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June 1, 2022

Ms. Terri LeMasters  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, DWPC  
Compliance Assurance Section #19  
1021 North Grand Avenue East  
Post Office Box 19276  
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

Re: City of Oak Forest, NPDES Phase II Annual Update (2021/2022)  
Permit No. ILR400408  
HR Green Job No. 220721

Dear Ms. LeMasters:

Enclosed please find the NPDES Phase II - Year 19 Annual Report for the City of Oak Forest. As the representative of the City, HR Green, Inc. coordinated with the City in the completion of the enclosed Annual Report and Notice of Intent for continued coverage under the General Permit, issued by the Illinois EPA.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 815-759-8370 or at [lgilbertsen@hrgreen.com](mailto:lgilbertsen@hrgreen.com)

Sincerely,

**HR GREEN, INC.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Logan Gilbertsen'.

**Logan Gilbertsen, P.E., CFM**  
Project Manager - Water Resources

sk/lg

Enclosed: NPDES Annual Update 2021/2022

cc: Michael Salamowicz, Director of Public Works – Oak Forest  
Mr. Akram Chaudhry, HR Green, Inc.



# Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Bureau of Water • 1021 N. Grand Avenue E. • P.O. Box 19276 • Springfield • Illinois • 62794-9276

## Division of Water Pollution Control ANNUAL FACILITY INSPECTION REPORT

### for NPDES Permit for Storm Water Discharges from Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4)

*This fillable form may be completed online, a copy saved locally, printed and signed before it is submitted to the Compliance Assurance Section at the above address. Complete each section of this report.*

Report Period: From March, 2021 To March, 2022

Permit No. ILR40 0408

#### MS4 OPERATOR INFORMATION: (As it appears on the current permit)

Name: City of Oak Forest Mailing Address 1: 15440 S. Central Ave.  
Mailing Address 2: \_\_\_\_\_ County: Cook  
City: Oak Forest State: IL Zip: 60452 Telephone: 708-444-4856  
Contact Person: Michael Salamowicz Email Address: msalamowicz@OAK-FOREST.ORG  
(Person responsible for Annual Report)

#### Name(s) of governmental entity(ies) in which MS4 is located: (As it appears on the current permit)

City of Oak Forest

#### THE FOLLOWING ITEMS MUST BE ADDRESSED.

A. Changes to best management practices (check appropriate BMP change(s) and attach information regarding change(s) to BMP and measurable goals.)

- |  |                          |   |                          |
|--|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Public Education and Outreach             | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. Construction Site Runoff Control       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Public Participation/Involvement          | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. Post-Construction Runoff Control       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping | <input type="checkbox"/> |

B. Attach the status of compliance with permit conditions, an assessment of the appropriateness of your identified best management practices and progress towards achieving the statutory goal of reducing the discharge of pollutants to the MEP, and your identified measurable goals for each of the minimum control measures.

C. Attach results of information collected and analyzed, including monitoring data, if any during the reporting period.

D. Attach a summary of the storm water activities you plan to undertake during the next reporting cycle ( including an implementation schedule.)

E. Attach notice that you are relying on another government entity to satisfy some of your permit obligations (if applicable).

F. Attach a list of construction projects that your entity has paid for during the reporting period.

**Any person who knowingly makes a false, fictitious, or fraudulent material statement, orally or in writing, to the Illinois EPA commits a Class 4 felony. A second or subsequent offense after conviction is a Class 3 felony. (415 ILCS 5/44(h))**

  
Owner Signature:  
Michael Salamowicz

5/26/2022  
Date:  
Director of Public Works

Printed Name:

Title:

EMAIL COMPLETED FORM TO: [epa.ms4annualinsp@illinois.gov](mailto:epa.ms4annualinsp@illinois.gov)

or Mail to: ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL  
COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE SECTION #19  
1021 NORTH GRAND AVENUE EAST  
POST OFFICE BOX 19276  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62794-9276

This Agency is authorized to require this information under Section 4 and Title X of the Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/4, 5/39). Failure to disclose this information may result in: a civil penalty of not to exceed \$50,000 for the violation and an additional civil penalty of not to exceed \$10,000 for each day during which the violation continues (415 ILCS 5/42) and may also prevent this form from being processed and could result in your application being denied. This form has been approved by the Forms Management Center.

**City of Oak Forest**  
**NPDES Phase II – 2021-2022 Annual Report Summary**  
**IEPA Permit No. ILR40-0408**

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## **Part A. Changes to Best Management Practices**

There were no changes in the Best Management Practices (BMPs) that were outlined in the NOI submitted by the City of Oak Forest to the IEPA.

The City has reviewed the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's (IEPA) website for current information regarding approved or ongoing Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) limits on streams within the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) service area. According to the 303 (d) Listed Water Maps, there are impaired waterbodies within the City of Oak Forest limits. The waterbodies are Tinley Creek (Assessment ID: IL\_HF-01) and Midlothian Reservoir (IL\_RHZI). Although these waterways are impaired, there are no ongoing or approved Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) limits for the waterways. Therefore, no changes to the existing BMP's will be required to comply with a TMDL at this time.

According to the Environmental Justice Screening tool at <https://ejscreen.epa.gov/mapper/> , approximately 17% of the City is low income and only 3% is considered linguistically isolated. At this time, no changes are required to tailor communication with residents.

## **Part B. Status of Compliance with Permit Conditions**

The status of BMPs and measurable goals performed in Year 2021-2022 are described below.

### **1. Public Education and Outreach**

#### **A.6 Other Public Education**

Measurable Goals: Provide updated public education and outreach information on website annually.

Status: The City currently maintains a web page dedicated to Stormwater Management which contains links to the NOI and last year's annual update (<https://www.oak-forest.org/190/Stormwater-Management>). The page also has a link to the Stormwater Management Plan which describes the pollution prevention practices within the City. Additionally, the page has several links to stormwater-related educational material, such as a pamphlet titled "Where You Leave Your Leaves Matters" and a pamphlet discussing how the use of coal-tar based sealcoat can pollute stormwater runoff. The City also has educational material on the City's waste and recycling program. The website includes a curbside recycling flier to inform residents about what can and what cannot be recycled. <https://www.oak-forest.org/183/Garbage-Recycling>

There is also an annual Community Expo where the City passes out informational pamphlets about stormwater to the public.

#### **Public Education and Outreach Evaluation –**

The City feels that their existing program is successful in educating the public. The City's stormwater management page has several educational pamphlets available for residents. Additionally, the City is able to educate the public on stormwater at the Community Expo by passing out informational pamphlets.

### **2. Public Participation/Involvement**

#### **B.1 Public Panel**

Measurable Goals: Annual MS4 program overview at a public meeting.

Status: In Year 19, the City discussed ongoing stormwater concerns at public meetings. The Council has approved studies to address flooding solutions in the community and these projects will include stormwater BMPs. The City is planning to have a formal presentation about the NPDES program in Year 20.

#### **B.7 Other Public Involvement**

Measurable Goals: Provide a contact number that residents can use to report stormwater related issues, including ordinance violations, construction site soil erosion and sediment control violations, maintenance issues, and illicit discharges.

Status: The City's Stormwater Management page provides contact information for the Public Works Department, including a phone number and a link to an online service request form called "Citizen Request." Residents can use this form to report any stormwater related issues. In case of emergencies after normal working hours or on holidays and weekends, the website also provides a link to the Police Department's non-emergency line. The Police Department then contacts the on-call Public Works supervisor. In Year 19, no stormwater issues, illicit discharges, or soil and erosion control issues were reported to the City.

### **Public Participation/Involvement Evaluation –**

The City feels that the current program is effective. Stormwater is discussed at public meetings. Additionally, the City's Stormwater Management Page offers contact information to allow residents to report stormwater related issues in a timely manner.

## **3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination**

### **C.1 Storm Sewer Map Preparation**

Measurable Goals: Update the storm sewer map with changes as needed.

Status: The City's maintains a storm sewer atlas which is updated as needed. The atlas includes the storm sewer diameters and an inventory of the City's existing manholes, catch basins, inlets, headwalls, flared end sections, junction chambers, and stormwater pumping stations. In Year 19, no storm sewer system upgrades were made. Therefore, the storm sewer atlas did not need to be updated.

### **C.2 Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) Ordinance**

Measurable Goals: Implement the illicit discharge and connection ordinance annually. Review the ordinance and update as necessary.

Status: The City has an enforceable illicit discharge ordinance and will continue to enforce and update the ordinance on an as-needed basis.

### **C.3 Detection/Elimination Prioritization Plan**

Measurable Goals: Implement a program to detect and eliminate illicit discharges into storm drains and local waterways.

Status: The City has a program in place to respond to illicit discharges when they are reported. Outfalls are inspected annually. No illicit discharges were identified or reported in Year 19. The City is planning to use its existing storm sewer atlas to develop an outfall map in Year 20. The outfall map will assist the City with illicit discharge detection. Outfall inspections are planned for Year 20.

### **C.7 Visual Dry Weather Screening**

Measurable Goals: High priority storm sewer outfalls are screened annually for evidence of potential illicit discharges.

Status: The City does not have high priority outfalls at this time and no illicit discharges were identified. The City will review and identify potential high priority outfalls in Year 20.

## **4. Construction Site Runoff Control**

### **D.1 Regulatory Control Program**

Measurable Goals: Implement the Watershed Development Ordinance (WDO) and along with the City Code, use those provisions to regulate the implementation of Best Management Practices at construction sites within the City.

Status: The City implements the WDO and the City Code to regulate BMPs at construction sites within the City. Proposed developments are inspected and reviewed by the City. Additionally, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) completes reviews if a permit is required.

#### **D.4 Site Plan Review Procedures**

**Measurable Goals:** Perform review of Best Management Practices (BMP) for proposed developments prior to construction. The intent of these procedures is to reduce or prevent the discharge of pollutants from construction sites through the use of effective BMPs.

**Status:** The City currently reviews construction plans to ensure that the appropriate BMPs are included. Proposed developments are inspected and reviewed by the City. Additionally, the MWRD completes reviews if a permit is required.

#### **D.6 Site Inspection/Enforcement Procedures**

**Measurable Goals:** Investigate and address construction site BMP deficiencies within the City.

**Status:** The City staff visits each site requiring a building permit within the City. The inspection includes a review of the soil and erosion control practices onsite. The City identifies BMP deficiencies during the site visit and contacts the owner/contractor to address the deficiencies.

#### **Construction Site Runoff Control Evaluation –**

The City feels that the current program for Construction Site Runoff control is effective. The City implements and enforces the WDO. Additionally, the City reviews proposed developments prior to construction to ensure the developer utilizes the appropriate BMPs. BMP deficiencies are identified during the City's site inspection.

### **5. Post-Construction Runoff Control**

#### **E.2 Post-Construction Regulatory Control Program**

**Measurable Goals:** Implement the Watershed Development Ordinance (WDO) and along with the City Code, use those provisions to regulate post- construction stormwater management requirements and water quality requirements for new development and re-development.

**Status:** The City implements the WDO and the City Code to regulate post-construction stormwater management requirements within the City.

#### **E.4 Pre-Construction Review of BMP Designs**

**Measurable Goals:** Review BMPs for proposed developments prior to construction. Use City development standards to address post-construction runoff from new development and re-development. Review proposed site plans prior to issuing permits for development.

**Status:** The City currently reviews proposed site plans for erosion and sediment control prior to issuing permits for development to ensure that the appropriate BMPs are included. Proposed developments are inspected and reviewed by the City. Additionally, the MWRD completes reviews if a permit is required. The City uses development standards to address post-construction runoff from proposed development projects.

#### **E.5 Site Inspections During Construction**

**Measurable Goals:** Investigate and address construction site BMP deficiencies during construction annually.

**Status:** The City staff visits each site requiring a building permit within the City. The inspection includes a review of the soil and erosion control practices onsite.

The City identifies BMP deficiencies during the site visit and contacts the owner/contractor to address the deficiencies.

#### **Post-Construction Runoff Control Evaluation -**

The City completes inspections and enforces the WDO to maintain effective runoff control measures for construction projects. The City feels that the current program is adequate.

## **6. Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping**

### **F.1 Staff Training**

**Measurable Goals:** Conduct regular employee training for municipal operations and safety. Provide annual training to educate staff on pollution prevention and reduction of stormwater pollution from municipal activities.

**Status:** In Year 19, the Director of Public Works attended several stormwater and pollution prevention webinars. Additionally, the City's senior staff provided employees with training on salt application best practices in the fall of 2021. In-house staff training on Municipal Pollution Prevention is scheduled for the summer of 2022.

### **F.2 Inspection and Maintenance Program**

**Measurable Goals:** Implement the City's storm sewer operation and maintenance program to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants from the system.

**Status:** The City has a dedicated storm sewer operation and maintenance program to help reduce discharge of pollutants from the storm sewer system. The City owns and operates two street sweepers. All City streets are swept a minimum of two times per year. Cicero Avenue and the surrounding streets are swept more regularly at approximately six times per year, including monthly in the summertime. The City also has a Vactor truck to clean catch basins throughout the City.

### **F.3 Municipal Operations Stormwater Control**

**Measurable Goals:** Implement the storm sewer system inspection and maintenance program, including catch basin cleaning, regular cleaning and maintenance of storm sewer structures, and debris removal.

**Status:** The City has a Vactor truck to clean catch basins throughout the City. The City staff is responsible for cleaning and repairing catch basins, inlets, and City-owned storm sewers. Storm inlets are cleaned on a periodic basis as needed. If residents report an issue, such as storm sewer backups, the City responds by cleaning the storm structures and investigating the issue. The City also cleans, repairs, and maintains City-owned ponds, detention and retention basins, and roadway culvert crossings. The staff completes stream channel maintenance on public property, which includes bank restoration/stabilization activities, as well as removal of downed trees and debris from creek channels and headwalls. The City's efforts ensure that the storm water system is able to operate effectively and that pollution to downstream waterways is minimized.

### **F.4 Municipal Operations Waste Control**

**Measurable Goals:** Store municipal operations wastes and recyclables in designated containers and areas for proper disposal.

**Status:** The City continues to work with Homewood Disposal Service for garbage removal and recycling. This program includes weekly trash pickup, recycling



(every two weeks), and landscape waste (April-November). The City's website also provides a recycling flier to provide residents with a list of accepted and non-accepted recycling. The City also has a program for electronic waste recycling and pick up.

**Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping Evaluation –**

The City feels that the current pollution prevention program is adequate. Key staff is trained annually on stormwater pollution and best practices for roadway salting. The City also has an effective program for inspecting, repairing, and cleaning the storm sewer system to minimize pollutants from entering the waterways.

**Part C. Information and Data Collection Results**

The protocol established in the permit was followed. No illicit discharges were found in Year 19.

## **Part D. Summary of Year 2022-2023 Stormwater Activities**

The City of Oak Forest submitted a new NOI for coverage under the General NPDES Permit No.: ILR40 which became effective on March 1, 2021. This NOI was submitted to the IEPA in 2020. Per the NOI, the City will complete the following during Year 2022/2023:

- A.6 – Provide updated public education and outreach information on website annually.
- B.1 – Annual MS4 program overview at a public meeting.
- B.7 – Provide a contact number that residents can use to report stormwater related issues, including ordinance violations, construction site soil erosion and sediment control violations, maintenance issues, and illicit discharges.
- C.1 – Update the storm sewer map with changes as needed.
- C.2 - Implement the illicit discharge and connection ordinance annually. Review the ordinance and update as necessary.
- C.3 – Implement a program to detect and eliminate illicit discharges into storm drains and local waterways.
- C.7 – Annually screen high priority storm sewer outfalls for evidence of potential illicit discharges.
- D.1 – Implement the Watershed Development Ordinance (WDO) and along with the City Code, use those provisions to regulate the implementation of Best Management Practices at construction sites within the City.
- D.4 – Perform review of Best Management Practices (BMP) for proposed developments prior to construction. The intent of these procedures is to reduce or prevent the discharge of pollutants from construction sites through the use of effective BMPs.
- D.6 – Investigate and address construction site BMP deficiencies within the City.
- E.2 – Implement the Watershed Development Ordinance (WDO) and along with the City Code, use those provisions to regulate post- construction stormwater management requirements and water quality requirements for new development and re-development.
- E.4 – Review BMPs for proposed developments prior to construction. Use City development standards to address post-construction runoff from new development and re-development. Review proposed site plans prior to issuing permits for development.
- E.5 – Investigate and address construction site BMP deficiencies during construction annually.
- F.1 – Conduct regular employee training for municipal operations and safety. Provide annual training to educate staff on pollution prevention and reduction of stormwater pollution from municipal activities.
- F.2 – Implement the City’s storm sewer operation and maintenance program to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants from the system.
- F.3 – Implement the storm sewer system inspection and maintenance program, including catch basin cleaning, regular cleaning and maintenance of storm sewer structures, and debris removal.
- F.4 – Store municipal operations wastes and recyclables in designated containers and areas for proper disposal.

Please see the NOI for a detailed description of the stormwater activities that will be performed during the current NPDES reporting period (March 1, 2022 – February 28, 2023).

**Part E. Notice of Qualifying Local Program**

There are currently no Qualifying Local Programs that the City wishes to rely on to meet the NPDES Phase II requirements.

**Part F: Construction Projects Conducted During Year 2021-2022**

No Notices of Intent were submitted by the City in Year 19.

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