumulative result of our everyday personal actions and our local land use policies. The following are major types of pollutants carried by stormwater runoff to Lake Huron in this coastal area:

- **Pathogens**

Pathogens are disease causing microorganisms, such as bacteria and viruses that come from the fecal waste of animals and humans. Pathogens wash off the land from wild animal, domestic farm animal and pet wastes. They can also enter the lake from improperly functioning septic systems, leaky sewer lines and boat sanitary disposal systems.

- **Nutrients**

Nutrients are compounds that stimulate plant growth, like nitrogen and phosphorous. In high concentrations, they can become both an environmental and health threat. Nutrients in polluted waters can come from agricultural fertilizers, septic systems, home lawn care products, and yard and animal wastes.

- **Toxic Contaminants**

Toxins are substances that can harm aquatic and human life. They are created by a wide variety of human practices and products like heavy metals, pesticides and organic compounds like PCB's. Many toxins are resistant to breakdown and tend to be passed through the food chain to be concentrated in top predators. Oil, grease and gasoline from roadways, and chemicals used in home, gardens, yards and on farm crops, are major sources of toxic contaminants.

Polluted runoff is largely the result of the way development occurs by change of landuse. The sources are many and to clean up nonpoint-source will take the concerted efforts of everyone. Public attention is beginning to focus on this issue along Lake Huron.

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) continue to have dramatic indirect and direct effects on the Great Lakes. AIS are responsible for increases in water clarity, loss of organisms and biodiversity, disruption of food webs, and impacts on economically important fish species (International Association for Great Lakes Research, 2002). Emerging research also shows that AIS cause changes in nutrient cycling and availability and contribute to increased plant and algae growth in many near shore areas, such as Saginaw Bay and the western basin of Lake Erie.

The Great Lakes have problems with selected persistent bioaccumulative chemicals. Fish consumption advisories in the Great Lakes serve as reminders that certain pollutants, such as PCBs, chlordane, dioxins, and mercury remain elevated in the water column and fish tissue. The use of PCBs and dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) was banned in the 1970s and concentrations of these chemicals in Great Lakes fish have declined; however, concentrations in some species still require consumption advisories. Atmospheric deposition, tributary loadings, and the dynamic exchange and cycling between air, water, and sediment within the Great Lakes basins are the key factors influencing contaminant levels in Great Lakes fish. (Source: DRAFT *Water Quality and Pollution Control in Michigan-2012 Sections 303(d), 305(b) and 314 Integrated Report*)

5. NESTED JURISDICTIONS & NESTED DRAINAGE SYSTEM AGREEMENTS

The Sanilac County Road Commission does not have any nested jurisdictions within its area of responsibility in the Urbanized Area of Sanilac County. The MDOT is responsible for the M-25 corridor right of way and has its own permit and the Village of Lexington has its own ACO for its MS4. No school districts or other similar state or federal agencies are in this area that would meet criteria for nested systems.

There are no systems or shared responsibility agreements in place. If an illicit discharge or failing septic system is identified outside of the road right of way. The Sanilac County Road Commission will report this to the local township and the County Health Department for further action. The County Health Department will complete all follow up investigations for the County and relieve the SCRC of this function.

6. UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

The Sanilac County Road Commission has become more involved in working with the Sanilac County Soil Conservation District and with the County Drain Commissioner. With this shared effort they have done a considerable amount of work to improve stormwater impacts in the county. Here are some additional projects for the future:

- Continue to work with the Soil Conservation District to address erosion problems in the county.
- Continue to participate in stream clean ups as funds become available.
- Respond to review letters for new MS4 Individual permit.
- Continue to put the table top display out to the general public at public events.

APPENDIX A

DISPLAY Board Schedule

SCHOOL TOURS 2016 tour date/time ✓ = Station Form Request returned	school name - city	educator(s) name	grade/age	# of students	# of chaperones	time leaving	eating lunch time	# & type of transportation busses, cars	buying souvenirs?	county	notes
8:30 AM, Wednesday, May 11th	Bad Axe Middle School - Bad Axe	Jan Neeb	4th grade	68	12	2:00 PM	11:30 AM	2 busses	yes	Huron	
8:30 AM, Wednesday, May 11th	Macomb Elementary - Caro	Kara Faslan	2nd grade	125	16	1:30 PM	11:30 AM	2 or 3 busses	yes	Tuscola	reported website not working to register!
9 AM, Wednesday, May 11th	North Huron Elementary - Kinto	Mindy Collier	1st & 2nd	70	25	2 PM	11 AM	1 School Bus or TAT bus	no	Huron	
9 AM, Wednesday, May 11th	Antor Homeschool - Mallette	Danielle Antor	Kdg. - 8th	30	6	1 PM	12 noon	many cars	maybe	Sanilac	
9 AM, Wednesday, May 11th	Cass City Home School Co-Op Caro	Jullana Weldman	pre- school, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th	30	15	2 PM	12 noon	minivan caravan	yes	Tuscola	
10:30 AM, Wednesday, May 11th	Cass City Elementary - Cass City	Doiland/ Hacker/ holkkor	2nd	78	15	2:30 PM	11 AM	2 busses	no	Tuscola	
10:30 AM, Wednesday, May 11th	C.H.E.B.W.A. Lapeer	Tina L. Smith	infant to 13 years	50	12	?	noon	9+ cars	?	Lapeer	
				Wednesday 's total # of students = 447	Wednesday 's total # of chaperones = 101						
SCHOOL TOURS 2016 tour date/time ✓ = Station Form Request returned	school name - city	educator(s) name	grade/age	# of students	# of chaperones	time leaving	eating lunch time	# & type of transportation - busses, cars	buying souvenirs?	county	notes
8:30 AM, Thursday, May 12th	Our Savior Lutheran - Bad Axe	Chels Holdt	pre-school	13	13	11 AM	NA	10+ cars	no	Huron	Chels bringing 2 groups; one on Thursday and one on Friday
9 AM, Thursday, May 12th	Dockerville Elementary	Stacey Gruber	1st	63	25	2 PM	11:15 AM	1 bus	no	Sanilac	
9 AM, Thursday, May 12th	Lakor Elementary	Both Darnn	Developme ntal Kdg	21	10	1 PM	11:00 AM	1 School Bus	?	Huron	wants to schedule animals & children's activities area LAST in their day on site
9 AM, Thursday, May 12th	Zion Lutheran School - Bay City	Kathy Martin	2nd/3rd	24	8	2 PM	11:30 AM	5 or 6 cars	yes	Bay	
9 AM, Thursday, May 12th	USA Elementary School - Sebewalng	Lori Kemp	1st	60	10	ONE THIRTY PM	11:00 AM	1 School Bus	no	Huron	These teachers wish these students to be in 2 groups only; 25 per group
9:30 AM, Thursday, May 12th	Christ The King - Unionville	Ericka Kaiser	1st	11	8	2 PM	11:30 AM	4 cars	yes	Tuscola	
9:30 AM, Thursday, May 12th	St. John Lutheran School - Port Hope	Paula Coplecha	Kdg., 3rd, 5th, 6th	6	3	2 PM	11:30 AM	2 or 3 cars	yes	Huron	
9:30 AM, Thursday, May 12th	Standish Standish - Standish	Deb Williams	2nd	65	12	1:30 PM	11:00 AM	1 School Bus	no	Arenac	
9:30 AM, Thursday, May 12th	Seeds of Faith; Homeschool - Lapeer	Darlene Hamblin; Jill Courseer	1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th	70	10	3 PM	12 noon	10 plus	yes	Lapeer	As of 4-8-2016, Jill Courseer is organizing this group
9:30 AM, Thursday, May 7th	Ubyl Community Schools, Ubyl	Marilyn Poplinski	Kdg.	63	25	1:30 PM	11:30 AM	2 bus	yes	Huron	

SCHOOL TOURS 2016 tour date/time √ = Station Form Request returned	school name - city	educator(s) name	grade/age	# of students	# of chaperones	time leaving	ending lunch time	# & type of transportation - busses, cars	buying souvenirs?	county	notes
10:00 AM, Thursday, May 12th	Huron County Intermediate School District - Bad Axe	Pam Fry	special needs kids ages 16-26	25	6	1:30 PM	yes	1 bus	yes	Huron	SPECIAL NEEDS GROUP: Need LOTS of stations for SHORT time only. Need shuttle assigned to them only, for the entire time they are on site.
12:30 PM, Thursday, May 12th	Cross Lutheran - Pigeon	Beth Elston	pre-school	12	7	2:30 PM	NA	TAT plus 4 cars	no	Huron	We love this tour! Thank you!
				Thursday's total # of students = 403	Thursday's total # of chaperones = 137						
SCHOOL TOURS 2016 tour date/time √ = Station Form Request returned	school name - city	educator(s) name	grade/age	# of students	# of chaperones	time leaving	ending lunch time	# & type of transportation - busses, cars	buying souvenirs?	county	notes
8:30 AM, Friday, May 13th	New Salem Lutheran - Sobowalng	Peggy Ogg	1st	2	3	1 PM	11:30 AM	car/van	yes	Huron	
8:30 AM, Friday, May 13th	Our Savior Lutheran - Bad Axe	Chels Heldt	pre-school	16	16	11 AM	NA	10+ cars	no	Huron	Chels bringing 2 groups; one on Thursday and one on Friday
9:15 AM, Friday, May 13th	Sandusky Elementary - Sandusky	Sue Hale Dobble Lasecki Jessica Flanigan	2nd grade	82	24	1:30 PM	11:30 AM	busses and cars	maybe	Sanilac	
9:15 AM, Friday, May 13th	Immanuel Lutheran - Bay City	Ellen Pelt	2nd	8	4	2 PM	12 noon	3 cars	no	Bay	
9:30 AM, Friday, May 13th	Vassar Elementary - Vassar	Tracy Brightman	1st	66	10	2 PM	11 AM	2 busses	no	Tuscola	
9:30 AM, Friday, May 13th	Marelle Elementary - Marelle	Heleno Kraft	Kdg.	70	35	1 PM	11 AM	one bus & lots and lots and lots of cars!	yes	Sanilac	
9:30 AM, Friday, May 13th	Peck Elementary - Peck	Carla Hamblin	3rd	18	5	one thirty PM	11 AM	1 School Bus	yes	Sanilac	
11:00 AM, Friday, May 13th	Shawn's Homeschool Group	Shawn Short	4 years to 13 years	16	7	3 PM	noon	7 cars	maybe	Sanilac/ Oakland/ Bay	
12:30 PM, Friday, May 13th	Huron County Rural Schools - Bad Axe	Michelle Daniels	1st & 2nd	50	15	2:30 PM	NA	TAT bus & private vehicles	yes	Huron	
				Friday's total # of students = 327	Friday's total # of chaperones = 119						
				Total # of students for the 3 days = 1,177	Total # of chaperones for the 3 days = 357						