

# Calhoun County 2016 Storm Water Management Plan



Calhoun County Commission  
1702 Noble Street  
Anniston, Alabama 36201

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## 1. Certification

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Base on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Mr. Brian Rosenbalm, P.E.

Calhoun County Engineer

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Signature

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Date



## 2. Introduction

On November 16, 1990, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) promulgated regulations, under the Water Quality Act of 1987, setting forth application requirements for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) storm water permits.

In 1999, EPA promulgated regulations establishing Phase II of the NPDES storm water program. The Phase II program extends coverage of the NPDES storm water program to regulated “small” Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4s). A regulated “small” MS4 is located within an “urbanized area” as defined by the Census Bureau or as designated by the NPDES permitting authority.

The Calhoun County urbanized area (determined by the 2000 Census) was designated as an operator of a Phase II MS4. Operators must obtain a NPDES permit and develop a stormwater management program for the NPDES permit. Calhoun County was issued Permit number ALR040004. The NPDES regulations require assessment and revision of the stormwater management program in order to continue, to the maximum extent practicable to not cause or contribute to water quality standards exceedances.

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) administers the storm water program for the State of Alabama. Calhoun County’s current Permit was effective in October 2016. The County will use the information in the yearly reports to revise the plan each year.

This document SWMP (Plan) is intended to outline the goals and scheduling of activities the County will implement during the permit period. The Phase II General Permit for the Calhoun County urbanized area. The SWMPP according to Part IIIA of the general permit is to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the County’s small MS4 to the maximum extent practicable.

Outlined in this report are the county’s plans for the scheduling of activities and BMP’s. It is anticipated that some of the activities will require coordinated efforts between co-permittees and other entities. The County’s ability to measure the effectiveness of each individual activity’s (BMP) effectiveness to satisfy the required minimum control measures will in some cases be difficult at best. The County believes that its plan will move toward meeting the six minimum control measures which are required under the permit. These efforts will, to the maximum extent practicable, help reduce the discharge of stormwater pollutants in order to comply with the Clean Water Act. The details of these measures can be found in Part 3.0 of the Plan.

### 2.1 Location

Calhoun County is located North of Interstate 20 with Interstate 59 located to the North and West of the County. Birmingham lies approximately 50 miles to the West and Atlanta is 80 miles to the



East. The population of Calhoun County is approximately 117,000. Significant urbanized areas within the County are the Cities of Anniston, Jacksonville and Oxford. Right now the unincorporated area of the MS4 boundary is not expected to see any growth. The current growth is on the eastern side of the county outside of the current MS4 boundary.

## 2.2 Responsible Party

The Calhoun County Commission is the responsible entity for the MS4 program. Mr. Chris Gann administers the MS4 program for the County. Mr. Gann has oversight of the SWMP and compliance with Phase II Stormwater Permit. Various departments and individuals working for the County have responsibility for residential and commercial construction and conducting erosion and sediment control inspections. The County has established a baseline of water quality from previous stormwater sampling events. The County has various public education and outreach programs; and assisted the various partner organizations and municipalities. The following individuals should be contacted to address questions or concerns regarding the County's MS4 program.

Commission District 1; Commissioner **Fred Wilson**  
Commission District 2; Commissioner **Tim Hodges**  
Commission District 3; Commissioner **Don Hudson**  
Commission District 4; Commissioner **John "JD" Hess**  
Commission District 5; Commissioner **Lee Patterson**

**Commission Office**  
1702 Noble Street  
Suite 103  
Anniston, AL 36201  
Phone: 256-241-2800  
[ccc@calhouncounty.org](mailto:ccc@calhouncounty.org)

Mr. Brian Rosenbalm, PE  
160 Seaton Drive  
Anniston, AL 36205

Mr. Chris Gann  
Assistant County Engineer

Mr. Randy Hubbard  
Sub Division Inspections



### 3.0 Storm Water Management Program Requirements

The County is committed in achieving the conditions of the permit, which will provide improved water quality through the reduction of pollutants in stormwater discharged to the waters of the State. The six minimum control measures which will be addressed in a Storm Water Management Program plan are:

1. **Public Education , Outreach, and Involvement on Storm Water Impacts**
2. **Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)**
3. **Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control**
4. **Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment**
5. **Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations**

#### 3.0.1 SWMP Plan Implementation

The permit, designated NPDES number ALR40004, was effective on October 1, 2016 and is a five year permit set to expire September 30, 2021. Calhoun County recognizes its obligation of reducing the discharge of pollutants to the "maximum extent practicable"; protecting water quality; and satisfying the appropriate water quality requirements of the Clean Water Act. It is the County's expectation that their Plan will be improved upon based on the results of each proceeding year's activities as each of the BMPs become fully implemented during the permit period.

In the past the County's Program has not reached the intended goals set forth in the plan. The County also realizes that it has some catching up to do to achieve the intended goals of the Permit. The County intends to work with the municipalities within its urbanized area and schedule joint activities to meet the goals of the proposed plan. However, it should be understood that the County's proposed implementation schedule for some of the activities may be less the accurate due to scheduling conflicts.

It must be recognized by all of those involved that the MS4 program is an unfunded mandate and there are significant costs to the County for fulfilling the obligations of this program. The County will manage the costs of the MS4 program within its budget and manpower limitations and with due consideration of its obligations to the residents of Calhoun County. The County will, during the remainder of the permit period, move forward with the intended implementation of the various BMPs of the Plan. The implementation dates for the various BMPs are designed to provide manageable scheduling of the Program's Implementation during the remainder of the permit period.



### 3.0.2 Measuring the Effectiveness of the SWMP Plan

Each of the minimum control measures is interconnected and has an impact on the overall effectiveness of the SWMP. Therefore, the effectiveness of a specific BMP and how its impact is measured is difficult at best. To evaluate the overall effectiveness of the SWMP, the County will utilize several mechanisms. One example is described below:

- (1) The County will prepare a survey which will be distributed at permit offices, licensing locations, Home centers, real estate offices, local CoOps, workshops and to municipal and county employees. The Survey will be distributed beginning in the fall of each year, by placing surveys at booth(s) at the fall festival(s), including the Fall Fest on McClellan. A limited example of a survey that the County will pattern their form after is presented in the Appendix (Boulder Baseline Survey). The County's survey will be used to gauge the understanding of the respondents of how county residents and businesses' actions and their daily activities affect storm water pollution in the County. The County will ask survey responders to identify as a Residential Client, Contractor, Municipal employee or Business owner. Each of the minimum control measures will be addressed in order to gauge the respondents understanding of stormwater issues in the County. The results of the survey will be reviewed by the County to gauge where changes and updates could be made to improve the SWMP Plan. The intent of the survey is to help steer the future growth of the program and to more understand in which direction the citizen's think the program should take.

### 3.1 Public Education and Outreach

The public has a general lack of understanding of what actions negatively affect and impact stormwater quality. Informing and educating the businesses, municipal employees and the general public may be the most important measures taken to reduce pollution of stormwater. The following BMP's will be used to educate the general public, businesses, homeowners, landscapers, contractors, developers, municipal staff and others. Each target audience will be outlined in these BMP's.

#### *Targets: Proposed targets and areas of concern*

- **General Public**
  - Identify the general impacts on water bodies from trash and stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces.
  - How litter and debris are delivered to streams through the MS4 and ways the public can reduce litter, pet waste, and yard debris in water bodies.





- **Local businesses**
  - Identify BMPs for use and storage of automotive chemicals, hazardous cleaning supplies, carwash soaps and other hazardous materials, as well as the impacts of illicit discharges and how to report them.
- **Homeowners, Landscapers, and Property Managers**
  - Identify yard care, pesticide and fertilizer storage, runoff reduction, and stormwater pond maintenance techniques that protect water quality.
- **Engineers, Contractors, Developers, Review Staff, and Land Use Planners**
  - Identify technical standards for construction site sediment and erosion control.
  - Identify stormwater treatment, flow control, runoff reduction, low impact development (LID), and Green Infrastructure (GI) techniques, as well as, the impacts of increased stormwater flows into water bodies.

The County's public education and outreach program is designed to address the stormwater pollutants of concern, but generally focuses on the pollutants which could impair water bodies in the county. These specific pollutants include:

- **Litter**
- **Floatables**
- **Debris**
- **Sediments**

The public education and outreach strategy for each target audience will vary depending on the type of audience, type of pollutant contribution, potential risk and impact of pollutant contribution and current level of education of each target audience relative to the County's stormwater management program.



**Minimum Control Measure #1**

**Target: General Public, Businesses and Construction activities**

- **Description:** Media outlets such as Facebook and other social media are good outlets for fact distribution to the public. Public service announcements (PSA) posted on social, informative pamphlets, and other materials distributed at county offices.
- **Goals/Timeline:** At a minimum one post regarding stormwater education and a minimum of one brochure/pamphlet per year will be posted on social media each year. Pamphlets and educational material will be distributed to various county facilities for display and handing throughout the year with a minimum of 50 distributed. The effectiveness of this BMP is in the number of distributed copies of the various documents.
- **Timeline:** The County will continue to utilize this program as a part of the BMP and the effectiveness will be evaluated yearly for progress. The methods outlined below will be utilized as part of the public education and outreach process.

**Responsible Contact:** Chris Gann, Calhoun County

**Methods:**

**BMP 1. Distribution of Publications**

Where deemed appropriate, the County will utilize mail outs, newsletters, or inserts quarterly with utility bills such as waste/trash collection mailed to the citizens of Calhoun County. The distribution could start in September of 2017 and will reach a large portion of the general population. The County’s goal is to prepare up to one (1) stormwater-related articles/pamphlets in various utility mail outs per year. The information/articles will reach a general public target audience.

Unlike other communication vehicles, pamphlets and brochures can be distributed in many locations. In addition to the distribution of the information in various mailouts, the County will make the various printed information also available at County permitting locations, the Courthouse, and Public Utility offices, CoOps, Home Centers and Real Estate offices. The County expects to team with the various entities to publish a minimum of two (2) stormwater brochures per year and to make those brochures available to the public at County facilities, County and City functions and place links to versions on the County’s Stormwater webpage. This information will target a general public target audience. The effectiveness will be gauged by the number of brochures taken.



## Social Media

Various local publications covering local stormwater/environmental issues are a means for disseminating information to a large and diverse group of residents most directly impacted by these issues. Informative articles can provide the reader with an independent point of view. The reader is not forced to rely on information generated by a single source (i.e. the County through the use of newsletters or brochures). The County will utilize various local publications, with topics covering various topics:

- “An overview of stormwater pollution, including runoff from residential and commercial properties, farms, construction sites, automotive facilities, forestry operations”
- “Information targeted at homeowners which provides tips on a number of simple things that homeowner's can do to prevent stormwater pollution”
- “Discuss the importance of keeping trash, chemicals, and other pollutants out of storm drains“

The County will use social media sites such as Twitter, FaceBook, etc. to reach the general public with pertinent information regarding stormwater issues. The effectiveness will be gauged by the number of views, “likes”, etc. that a post receives.

## BMP 2. Stormwater Webpage

Citizens often go to the County website to obtain information on items of community interest. The website is accessible 24 hours per day and can serve citizens that do not have the time or the ability to physically meet with staff during normal working hours. The County has created a portion of its webpage which answers some questions concerning the County’s Stormwater program (<http://www.calhouncounty.org/highway/stormmain.html>). Links to the County’s SWMPP and Annual Reports are provided on the Webpage. The County will continue to update those yearly. The County will expand on the current information to include such information as the County stormwater policies, design manuals and links to related sites have been posted and are available to the public. The County will continue to update the Stormwater Webpage will be reviewed quarterly of each year to provide a minimum of one (1) brochure and information of interest concerning stormwater related issues within the county as new information becomes available. The Stormwater Webpage will reach a general public target audience. The effectiveness of the webpage will be determined by the number of “hits” the page receives and will be reported in the annual report.



### BMP 3. Student Education

#### **Target: School age Children (Kindergarten-12<sup>th</sup> Grade)**

- **Description:** There are a number of effective ways to reach this target audience through videos, live presentations, handouts and classroom activities. When possible, the county will coordinate with each school system to provide workshops and materials into relevant subject matter and topics, similar to but not limited to the following:
  - *Passing The Globe Lessons*
  - *Enviroscape Workshops*

Each year Dr. David West and the Calhoun County Extension Office handle the majority of the school education aspect of the program. The Extension is active in 18 middle and elementary schools across the county and reaches approximately 800 students every year. The extension will continue their educational programs, while also trying to expand it in the future. The effectiveness of the education programs will be gauged by the number of students participating.

- **Goals:** Material will continue to be distributed to Kindergarten, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, and possibly 9<sup>th</sup> Grade classes in the future. After three years, all school children that were in school at time of implementation will have been exposed to storm water awareness materials. Measuring the effectiveness of the BMP will be gauged by the number of students participating in the activities.
- **Timeline:** The County will continue to utilize this BMP as part of the County's stormwater education process. Materials will be incorporated in the Earth Day Programs of the County Schools. This BMP will need the school system to assist in evaluating the progress and the need for continuance and possible need for program modification. Implementation will require the cooperation of all primary education entities within the county.
- **Outlets:** Calhoun County Board of Education, Anniston City Schools, City of Jacksonville Board of Education, Piedmont City Schools.

**Responsible Contact:** Chris Gann, Calhoun County:

### BMP 4. Earth Day Activities

Earth Day is an event in the County. The County Commission has created and implemented environmental activities and events aimed at educating citizens of all ages on the importance of protecting our environment. This includes the effects of pollution on the rivers and lakes and how they are affected by stormwater runoff, litter, and other debris. The Earth Day event is sponsored by the County Extension Service. Calhoun County Earth Day is held at Cane Creek Community



## Calhoun County Storm Water Management Plan (2016)

Gardens for the Calhoun County Schools for 2 days each April. The County will continue to provide Earth Day activities during the course of this permit cycle. Earth Day activities primarily reach a general public and school children target audience. Earth day has average attendance of 800-900 students, the “stations” are typically as follows:

- Get Up and Move
- Recycling
- Electrical Safety
- Water Conservation/Enviroscape
- Birds and Worms Relay
- Farming & Beekeeping
- Food Safety
- “The Lorax Play”
- Water Safety/Canoeing

*Target:* Homeowners, Developers, Contractors and Businesses

- **Description:** Residual effects from the previous two BMP’s will be seen due to the fact that most homeowners, developers, contractors and business owners are one in the same or they read the newspaper, watch television, listen to radio or have children in schools. In addition brochures and pamphlets can be distributed to this target when license and permits are bought and awarded.
- **Goals:** Developers, Contractors and businesses will be have awareness materials available when building permits and business licenses are purchased and at yearly renewals of existing license. These materials may also be distributed through the use of social media or the county website.
- **Timeline:** The efforts to educate this group will continue throughout the year with the distribution of materials to the target audience at the various locations in the County where licenses and permits are obtained. The County will print and distribute materials:
  - **“Don’t Get Caught Off Guard by E-Waste Contaminats”**

This information will be placed at the Calhoun County Extension Office and The Calhoun County EDC office. This BMP’s effectiveness will be evaluated yearly through the numbers of distributed copies, licenses, and permits issued through County facilities and the yearly MS4 Survey.

**Outlets:** Jurisdictional License Offices, Jurisdictional code enforcement officials, Homeowners’ Associations, Contractor Associations.

**Responsible Contact:** Chris Gann, Calhoun County



### **BMP 5. Public Presentations (Non School)**

The County will utilize organizations such as the Home Builders Association of Greater Calhoun County and the County Extension Service resources to assist with presentations for public meetings, conferences and workshop. The County's goal will be to prepare and conduct a minimum of one (1) presentation per year. The target audience for public presentations will vary depending upon the organization requesting the presentation. Target audiences for presentations could include schools, environmental stakeholder groups, local Civic groups, City Council, developers, contractors, engineers, homeowners or others affected by the Phase II program. The county's annual report will include the date, material covered, and approximate number of people reached through the presentation.

### **BMP 6. Workshops (Public and County Staff)**

In an effort to educate contractors, developers, engineers and County staff, the County will continue with workshops where stormwater management is incorporated as a portion of the presentation. The content of these workshops focuses a number of issues including local stormwater issues of concern. The County's goal is to conduct a minimum of one (1) workshop per year to continue to reinforce the importance of the MS4 program. Examples of these workshops include the annual Erosion and Sediment Control workshop and an Illicit Discharge, Detection, and Elimination workshop. Other workshops may be planned as needed and as budget allows. Workshops will reach a diverse target audience group including developers, contractors, engineers and county staff. For example, the Erosion and Sediment Control workshop targets developers, contractors and engineers, while the IDDE workshop primarily targets county staff who are working on county right-of-ways on a daily basis. The county's annual report will include the date, material covered and approximate number of people reached through the workshop(s).

## **3.2 Public Involvement and Participation**

The public involvement and participation control measure along with public education and outreach are dependent on each other for their success. It is hard to determine which is more critical. The County believes that educating the public will be the cornerstone that will make this SWMPP a success while public involvement and participation in the program will be the mortar that holds these two together. The County knows that making available the information concerning the importance of managing stormwater pollution is paramount in stimulating the public's desire and interest of participation in the County's MS4 program. The County will have



to actively partner with the Cities of Jacksonville, Oxford, Anniston and Jacksonville State University whenever possible to take advantage of resources, etc. to advance this control measure.

The County intends to involve the general public in the development and implementation of its stormwater management program by soliciting public input, facilitating the partnerships with the Cities and by providing activities and opportunities to engage the general public in its stormwater program. In addition, the County will further involve the general public in the development of the County's SWMP by encouraging feedback through its webpage, encouraging feedback through the County Commissioners, Program Managers and the Annual Survey.

The success of the County's public involvement/participation program will ultimately be gauged by the public's support for the County's stormwater management program, the level of community involvement in the County's stormwater management program and the level of awareness in the community regarding their role in the City's stormwater management program. Specific components and goals within our public involvement and participation program will consist of, but not be limited to, the following best management practices (BMPs):

**Best Management Practices (BMP) #1**

**Target: Government Leaders and responsible representatives**

- **Description:** Participation of the target audience is critical in engaging the general public. Seeking the involvement of a select committee will broaden the support of the SWMPP. An Advisory Committee made up of appointed citizens and volunteers, selected by the County Commissioners will assist the County MS4 Manager with Program review, yearly review of survey results, and citizen feedback of recommendations for updating the plan.
- **Goals:** Create a planning committee utilizing representatives from the various parties involved and points of contact for their respective area (City of Anniston, City of Jacksonville, City of Oxford and Calhoun County).
- **Timeline:** The appointment of the **Citizens MS4 Advisory Committee** will follow each election cycle for County Commissioners. The Citizens Advisory Committee will meet every 3 months at the East Alabama Planning Committee Building.

**Responsible Contact:** Chris Gann, Calhoun County

The County's public involvement/participation program is designed to address all stormwater pollutants of concern, but also focuses on the pollutants for which waterbodies within the County. These specific pollutants include:

- Litter
- Floatables



- Debris
- Sediment

The public involvement/participation strategy for each target audience will vary depending on the type of audience, type of pollutant contribution, potential risk and impact of pollutant contribution and current level of education and involvement of each target audience in the County's stormwater management program.

Overall success of the public involvement/participation program will ultimately be gauged by the public's support for the County's stormwater management program, the level of community involvement in the County's stormwater management program and the level of awareness in the community regarding their role in the County's stormwater management program.

Specific components and measurable goals within the public involvement/participation program will consist of the following best management practices (BMPs):

**a. Citizens Advisory Committee**

Both the EPA and ADEM recommend that the public be included in developing, implementing and reviewing stormwater management programs. One method for initiating this involvement is through the use of a citizen's advisory committee. Communities that allow citizens representing diverse backgrounds and interests to participate in such a committee are far more likely to gain community support through implementation. The Committee will be used to assist the County MS4 Manager with review of current policies, brochure content, educational material and proposed ordinances, survey results and plan updates.

The County will attend a minimum of one (1) meeting with the in the Citizens Advisory Committee. The committee will strive to reach the major representatives of the target audiences for their input. The total attendance and county's agendas will be included in the annual report.

**Best Management Practices (BMP) #2**

***Target: General Public, Civic Organizations, Clubs and Associations***

- ***Description/Goals:*** Involve the general public, clubs, organizations, associations and other public entities in the planning and implementation of stormwater control and pollution prevention in the covered area. Continue to be involved with these organizations and use some of the existing programs in the County's SWMP.
- ***Timeline:*** Contact with the public, organizations, clubs and others have begun seeking participation in the activities planned throughout the year. In subsequent years,





appointments or request for members of these organizations and the public will be added to the planning and steering committee from the previous BMP.

- **Outlets:** RC&D Council, Alabama Extension Service, NRCS, Local watershed groups and conservation organizations, Boy Scouts of America and the Girls Scouts.

**Responsible Contact:** Chris Gann, Calhoun County

**a. Watershed Organizations**

There are a number of organizations active within Calhoun County which will be approached to participate and be involved with the County's SWMPP:

- **Alabama Bass Federation Inc.**
- **Alabama Land Trust**
- **Anniston Outdoor Association**
- **Choccolocco Creek Watershed**
- **Environmental Policy and Information Center**
- **Jacksonville State University Water Quality Lab**
- **National Wild Turkey Federation - Alabama Chapter**

These grass root organizations have a vested interest in preserving the water quality of Calhoun County and will be pursued to participate in the County's MS4 program. The County will continue to participate in, support, and work closely with, these organizations. Watershed organizations potentially reach all of the target audiences. If these groups are willing to participate, the county intends to partner with them in order to spread stormwater awareness among a wider array of people in the county.

**b. Free Landfill Day Program**

The County has a Free Day at the Landfill, held on the third Saturday of January, April, July, and October. Information can be found on the Calhoun County website and is announced at the County Commission meetings. Signage is also placed along Morrisville road leading to the entrance of the landfill. Citizens are encouraged to deliver limb and leaf debris and other construction and demolition debris to the landfill. This material could otherwise potentially make its way to the stormwater discharge and eventually making its way into local streams, lakes and rivers. Effectiveness will be gauged by the change in average participation (loads/day) during the effective period. The yearly total of vehicles will be included in the annual report.

**c. Storm Drain Marking Program**

The County will continue to engage in a storm drain/outfall marking and mapping program. The County will continue to upgrade the map the outfall locations and mark the locations with warning signs informing the public of the potential consequences of dumping at these locations. The county



will county to mark storm drains in areas with a high number of pedestrians. The County will also continue to investigate the need for new signs in areas with large amounts of litter and other debris.

The County will continue the marking and mapping its program updating and replacing damaged or missing signs. The County will begin contacting groups such as the Boy Scouts, the Green Team, and other civic groups to assist with community involvement in disposal of debris in the vicinity of the drainage outfalls. The County will work with these organizations to assist with an annual Outfall Clean-Up. This type of program is used in other locations by Boy Scout troops, student organizations (Green Team), environmental groups and private citizens. The Storm Drain Marking and Cleanup program primarily engages the general public, local schools, and local civic and environmental stakeholder groups. The county's marking program will be mentioned at least once per year in a social media post.

**d. Other Public Involvement Initiatives and Special Projects**

The County will actively pursue new and innovative programs to involve the public during this permit cycle and will work to implement programs that are likely to be successful in the community.

The County will continue to engage the public in special projects that may be initiated by the County or through coordination with watershed stakeholders. Specific examples of these types of projects include Water Body and or Stream Restoration Projects.

**e. Litter Clean Ups**

The County participates in many clean ups through the year. Our partners such as Choccolocco Creek Watershed organize a majority of the clean ups inside the county. The county will participate in a minimum of one (1) clean per year. The yearly estimated totals of litter cleaned will included in the annual report.

**3.3 Illicit Discharge Detection Elimination (IDDE)**

**The County has no Legal Prohibition and Enforcement authority under state law**

ADEM recognizes that some permittees may have limited authority under State, Tribal or local law to establish and enforce an ordinance or other regulatory mechanism prohibiting illicit discharges. In such a case, the permittee is encouraged to obtain the necessary authority, if possible. The County will involve those municipalities where such ordnances are in effect. Currently the County Commission utilizes the following state law:

*Public Nuisances". Section 45-8-172.01 , Code Of Alabama 1975, Public nuisances*



*All weeds growing upon streets or sidewalks or upon private property subject to this part within the city limits of the city or in unincorporated areas of the county, which attain such large growth as to become a fire menace when dry, or which are otherwise noxious or dangerous, and any accumulation of trash, rubbish, junk or debris, or any unsightly or dangerous walls, or any abandoned or unsafe construction of any kind or nature, or motor vehicles not in usable condition, or any debris of a burned building, or any abandoned or unused swimming pool, or any abandoned wells or cisterns, may be declared to be a public nuisance by the city governing body or by the county commission, and thereafter abated as provided in this part.*

The **Calhoun County Environment and Enforcement Office** was established on January 1, 2000 by the Calhoun County Commission. The initial purpose for establishing this office was to provide Calhoun County with a work force “Litter Control” to remove unsightly litter, and illegal dumps from the county highways, byways, and public areas. Over the years, the office has expanded its duties into areas similar to that of code enforcement in other counties. To date this office is responsible for Environmental Enforcement regarding Alabama’s Solid Waste Laws, Criminal littering, Calhoun County’s “Public Nuisance Law”, Mosquito Control, and the processing and assignment of Court Ordered Community Service. If within its authority, the County will take steps to mitigate illicit discharges which it is made aware of. The County utilizes the Calhoun County Environmental Enforcement Office and the County Highway Department staff to record information on suspected illicit discharges. IDDE reporting forms are available via the website. Based on the findings of the County MS4 Manager, incidents of illicit discharges will be handled to the extent allowable under state law, or other regulatory mechanism that effectively prohibits non-storm water discharges to the MS4.

**a. Dry Weather Screening**

A dry weather screening program designed to detect address non-storm water discharges to the MS4. This program must address, at a minimum, dry weather screening of fifteen percent (15%) of the outfall once per year with all (100 percent) screened at least once per five years. Priority areas, as described by the Permittee in the SWMPP, will be dry weather screened on a more frequent schedule outlined in the SWMPP. If any indication of suspected illicit discharge, from an unidentified source, is observed during the dry weather screening, then the Permittee shall follow the screening protocol as outlined in the SWMPP.

**b. Tracing**

The County will follow the EPA Guidance Manual for tracing and eliminating IDDE that can be found at [https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/idde\\_manualwithappendices.pdf](https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/idde_manualwithappendices.pdf). County will eliminate



the IDDE with the best of its ability. Once the County's authority and resources have been exhausted, the County will turn the problem over to the appropriate authority, i.e. ADEM, ADHP

The County's illicit discharge detection and elimination (IDDE) program is coordinated by the Stormwater Manager to actively locate, identify and correct illicit discharges to the MS4 during the permit cycle. The County will continue to manage, enforce and expand its IDDE program where possible and utilize local and State agencies to enforce illicit discharges where practicable.

The primary target audiences within the County for the IDDE program and the rationale for selecting these audiences are listed below:

- **General Public** (homeowners and citizens)
  - Identify illicit discharges activities such as dumping grass clippings, or dumping paint or motor oil, into a storm drain. The primary pollutants potentially contributed by this target audience are based on the material being improperly disposed of.
- **Developers, Contractors and Homebuilders**
  - Identify illicit discharges activities such as sediment being released from a construction site into a waterbody and dumping paint or concrete wash water into a stormwater outfall. The primary pollutants potentially contributed by this target audience are specific to the material being improperly disposed of and could include sediment, petroleum-based products, or other chemicals.
- **Agricultural Activities**
  - Identify illicit discharges activities such as cultivation of soils, fertilizer and pesticide application

The County's IDDE program is designed to address all stormwater pollutants of concern, and also is specific to the nature of the discharge. Examples of these pollutants could include:

- Paints, concrete, grass clippings
- Sediment
- Petroleum-based products
- Agricultural specific chemicals
- Nutrients (primarily Total Phosphorus)
- Pathogens

The IDDE strategy for each target audience will vary depending on the type of audience, type of pollutant contribution, potential risk and impact of pollutant contribution and current level of education for each target audience on the County's IDDE program and previous IDDE issues with the target audience.



The County will gauge the success of its IDDE program by having accurate and updated storm sewer system maps, reduction in illicit discharges, and the level of public awareness to potential illicit discharges, record of citations, response and actions taken.

Specific components and measureable goals within our IDDE program will consist of the following program components:

This control measure carries a lot of significance in the efforts to control storm water pollution. A Storm Water Outfall Map is required and must be updated annually. Familiarization with coverage area is a necessity. It is difficult to determine discharges to the system that are not specifically evident or that may be an established discharge and not from new construction or a known facility. IDDE is very critical and until public knowledge on the sources that cause illicit discharges and the effect of storm water pollution has taken hold it is even of more importance.

- **Schedule:** Continue developing and updating our storm water outfall system map that shows all of the outfall points within the permit coverage area, watersheds and sub watersheds and any receiving streams in the area. The Storm Water Outfall Map continues to be updated as new data is collected. The Map should be considered an evergreen document that will be continually updated.

### **Outfall Map**

The County completed the initial mapping of its outfalls in 2003. The mapping is maintained in a Geographical Information Systems (GIS) Database. Detailed information on pipe size, pipe material, flow direction, inlets, manholes, bridges, box culverts, detention ponds and headwalls are provided on the map. The County will be working to update the storm sewer system maps during each permit cycle. At this time, the County does not believe the current outfall map is a correct representation of its outfalls. The County will begin evaluating and adjusting the map as needed to show the representative outfalls. The County has a total of 78 Outfalls shown on the current outfall map. The county will screen a minimum of 12 outfalls per year with a total of 78 in five (5) years. The current outfall map is included in the **Appendix**.

- **Schedule:** The county will continue to updating current outfall map. An outfall map is on file currently. The County will continue investigating the need for and placing “No Dumping” signage throughout the county in areas with high concentrations of litter, debris, and other pollutants.



### **Illicit Discharge Ordinance**

Section 3(B), Paragraph 3(a)(iii) of the NPDES General Permit Number ALR04004 states “To the extent allowable under State and local law, effectively prohibit, through ordinance, or other regulatory mechanism, non-stormwater discharges into your storm sewer system.....and implement appropriate enforcement procedures and actions.”

The County has no authority to implement an ordinance to enforce through law the Illicit Discharge of Material into the County’s MS4. However, as mentioned above, The Commission will determine if Calhoun County’s “Public Nuisance Law” can be utilized as a tool of the SWMPP to combat IDDE. The County will use whatever means necessary to monitor and document the illicit discharge and report illicit discharges to the Calhoun County Environmental Enforcement Office and ADEM for follow up actions.

The County will continue to record and act on all reported illicit discharges. The County will notify the affected municipalities where appropriate and follow up with notification of the State where required or where further action is required. The County Stormwater Manager will prepare a follow up report of the actions taken based on the reported information.

### **Illicit Discharge Reporting Form**

In 2014, the Stormwater Manager developed an illicit discharge reporting form that residents can download, complete and e-mail back to the Manager upon discovering a potential illicit discharge. Residents will have 24-hour access to this form through the County’s webpage. This form assists the County in tracking and responding to illicit discharges. The County will continue to use this reporting form during this permit cycle. The Illicit Discharge Reporting Form generally affects all of the target audiences.

### **Other IDDE Initiatives**

The County will actively pursue new and innovative programs to detect and eliminate illicit discharges during this permit cycle and will work to implement programs that are likely to be successful in the community. In the past the County has conducted limited stormwater sampling at randomly selected outfall points and will continue this practice into the future to gauge the effectiveness of the program.

### **IDDE Training**

The County provides IDDE training to its employees at a minimum of once per year. County employees are trained to observe, identify, and report if needed on a daily basis. Any concerns will be reported to their supervisor, who will then report to the MS4 Manager.

The highway department holds quarterly safety meetings with an average of 50 in attendance. The County uses this opportunity to provide training to those who have boots on the ground throughout



the county every day. The County also holds county wide safety meetings twice per year where representatives from every department are required to attend. During this time the County will provide IDDE training at a minimum of once per year. Examples of training of materials and attendance records will be provide in the annual report.

### 3.4 Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control

ADEM Administrative Code 335-6-12 implements a state-wide construction storm water regulatory program consistent with the NPDES requirements for construction storm water control.

The primary target audiences within the County for construction site stormwater runoff control program and the rationale for selecting these audiences are listed below:

*Target: New Development and Re-Development Sites, Contractors and Developers.*

- **Developers, Contractors and Homebuilders**
  - Potential contributors of stormwater pollution through development and construction activities. The primary pollutant contributed by this target audience, as it relates to construction site stormwater runoff, is sediment.
- **Engineers**
  - Responsible for designing effective construction site best management practices plans (CBMPPs) to minimize the potential for sediment runoff during development or construction activities.

#### **Qualified Credentialed Inspector (QCI) Program**

All inspectors performing erosion and sediment control inspections in the County go through the QCI training program to receive the QCI certification. Inspectors also take refresher courses as scheduled by the ALDOT each year to maintain their QCI certification. This allows staff to be aware of any changes occurring in the state's program from year to year and also provides an opportunity to educate the County's inspectors on proper erosion and sediment control BMPs. The County will continue to invest the time and resources to ensure that inspectors receive the proper training to receive and annually renew their QCI certification during this permit cycle.

Calhoun County has 7 Qualified Credentialed Inspectors (QCI) at its disposal. Annual training is required to maintain good standing as a QCI. The County inspectors will attend annual workshops for refresher training provided by The Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT).



### **Erosion and Sediment Control Inspections and Enforcement on County Projects**

The County, in an effort to patrol the management of erosion and sediment control measures on active construction sites, will report observed violations of the NPDES permit regulations which it is made aware of. These reports will be designed to identify deficiencies in erosion and sediment control and suggest the property owner take corrective actions. Information on these observed violations will be reported to the County MS4 Manager for follow-up. Under the authority of Calhoun County, all Bridge and Road construction sites in the County are inspected after each ¾-inch, 24hour rainfall event, or a minimum of once per month. Inspections are conducted using the inspection guide provided by the ALDOT. Copies of all inspection reports and other documentation are maintained in County's MS4 Manager's records.

### **Erosion and Sediment Control Plan Review Procedures and Permitting Process**

The County has subdivision regulations that require the developer to provide plans for review. The County also has one person dedicated for plan review and onsite inspections. Inspections are performed at least once per month. The County recommends the use of the guidelines outlined in the latest version of the Alabama Handbook for Erosion Control, Sediment Control and Stormwater Management on Construction Sites and Urban Areas (Alabama Handbook)

The County has standardized on the use of the latest version of the Alabama Handbook for the design, construction and installation of proper erosion and sediment control best management practices on developments within the County. The Handbook is made available to interested parties on the County's Webpage (<http://www.calhouncounty.org/highway/stormmain.html>). In addition, the existing nuisance ordinance (Public Nuisances Section 45-8-172.01, Code of Alabama 1975, Public Nuisances) is used where possible as the sole control measure to combat violations.

### **Procedures for Notifying ADEM of Non-Compliant Sites**

The County will notify ADEM (Birmingham Field Office), either by phone or email of any construction sites where a violation of the Clean Water Act has occurred. Possible violations could include, but are not limited to: releases of sediment to a Water of the State/U.S. and/or failure to adhere to the County's corrective action request following an inspection.

### **Procedures for Receipt of Information Submitted by the Public**

The webpage provides a mechanism in which the general public can provide information regarding potential erosion and sediment control concerns. The general public can also report potential concerns by contacting the County's Stormwater Manager at the following address: Mr. Chris Gann, 160 Seaton Drive, Anniston, AL 36205, Phone: 256-237-4657, [highway@calhouncounty.org](mailto:highway@calhouncounty.org). The County will respond to each concern in a timely and efficient





manner, visiting the location of the complaint, contacting the applicant of the report. The County's subdivision regulations are available upon request.

**Responsible Contact:** Chris Gann, Calhoun County

### 3.5 Post Construction Site Storm Water Management

The permit states that the permit holders are to develop, implement and enforce a program to address storm water runoff from new and re-development projects that fall under any imposed ordinances or that qualify for permitting under ADEM storm water runoff for qualifying sites.

The County uses the latest version of the Alabama Handbook as its guideline for controlling post construction stormwater runoff from new development and redevelopment. The County will continue to use the Handbook as its control measure for post construction stormwater runoff. Potential benefits of effectively controlling post construction stormwater include: water quality improvements, minimization of stream erosion and effective control potential flooding impacts. Links to the Alabama Handbook are provided on the Webpage.

The primary target audiences within the County for our post-construction stormwater management program and the rationale for selecting these audiences are listed below:

**Target:** *New Development and Re-Development Sites, Contractors and Developers.*

- **Developers, Contractors and Homebuilders**
  - Responsible for development and construction activities that can potentially impact post-construction stormwater management. The primary pollutants contributed by this target audience, as it relates to post-construction stormwater management, are sediments and nutrients. In addition, development and construction activities can have potential flooding impacts.
- **Engineers**
  - Responsible for designing post-construction stormwater management plans to effectively manage post-construction stormwater from new developments and redevelopments.

The County's post construction stormwater management program is primarily designed to address stormwater pollution from nutrients, sediments and pathogens. The strategy for the target audiences described above will vary depending on the type of audience and the potential risk and impact of pollutant contribution from post-construction stormwater runoff.



The management and implementation of the County's post-construction stormwater management program will be the responsibility of the County's Storm Water Resource Manager.

The success of the County's post-construction stormwater management program will primarily be gauged through water quality monitoring as well as visual observations of stream erosion along outfalls and flooding impacts. Specific components and measurable goals within our post-construction stormwater management program will consist of the following best management practices (BMPs):

Develop structural and non-structural controls to manage storm water at all qualifying construction sites for the duration of use for the particular piece of property.

Maintain these particular controls in order to restore runoff to the original or better quality of runoff before construction began to minimize volume and velocity of runoff to the highest extent practicable.

## **1. Non-Structural BMPs**

### **Engineering Design and Construction Manuals**

The County utilizes the latest edition of the Alabama Handbook that effectively addressed stormwater runoff controls required for sites greater than one acre. The Handbook identifies project requirements and specifications for new stormwater infrastructure and is available on the Website.

The Stormwater Manager utilizes the Handbook that includes engineering design criteria for sewer and water infrastructure, as well as stormwater BMPs for water quality protection such as rain gardens and stormwater wetlands.

The County will continue to use the Handbook as a guide for the design and construction of appropriate BMPs to effectively manage post-construction stormwater. The Alabama Handbook primarily affects a target audience of engineers, developers, contractors and homebuilders.

## **2. Structural BMPs**

### **a. Detention Pond Inspections**

2013 was the year the post construction program had to be implemented as required by the NPDES permit. There are no post construction BMPs currently in the unincorporated areas of Calhoun County that fall under the authority of the County constructed since 2013. However, there a number of impoundments, outside the MS4 boundary, that the County, along with the NRCS, maintains associated with the watersheds in the county. The County and NRCS maintain the dams of the water bodies located in two water sheds (Middle Coosa and Lower Coosa) in the county. The County partners with the NRCS to clear the stack pipes and mow the grass on the dams during



the spring and fall of each year. Maintenance records can be located at the Calhoun County Highway Department.

**b. Current Inventory of Post Construction BMPs**

Since 2013 there have been zero (0) post construction BMPs developed in the unincorporated area of the MS4 Boundary. This is not expected to change in the foreseeable future. All growth in the county is located in the eastern half of the county. The County will add BMPs to the inventory as constructed.

**c. Post Construction BMP Inspections and Maintenance**

There have been no inspections performed. There are no post construction BMPs located in the MS4 Boundary at this time. Therefore, there has been no maintenance performed. However, the subdivision regulations are in place to require the engineer of record to correct deficiencies, if they arise. If BMPs are added to the inventory, the County will inspect and document these BMPs.

**d. Design Guidelines for Structural BMPs**

The County utilizes the latest version Alabama Handbook as its guideline for the design, construction, installation and maintenance of stormwater BMPs. These guidelines primarily affect a target audience of engineers, developers and contractors. The county also requires the design engineer certify that the proposed development is designed withstand a 2-yr 24-hr storm as required by the permit. An example of the required certification sheet is provided in the **Appendix**.

- **Schedule:** The County will use the latest version of the Alabama Handbook as its guidelines addressing post construction management. A link to the Handbook is on the County's Website.

**Responsible Contact:** Chris Gann, Calhoun County

### **3.6 Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal/County Operations**

At this time the County has zero (0) county owned/operated facilities located in the unincorporated portion of the MS4 Boundary.

There is a need to continue to educate and train employees about spill prevention and storm water management and pollution prevention. This training includes, stormwater management, potential contaminant sources and best management practices as well as quick response techniques for spills and accidents at all facilities. The county will continue to hold staff training sessions in July and October of each year.



## Calhoun County Storm Water Management Plan (2016)

The County has implemented a program intended to reduce stormwater pollution and promote good housekeeping measures in municipal operations during the first permit cycle. The County will continue to expand upon and revise this program during each permit cycle.

Potential benefits from an effective pollution prevention/good housekeeping program for municipal operations include: reduced stormwater pollution from municipal operations and increased employee awareness regarding the effect of their daily activities on stormwater management.

The primary target audiences within the County for our pollution prevention/good housekeeping program for municipal operations and the rationale for selecting these audiences are listed below:

**Target:** Municipal and County Employees

- **County Employees**

- Responsible for daily municipal operations. County employees are trained and made aware of proper stormwater management and the role their daily activities could potentially have on stormwater management. Examples of impacts could include: how to properly dispose of waste, petroleum products, paints, chemicals and other potentially hazardous products.

The County's pollution prevention/good housekeeping program for municipal operations is primarily designed to address stormwater pollution from nutrients, sediments, pathogens and other various pollutants.

The County Highway Department will continue to provide workshops for staff on a range of topics that will train staff on the proper application of pesticides, The strategy for the target audience described above will focus on the potential risk and impact of pollutant contribution from their daily activities and the education of the target audience.

The management and implementation of Calhoun County's pollution prevention/good housekeeping program for county operations will be the responsibility of the County Engineering Department.

In order to maintain the County's high standard of housekeeping at county facilities, the County will develop the following Standard Operating Procedures before December 31, 2017:

- Equipment Washing
- Maintenance of county roads
- Storage and disposal of chemicals, Pesticides, Herbicides, Fertilizers, and waste materials
- Vegetation control, cutting, removal, and disposal of the cuttings



- Fleet Maintenance and Repair
- Material Storage Facilities and Storage Yards

Calhoun County does not perform any street sweeping operations at this time. A SOP will be developed if the County begins such operations.

The success of Calhoun County's pollution prevention/good housekeeping program for municipal operations will primarily be gauged through the employee awareness and appropriate pollution prevention and good housekeeping measures for operations and maintenance of stormwater controls. Specific components and measureable goals within our pollution prevention/good housekeeping program for municipal operations will consist of the following best management practice:

#### **Stormwater Management Training BMP#1**

The County Staff will attend, when possible a variety of stormwater/water quality related conferences, workshops and seminars annually. This training is intended to provide the information and resources necessary for the Stormwater Manager and other County departments the information on the proper methods for implementing site control measures on all county projects. County personnel also attend training opportunities including ADEM conferences and workshops, regional conferences and national conferences when appropriate.

One specific example of in-house training provided by the County is the County's spill prevention, control and countermeasure (SPCC) training program. The Stormwater Manager reviews the SPCC Plan as part of scheduled meetings. The County will provide annual informal workshops that target the County employees who handle fuels and chemicals on a daily basis. These workshops will provide basic information on the proper management, handling and disposal of potentially hazardous chemicals. The County will continue to create, offer and encourage stormwater management training for County employees during the next permit cycle. Where time allows, training will be included along with other training activities and programs.

The County also uses DVD training videos which includes but not limited to the following

- Excal Visual
  - IDDE a Grate Concern
  - Ground Control
  - Rain Check
  - Spill Prevention
- EPA
  - After the Storm



**Certified Herbicide Applicators**

The Highway Department maintains trained and certified personnel in the application of herbicides, including both restricted use and non-restricted use herbicides. County personnel attend various training events to maintain their certification. By obtaining certification, applicators become knowledgeable of the proper use and application of fertilizers and herbicides other chemicals typically used to maintain athletic fields and best management practices that are intended to reduce the need for pesticides, fertilizers and water. The County will continue to maintain certified personnel in the application of herbicides.

*Responsible Contact:* Chris Gann, Calhoun County

**Monitoring**

The County has evaluated the 303d List and at this time have no streams on the current list. Therefore, no monitoring is required at this time. The county will continue to evaluate the list and begin monitoring if require.



**Appendix**



I certify the Post- Construction Stormwater Runoff on the proposed development does not significantly exceed Pre-Construction Stormwater Runoff and this proposed development is designed to withstand a minimum of a 2-yr 24-hr storm event.

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Engineer



# Calhoun County Phase II Permit



## Legend

- Out-fall Points
- Local Roads
- Highway
- Interstate
- Major Road
- Surface Water
- ▭ MS4 Boundary

