



**City of Newport
Public Hearing Minutes for MS4 (Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program)
May 16, 2013**

1. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

The Public Hearing Opened at 6:50 p.m.

2. STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Bruce Hanson, Supt. of Public Works, presented on the 2012 Annual Report of the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program to the Council. The report is attached as part of the minutes.

3. RECEIVE PUBLIC OPINION

4. CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

The Public Hearing Closed at 6:54 p.m.

5. ACCEPT ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2013

Councilman Sumner – Is there anything else Council can do besides accept the Report?

Superintendent Hanson – No, like I said, our street sweeping, pond maintenance and our ordinance prohibiting littering are huge things.

Councilman Sumner – I often notice that the gutters in street are full of trash, is there something that the Public Works staff are doing to keep that clean?

Superintendent Hanson – Yes, we go around to clean them up. We try to get to them before a major rain especially.

Motion by Gallagher, seconded by Ingemann, to accept the 2012 Annual Report. With 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

6. ADJOURN

Motion by Geraghty, seconded by Sumner, to adjourn the Public Hearing meeting at 6:56 PM. With 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

Signed: _____
Tim Geraghty, Mayor

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee Helm
Executive Analyst

MS4 Report for 2012

May 16, 2013

This is the annual Public Hearing involving our Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program for 2012. The purpose of it is to take comments from the Public regarding the effectiveness and adequacy of the program that is in place.

In 1972; Federal legislation developed the Clean Water Act which is designed to protect all surface water in the United States. This includes Rivers, Ponds and Streams.

In 1987; it was amended requiring the Environmental Protection Agency to develop a comprehensive phased program to regulate storm water discharges.

This means that each community was to take gradual steps guided by the EPA and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to gear up to control and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the waters of Newport and all waters of Minnesota through management and treatment of urban storm water runoff.

We need to make sure the water flowing to Rivers, Ponds and Streams is as clean as we can keep it.

In Newport; our concerns are mainly with the Mississippi River.

With construction of the new Wakota Bridge Highway 61 interchange; The City acquired 15 new ponds that are containment sites for water runoff related to the freeway system. Each pond is designed to collect the runoff and then guide it to the Mississippi River. The pond acts as a filter by removing the silt, leaves, grasses, chemicals and trash that is in the water as it continues to the river.

Water enters these ponds and the river through catch basins. These are the same grates that you see in the gutter lines of our streets. Many of these grates are piped straight into the river. There are over 800 catch basins in Newport that collect runoff water and guide it to the pond systems and then into the river.

The North Ravine project of 2012 also added 5 new ponds which were designed to take the runoff from the Bailey/Military watershed. This project is a perfect example of storm water treatment prior to it entering the Mississippi River.

The Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program is divided into six categories.

1. Public Education and Outreach.

How does Newport educate the public about Storm Water Pollution?

- A. The first step is by conducting the Public Hearing.

We are live on the South Washington County Cable System.

This program is repeated throughout the month and is available to those that have Cable access.

- B. We publish information Quarterly in the Newport Newsletters.

- C. We have information on the City of Newport Website concerning all of the departments and events in the community

www.ci.newport.mn.us

2. Illicit discharge detection and elimination.

This is any drain or pipe on the surface or subsurface which allows non storm water discharge such as sewage, process water, wash water and any connections to the storm water system from any drains or sinks.

We are always watching for things draining into the storm sewer.

3. Construction site storm water control

When construction starts and there is going to be a disruption of the soil; silt fence is installed to keep the mud, dirt and fine silt from entering into the storm system. You will see silt fence on all construction areas. There were thousands of feet of silt fence on the North Ravine Project.

4. Post construction storm water management.

This is usually discussed when a commercial development of one acre or more of land is to be disrupted. This will be discussed in the future as tracts of land in Newport start to develop. The Knox site...Raceway to fun..etc.

5. Pollution prevention/good housekeeping for municipal operations.

A. Always Pave and Patch streets only in dry weather

The oils and chemicals can bleed when wet and end in the storm line

B. Always cover manholes and catch basins prior to paving, patching, etc.

Same reasons

C. Always clean all fluid leaks immediately

Hydraulic leaks can occur on any of our equipment and would contaminate water

6. Maintain roadside vegetation – restrict pesticide use

A. Decaying and composting vegetation makes the water rich in nutrients

B. Chemicals can be washed off into storm lines

C. This means we as citizens should not mow the grass and leaves from our yards into the street

D. Also it is the intent to GPS the location and elevation of all of the ponds that handle storm water in Newport. We will have to monitor them as time goes by to see that they do not fill up with silt, sand etc. Records will be kept; and these ponds will have to be dug out to the elevations that were in place when they were designed

7. Sweep/vacuum roadways and shoulders to remove debris, and particulate

Matter

DO THIS WHEN EVER POSSIBLE

A. We have started to document the specific areas that we sweep and then record the amounts of material that we pickup

B. We then compare the loads of product used for ice control and winter maintenance to the loads of material that are swept in the spring.

8. The last category is that of **Public participation.**

What can the Public do to help our effort?

A. Help to keep our catch basins clean. Remove any debris, grass or garbage that you see on the grate.

B. Do not mow your lawns out into the street. Composting vegetation makes the waters very rich in content. This promotes algae growth on the surfaces of stagnate water.

C. A program that has been in development is that of stenciling all drains that lead to the Mississippi River. This is what the stencil looks like. We have a few drains on this side of the highway that need painting. If someone would be interested in this—Please contact Public Works.

In conclusion; I have to say that the City of Newport will continue to work hard on all minimum control measures that are required to continue to have a successful Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program. We are meeting the goals created early in the program; and we are progressively working to meet the demands that are put on us.

Again...Please use our Website

CLICK on PUBLIC WORKS

Please read our Newsletters

And by all means...Stop by City Hall if you have any questions.

THANK YOU.