



# 2015 Stormwater Management Program Plan for the City of Burlington, Washington

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## 1.0 Introduction

The City of Burlington (City) has developed a Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) to meet the terms and conditions of its Western Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit (Permit) under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). This Permit is required because the City of Burlington has been designated by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) as one of thousands of municipalities in the United States requiring a special stormwater permit. These permits were deemed necessary because stormwater runoff from developed areas such as streets, parking lots, construction sites, industrial properties, and residential areas is now recognized as one of the leading sources of pollution to our streams, lakes, wetlands, rivers, and Puget Sound.

The Permit allows municipalities to discharge stormwater from municipal systems into “waters of the state” such as rivers, lakes, streams, and groundwater as long as there are programs in place to reduce pollutants in stormwater to the “maximum extent practicable” (MEP). Most stormwater runoff from the City of Burlington discharges into Gages Slough and is eventually pumped into the Skagit River. Improving habitat and water quality in Gages Slough was identified as a very high priority in the City’s Comprehensive Surface Water Management Plan and the Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan. Requirements under the Permit provide the City additional opportunities to accomplish cleaning up Gages Slough.

The Permit was originally issued in 2007 and most recently re-issued on August 1, 2012, by Ecology. The City is required to post this Stormwater Management Program Plan (SWMP Plan) to a website by May 31<sup>st</sup> each year. The SWMP Plan identifies activities planned for the coming year. The SWMP Plan also serves as an attachment to the required annual report submittal to Ecology which reports permit compliance accomplishments carried out during the previous calendar year.

### 1.1 City Organizational Responsibilities

The City of Burlington Public Works Department holds the primary responsibility for developing the stormwater program and tracking Permit requirements. Within the Public Works Department, program administration is carried out by the Stormwater Engineer. Inspection, maintenance, and tracking duties are carried out by the Stormwater Engineer, the Public Works Inspector, and the Street Department. The Planning Department, Police Department and Fire Department also hold integral roles in implementing the components of the stormwater program. The Building & Grounds Department, Street Department, and Parks Department have been trained to carry out their duties in compliance with the permit.

### 1.2 Document Organization

This document is organized by program components in the order found in Condition S5C of the Permit. To facilitate cross-reference with the permit language, each permit item is presented along with the associated permit section indicator in parentheses as follows:

- ✓ Section 2.0 addresses the Stormwater Management Program Development (S5.A & S5.B)
- ✓ Section 3.0 addresses the Public Education and Outreach (S5.C.1)
- ✓ Section 4.0 addresses the Public Involvement and Participation (S5.C.2)
- ✓ Section 5.0 addresses Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (S5.C.3)
- ✓ Section 6.0 addresses Controlling Runoff from New Development, Redevelopment and Construction Sites (S5.C.4)
- ✓ Section 7.0 addresses Municipal Operations and Maintenance (S5.C.5)
- ✓ Section 8.0 addresses Monitoring and Assessment (S8)

## 2.0 Stormwater Management Program Development (S5.A and S5.B)

### 2.1 Permit Requirements

Sections S5.A and S5.B of the Permit require the City to:

- Implement a Stormwater Management Program.
- Publish a report summarizing the SWMP at the City web site by May 31, (this SWMP Plan).
- Submit the SWMP Plan as part of an annual report to Ecology by March 31, summarizing implementation status during the reporting period (S9.D.2.).
- Manage an ongoing program for gathering, tracking, maintaining and using information to evaluate the SWMP development, implementation and permit compliance and set priorities.
- Track the cost of the development and implementation of each component of the SWMP.
- Track the number of inspections, official enforcement actions and types of public education.
- Coordinate with other NPDES permittees and partners in the region on stormwater related policies, programs, and projects within adjoining or shared areas and coordinate internally among City Departments.

### 2.2 Current Compliance Activities

Since 2007, the City of Burlington has been developing and implementing a SWMP. Summarized below are many stormwater management activities and procedures the City currently has in place. Sections 3.0 through 8.0 provide additional detail on the ongoing program.

- Many public educational activities have been initiated by the City of Burlington, in partnership with the Skagit Conservation District (SCD) as described in Section 3.0 including a description of the types of educational activities and number of participants.
- An Interlocal Agreement is in place between the City and the SCD, first signed in 2008.
- The SCD partners include the Cities of Burlington, Sedro Woolley, Mt. Vernon, Anacortes, and Skagit County. SCD implemented a stormwater education and outreach (E&O) program to meet the requirements of the Phase II planning process which encourages communities to: work together, avoid duplication of efforts, share resources, and save money.
- The City meets quarterly with the North Sound NPDES Municipal Stormwater Permit Phase1/Phase2 Forum to discuss stormwater policies and projects in the area and also attends NPDES coordination meetings with the Cities of Anacortes, Sedro Woolley and Mount Vernon, the SCD and Skagit County. A written description of internal coordination mechanisms was submitted with the annual report.
- The City of Burlington has worked with Skagit County Health Department to achieve local source control efforts by inspecting businesses.
- Conduct an outfall reconnaissance inventory.
- Respond to illicit discharges.
- An ongoing training program for staff regarding codes, additional permit reviews for runoff control, illicit detection response procedures, pollution prevention best management practices (BMPs), erosion control, and low impact development (LID).
- Cost tracking was completed for the development and implementation of each component of the stormwater management program.
- The City continued a Stormwater and Surface Water Inspection and Maintenance Program under Burlington Municipal Code 14.803 for both public and private facilities.

- Public facility inspections occur annually for every pond, swale and pipe outflow into Gages Slough and corrective action is taken to fix identified problems.
- Inspection of private stormwater facilities. Follow-up letters are sent notifying the property owner of problems and outlining corrective actions.
- Enforcement action can be taken per Burlington Municipal Code 14.806. This program has been very successful at obtaining compliance from property owners.
- The Street Department maintains the storm drain systems.
- The Sewer Department maintains the six stormwater pump stations.

### 2.3 Plans for Program Activities in 2016

The City plans to continue work on stormwater tasks, programs, and issues listed above, even building on these systems and procedures.

## 3.0 Public Education and Outreach (S5.C.1)

### 3.1 Permit Requirements

Section S5.C.1 of the Permit requires the City to address the following public E&O elements:

- Implement a program designed to reduce or eliminate behaviors and practices that cause or contribute to adverse stormwater impacts and encourage the public to participate in stewardship activities.
- Educate target audiences about the stormwater problem and provide specific actions that they can follow to minimize it.
- Measure behavior change by February of 2016 and use this information to improve the education program.

### 3.2 Current Compliance Activities

The City of Burlington coordinated internally on efforts to educate the public on stormwater management issues. In 2015, the Planning and Public Works Departments incorporated stormwater information into educational outreach, land use and flood bulletins, and the citywide newsletters. In addition, the City has partnered with SCD to carry out and track public E&O activities. Listed below are the activities undertaken by the City and partner, SCD during 2015. Also discussed at the end of this section are the activities currently planned for 2016.

### **Stormwater Education Program Summary**

This progress report summarizes the stormwater public education and outreach and the public participation and involvement activities that were completed by the Skagit Conservation District over the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. The primary purpose of the Skagit Conservation District's Stormwater Education Program is to assist local jurisdictions with compliance efforts for the "Public Education and Outreach" and the "Public Participation and Involvement" requirements of the NPDES stormwater permit by facilitating greater public awareness of the sensitivity of local surface waters, their beneficial uses, the detrimental effects of polluted stormwater and illicit discharges, and measures that can be taken to reduce stormwater pollution.

The Skagit Conservation District's Stormwater Education Program is a local partnership formed to develop and implement a comprehensive water resource education, outreach, and public involvement program. The Skagit Conservation District has formed partnerships with the City of Mount Vernon, City of Burlington, City of Sedro-Woolley, City of Anacortes, and Skagit County. With the exception of the Skagit Conservation District, all

partners are Phase 2 communities required to prepare Stormwater Management Program Plan (SWMP Plan). The purpose of the partnership is to work together cooperatively and share a common message, avoid duplication of efforts (which in turn will save money and resources), utilize existing programs when possible and to share resources.

Program Funding: In 2008 the Skagit Conservation District applied for, and received grant funding through the WA Dept. of Ecology's Stormwater Grants Program. The scope of work outlined in the Stormwater Education Grant guided the components of the Stormwater Education Program. The grant was received in 2008 and continued through June 2011, when the grant expired and tasks completed. The grant was supported by partnering municipalities through direct and in kind matching funds. After completion of the grant, Memorandums of Agreement were established between the Skagit Conservation District and each of the partner jurisdictions to develop and implement a collaborated scope of work to continue the public education and outreach and public participation and involvement programs to engage local support of our community and protect water quality of our streams, rivers, and marine waters.

### 3.3 2015 Activities and Planned Activities for 2016

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT**

##### Private Stormwater Facility Maintenance Workshops

A Private Storm Water Facility Maintenance Workshop was coordinated and held on April 9, 2015 with 18 attendees and held at the City of Sedro-Woolley. The agenda included: 1) a municipal overview provided by David Lee, City of Sedro-Woolley; 2) Detention Pond Maintenance: Nuts and Bolts provided by David Roberts, Kulshan Services, LLC; 3) Involving your Neighborhood Community provided by Kristi Carpenter, Skagit Conservation District and 4) the last hour of the training included a field tour to two storm water detention pond facilities for training on how to inspect and maintain your stormwater detention facility lead by David Lee and David Roberts. Handbooks were compiled by SCD staff and provided to all attendees. Promotion of the event was conducted via direct mailing to HOA contact lists in each jurisdiction, press releases provided to all local media, promotional fliers distributed throughout the community and posted on websites and SCD and County facebook, and through SCD email distribution lists.

##### Watershed Masters Volunteer Training Program

The Watershed Masters Volunteer Training Program offers an intensive forty-hour volunteer training course for interested residents. Topics covered in the program include an introduction to local geology, stream ecology, salmonids, soils & wetlands, nonpoint sources of pollution and stormwater runoff, low impact development, composting, household hazardous waste, climate change, soils & wetlands, on-site septic system maintenance, agricultural best management practices, forest stewardship, the values and function of estuaries, and more. The training includes many expert speakers, field trips to local watersheds, and a comprehensive reference notebook. The program is designed to give participants information on ways to make positive behavioral changes in their own lives to protect water quality and to inspire local stewardship of our water resources.

Volunteers who complete the training return forty hours of service. The volunteer hours may include conducting stream restoration work, water quality monitoring, shellfish monitoring for Puget Sound Partnership, staffing informational tables at fairs and other public events, storm drain labeling, conducting litter clean ups on local streams, making presentations to schools or community groups, etc. SCD staff works with each Watershed Master Volunteer who has completed the training to design a plan of action for returning the forty hours of

training. Watershed Masters are encouraged to pursue creative projects that best meet their interest, skills, and schedule.

Over the years, participants of the Watershed Masters program have played a leading role in promoting watershed stewardship throughout our community by implementing sustainable landscaping practices in their own backyard, participating in local stewardship projects, and educating their friends, family, and neighbors.

The 2015 Watershed Masters Volunteer Training program was conducted September 23<sup>rd</sup> through November 12<sup>th</sup> (8-week training) with 19 individuals completing the training. Program evaluation forms were completed by participants and included a survey of behavior changes based on information received in class.

100% of class participants indicated that after taking the class they will keep litter, pet wastes, and debris out of street gutters and storm drains; 91% pick up domestic pet waste (remainder do not have pets); 64% wash their car at a car wash or on the lawn (36% indicated they now plan to); 91% indicated that they have eliminated or apply lawn and garden chemicals sparingly and according to directions (9% plan to); 75% compost to enhance or replace chemical fertilizers and 25% plan to; 82% have eliminated or reduced the use of chemical pesticides (18% plan to); 100% dispose of oil, antifreeze, paints, and other household chemicals properly; 55 % control soil erosion on their property by planting ground cover and stabilizing erosion-prone areas (an additional 9% plan to in the future and 36% indicated it was not applicable to their property); 27% will have septic system inspected and pumped regularly (73% not applicable); 50% indicated they have directed the downspouts away from impervious surfaces and/or attached plastic pipe to the downspouts to direct the water flow onto their lawn, garden or landscaped area (another 50% plan to); 83% indicated they have shared what they have learned with friends, neighbors, and family and 17% plan to.

Over 3,700 volunteer hours were reported by Watershed Master Participants in 2015. Volunteer activities have included:

- participation in the Skagit Stream Team, Storm Team, and Marine Biotxin monitoring programs, providing staff support in hosting the “Puget Sound Starts Here” display and educational activities at local events
- assisting with stream restoration projects including a clean up project near Maddox Creek
- leading tours at the Marblemount Fish Hatchery
- providing presentations on sustainable gardening at local workshops
- participating in the Swinomish Oil Response Team
- designing and installing a community demonstration naturescape garden at Alger Community Hall
- storm drain labeling
- assisting with maintenance at the Native Plant Demonstration Garden on Memorial Hwy.,
- participating in the community wildlife habitat program
- conducting surf smelt surveys in Fidalgo Bay
- assisting staff in planning/coordinating community events and workshops such as the Sustainable Samish Garden Tour, Kids in Nature event, and more

#### Skagit Stream Team

The Skagit Stream Team Program was established in 1998 to educate and involve local citizens in the protection and stewardship of local streams. Urban stream reaches, including Kulshan Creek & the Trumpeter basin (Mount Vernon), Gages Slough (Burlington), and Clyde Creek (Anacortes) were added to the program over the last 6

years as part of this interlocal agreement. In addition, Stream Team volunteers participated in a 3 year study of Brickyard Creek in Sedro-Woolley between 2009 & 2011.

The goals of the Skagit Stream Team program are to: 1) Inspire community stewardship of water resources by educating local citizens about land use and non-point sources of pollution and involving them in the process of water quality data gathering; 2) to develop and implement a routine sampling program that can be used to assess water quality trends, characterize the existing water quality of priority freshwater drainages, and determine how water quality conditions compare to State Standards; 3) to document improvements to water quality as a result of the implementation of Best Management Practices and stormwater prevention measures; and 4) to teach community volunteers the sampling and analytical techniques used by environmental professionals, how to manage the data collected and create a database, and the importance of establishing a long-term water quality monitoring program.

Parameters measured by Stream Team volunteers include fecal coliform (FC) bacteria, dissolved oxygen (DO), water temperature, turbidity and total depth.

Additional program components are listed below:

- 5 Stream Team volunteers monitored the water quality of Clyde Creek in Anacortes over the 2014/2015 monitoring season (Stream Team monitoring year is October through September). The Anacortes Waste Water Treatment Plant conducts lab analysis for this program.
- 11 Stream Team volunteers monitored Kulshan Creek and Trumpeter Basin in Mount Vernon. Mount Vernon Waste Water Treatment Plant conducts lab analysis for Kulshan and Trumpeter.
- 2 Stream Team volunteers monitored Gages Slough through the 2014/15 sampling season. Burlington Waste Water treatment Plant conducted lab analysis for the Gages Slough Stream Team.
- 78 Stream Team volunteers participated in the 2014/15 Stream Team program overall, with a total of 57 currently participating in the 2015/2016 program.
- Other streams monitored by Stream Team volunteers include Joe Leary Slough, Bay View, Samish River, Nookachamps Creek, No Name Slough, and Fisher Creek. In addition, 9 volunteers conducted storm event sampling in the Edison pump station drainages and the Friday Creek watershed during the 2014/2015 season in support of the Clean Samish Initiative (Storm Team).
- Total of 50 monitoring stations were monitored twice a month by Stream Team volunteers, with the exception of Gages Slough which is monitored monthly.
- The Annual Year-End Stream Team Celebration and Recognition event was coordinated and held on May 30, 2015. 78 Stream Team volunteers were recognized.
- 1,250 Stream Team volunteer hours reported for the 2014/15 Stream Team program.
- The Annual Stream Team training was coordinated and held September 9, 10, and 11, 2015.
- Data was entered on excel spreadsheet.
- The 2014/15 Annual Stream Team Report was completed and is available on their website: [www.skagitcd.org](http://www.skagitcd.org).
- The annual "How Clean is Your Neighborhood Stream?" meeting was coordinated and held on February 26, 2015 with 26 attendees. The purpose of the meeting is to present the annual Stream Team report and provide a water quality update to the community. Rick Haley, Skagit County Water Analyst, also provided an update on the County's water quality monitoring program at this annual public meeting.

### Storm Drain Labeling Program

Storm drain marking kits are available at the Skagit Conservation District. Community groups and residents are encouraged to participate in the protection of water quality by marking storm drains in their neighborhoods and throughout the community. Door knob hangars are also distributed and provide background information on stormwater runoff to homeowners in the neighborhood that the drains are being labeled.

- Staff recruited and is providing support to volunteers who will be conducting an extensive marking effort in Burlington, Mount Vernon and Skagit County urban growth areas in the spring of 2016
- The Storm Drain labeling program was promoted through both editions of the Skagit Conservation News (4,600 subscribers) and the Skagit Valley Herald. Approximately 100 promotional fliers were distributed at local events. The program is promoted on SCD's website and Facebook social media.

## **PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH**

### Backyard Conservation Stewardship Program

The Backyard Conservation Stewardship Short Course targets local homeowners and provides education on sustainable landscape practices as promoted by the Sustainable Sites Initiative. Program objectives:

- Participants will learn practices that can be applied in their own backyards to help reduce stormwater pollution and create a healthy and more sustainable environment.
- Participants will be provided with the tools and resources to design sustainable, natural, backyard landscapes.
- To encourage community participation in the Backyard Wildlife Habitat and/or Backyard Sanctuary Certification programs.
- To create a network of community residents willing to share their love of gardening and the outdoors to inspire others to create environmentally friendly gardening practices that will benefit our community.

Topics included in the 6-week short course include proper use and disposal of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers (and use of non-toxic alternatives), use of native plants in landscaping, reducing size of lawn, gardening for wildlife, using bees as pollinators, applying low impact development/rain gardens, use of permeable pavement for driveways and patios, composting, managing non-native invasive plants, how to build healthy soils, proper disposal of pet waste, preventive car maintenance, and more. Sessions are taught by local experts.

**Outcomes:** The Backyard Conservation Stewardship Short Course has played a key role in our efforts to increase levels of voluntary implementation of conservation practices on private lands in both urban and rural areas of our community. In addition to making sustainable change in their own backyards, three grassroots community volunteer groups were formed from this program, including the Fidalgo Backyard Wildlife Habitat Group in Anacortes, Skagit Valley Backyard Wildlife Habitat Team (Mount Vernon, Conway, LaConner, & Bow), and the Friday Creek Habitat Team, which includes Burlington and Sedro-Woolley. These citizen groups have registered our communities with the National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat Program (Fidalgo and Skagit have already received national recognition as a "Community Wildlife Habitat," and Friday Creek is in progress). Over 1,000 Skagit County residents, and including schools, parks, farms, & businesses, have certified their yards through this program.

- The 2015 Backyard Conservation Stewardship Short Course was held every Wednesday evening beginning March 18<sup>th</sup> and continued through April 22<sup>nd</sup> (6 weeks). The program also included 2 field tours, including a visit to the WSU Extension Discovery Garden (composting, soils, & native plants), and a

Saturday field tour of resident's homes who have taken the class in previous years and have employed sustainable backyard practices on their properties. 48 individuals completed the course in 2015.

- Staff provided ongoing support and assistance to Backyard Conservation Stewardship program volunteers throughout the year.
- Staff hosted and facilitated monthly meetings with the Friday Creek Habitat Stewards.
- The habitat team volunteer groups hosted educational displays at numerous community events, including local farmers markets, Alger Fun Raiser, Skagit River Salmon Festival, Festival of Family Farms, SCD's Annual Native Plant Sale, Kids in Nature: Families Outdoors at Pomona Grange Park, "End of the Trail" celebration, and at numerous related workshops held in the community.
- Provided tours and ongoing maintenance of the Naturescape Demonstration Garden at the Alger Community Hall. The garden includes a stream enhancement project, a pollinator habitat garden, wildlife habitat garden, and an opportunity to showcase native plants and drought tolerant plants that can be used in the home garden.
- Maintenance and educational opportunities at the Kulshan Creek Bird and Butterfly Demonstration Garden continued with support from backyard habitat volunteers and Kulshan neighborhood families.
- Other projects undertaken over the year by the backyard conservation volunteers with support from SCD included:
  - 1) May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Garden Swap, Sale, and Arbor Day Celebration (gave away 100 native plants in celebration of Arbor Day) – 250 attendees
  - 2) June 27<sup>th</sup> – Gardening for Wildlife Family Event (Art for Learning at Padilla Bay Research Reserve) – 25 attendees.
  - 3) July 25<sup>th</sup> – Sustainable Samish Garden Tour – 85+ attendees.
  - 4) August 8<sup>th</sup> – Kids in Nature: Families Outdoors at Pomona Grange Park – 65+ attendees.

#### Resource Materials/Education for Local Schools

Skagit Conservation District provides support to local schools by providing educational resources and presentations throughout the year.

- Educational packets were prepared and distributed to 500 local teachers. The packets include information on stormwater, watersheds, and other resources and educational programs available for teachers and classrooms through the Skagit Conservation District. Promotion of the EnviroScape Model (stormwater runoff and non-point source pollution) was also distributed.
- 47 stormwater education presentations, using the EnviroScape watershed model, were conducted in 2015 at local elementary schools in the following jurisdictions: Anacortes: 4 presentations to 97 students; Burlington: 7 presentations to 178 students; Mount Vernon: 18 presentations to 431 students; Sedro-Woolley: 16 presentations to 367 students; Skagit County: 2 presentations to 97 students
- EnviroScape watershed model presentations were also provided at the Mount Vernon High School Science Night in April (300+ attendees), the Mount Vernon Learning Center Science Fair (100 attendees), The Shellfishival on July 15<sup>th</sup> (200 attendees), the Kids in Nature: Families Outdoors at Pomona Grange Park on August 8<sup>th</sup> (65+ attendees) and the Skagit River Salmon Festival on September 12<sup>th</sup> (2,500 attendees).
- A total of 1000 "Discover Stormwater" educational booklets were distributed.
- 1250 "10 Things You Can Do to Prevent Stormwater Runoff Pollution" bookmarks distributed.
- 250 National Association of Conservation District's "Where Does Your Water Shed" activity booklets and bookmarks distributed.
- Two stormwater education posters were designed in 2015 (one 11 x 17 format and the other 8 ½ x 11): "A Clean and Mighty Skagit – Our Future Ours to Protect." The posters will be distributed throughout the

community, on websites, facebook, SCD's newsletter, etc. The posters were developed to kick off an intensive community campaign to promote stormwater education concepts and to inspire local stewardship of our water resources.

#### Workshops for Local Contractors and Businesses

An EcoPRO Sustainable Landscape training for Landscape Professionals was held on May 6<sup>th</sup> 2015 in partnership with Washington Association of Landscape Professionals (WALP) and Washington State Nursery and Landscape Association (WSNLA) at the Padilla Bay research reserve with 50 attendees. The training, study materials, and exam are based on 200+ sustainable best practices and required study materials. To earn ecoPRO certification, professional landscapers must demonstrate knowledge of, and voluntarily practice sustainable best landscape practices in the following eight key principles:

- Protect and Conserve Soils
- Conserve Water
- Protect Water and Air Quality
- Protect and Create Wildlife Habitat
- Conserve Energy
- Sustain Healthy Plants
- Use Sustainable Methods and Materials
- Protect and Enhance Human Health and Well-being

An additional sustainable landscape workshop, "Gardening for Wildlife and Childlife," was held on June 23, 2015 at the City of Burlington with 25 attendees. Presenters included Kristi Carpenter, SCD, Kaitlyn Parker, National Wildlife Federation, Everett Chu, CPH, EPC, and Sue Mitchell, Friday Creek Habitat Stewards. Topics covered included how to create a beautiful landscape that reduces pesticide and water use, protects water quality and attract beneficial critters to the garden. Methods on how to garden for both wildlife and childlife and put native plants to work in the garden (including plant selection), were also presented

#### Puget Sound Starts Here Community Event Display Board

Staff hosted the Puget Sound Starts Here (PSSH) educational display and "Healthy Water Hopscotch Game" at numerous local events in 2015 including the Skagit River Salmon Festival, Fidalgo Bay Days, Festival of Family Farms, Shellfishtival, Storming the Sound, Kids in Nature: Families Outdoors at Pomona Grange Park event, reaching over 8,160 individuals. Youth participating in the "Healthy Water Hopscotch" game activity earned their PSSH Drain Ranger badge. In addition over 225 PSSH pet waste dispensers, shopping totes and beverage coasters were also distributed to promote the Puget Sound Starts Here message.

#### Produce Media Advertisements

Staff coordinated with National Cinemedia to run the Puget Sound Starts Here promotional ad at the Cascade Mall and Anacortes cinemas from May 2015 through Labor Day (16 weeks). All of our local logos are shown at the end of the ad which promoted BMP to prevent stormwater pollution from carwashing. It was estimated by NCM that approximately 165,000 movie attendees saw the ad during this timeframe.

### **OTHER STORMWATER RELATED EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

#### Clean and Green Car Wash Kits

The Clean and Green Car Wash kit program continued to be promoted throughout the community and each partnering jurisdiction continued to check out the kits to groups hosting car wash events.

Stormwater/Low Impact Development Presentations

In 2015 staff provided power point presentations on stormwater and an introduction to low impact development and raingardens to 8 events reaching 448 residents

Arbor Day Trees

Provided over 500 native plant seedlings to classrooms and youth groups throughout Skagit County in celebration of Arbor Day in April.

Skagit Watershed Letterbox Trail

Staff hosted a “Rain Garden/LID” themed letterbox, which was placed at the Skagit County Administration building, for the 2015 Skagit Watershed Letterbox Trail

**EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED:**

- 25 Detention Pond Maintenance Handbooks distributed
- 75 Sustainable Landscape Handbooks distributed
- 10 Pet waste educational posters & outdoor signs distributed
- 160+ Low Impact Development: Coming to a Neighborhood Near You” brochures distributed.
- 250 Soil & Mulch: The Foundation of a Healthy Yard brochures distributed.
- 250 Planning & Planting a Sustainable Landscape brochures distributed.
- 250 Watering Wisely brochures distributed.
- 250 Think Twice Before Using Pesticides brochures distributed.
- 250 Natural Lawn Care brochures distributed.
- 10 “Good Cleaning Practices for the Food and Restaurant Industry” posters distributed.
- 10 “Good Cleaning Practices for the Automotive Industry” distributed.
- 20 Best Management Practices for Power Washing fact sheets distributed.
- 20 Best Management Practices for Mobile Carpet Cleaners distributed.
- 100 copies of the 2013/14 Skagit Stream Team Reports distributed (the report is also on the SCD and Padilla Bay Reserve websites).
- 75 Rain Garden Manuals distributed.
- 1,000 “Discover Storm Water” educational booklets distributed (Project Wet).
- 1,250 “10 Things You Can Do to Prevent Stormwater Pollution” bookmarks distributed.
- 250 NACD “Where Does Your Water Shed” activity booklets and bookmarks distributed.
- 500 Drain Ranger Badges distributed
- 100+ Storm Drain marking volunteer program promotional fliers distributed.
- 25 Clean and Green Car Wash Kit promotional fliers distributed.
- 250 “Home Tips for Healthy Streams” brochures distributed.
- 250 “10 Essentials Checklist for Rural Landowners” distributed.
- 50 “Turning the Tide on Toxics’ publications distributed.
- 50 Natural Yard Care Booklets distributed.
- 125 SCD Best Management Practices for Skagit Livestock Owners distributed.
- 80 Backyard Conservation books distributed
- 150 Native plants of the Pacific Northwest distributed.

Numerous other related handouts are provided to participants of the WSM, Backyard Conservation Stewardship Short Course, Stream Team and participants of workshops & events.

### **Other items of note**

- Staff continued to participate on the Skagit EcoNet committee.
- Staff continues to serve on the Board for the Skagit Conservation Education Alliance (SCEA).
- Staff attended scheduled meetings with local NPDES partners.
- Staff published several stormwater related articles for the two 2015 publications of the Skagit Conservation News – distribution 4,600+ per publication. Topics included: Stormwater classroom presentations with the EnviroScape watershed model; storm drain marking events with local youth; promoted program and recognized participants of the Backyard Conservation Stewardship Short Course; Stream Team welcome and recognition, promoted program and recognized Watershed Masters.

### **ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR 2016**

- The annual “How Clean is Your Neighborhood Stream?” meeting was held on February 17, 2016
- The Backyard Conservation Stewardship Short Course will be conducted in the spring of 2016
- Stormwater Detention Pond Maintenance Workshop scheduled for April 14, 2016.
- Sustainable Landscaping Workshop scheduled for May 17, 2016.
- Storm drain labeling will continue.
- Skagit Stream Team program will continue with the annual training scheduled for September 2016.
- The Annual Stream Team Water Quality Report will be published.
- Stormwater education media ads will be published in local media throughout the year
- 2 educational brochures/tip sheets will be published.
- Informational packets highlighting stormwater and water quality education will once again be distributed to local schools.
- Staff will continue to provide presentations on stormwater education with the watershed EnviroScape model to local school groups.
- Watershed Masters Volunteer training will be held in the fall of 2016.
- Media advertisements will be produced for local media.
- Staff will host the PSSH educational display and “PSSH Water Quality Hopscotch” activity at local events and will continue to enhance the display, promotional materials and handouts.
- The SCD website will continue to be updated to include relevant stormwater and LID information.
- News articles highlighting stormwater education, LID practices, and volunteer opportunities will be included in each of the Skagit Conservation District’s newsletters.
- Staff will continue to provide presentations to local groups on stormwater and LID as requested.
- Stream Team data will be reviewed and will be used to target priority neighborhoods for follow-up education.
- Staff will continue to provide support to the Watershed Masters, backyard wildlife habitat volunteers, and Skagit Stream Team volunteers.
- All projects will be tracked, evaluation surveys conducted when appropriate, and reporting will continue.

## 4.0 Public Involvement and Participation (S5.C.2)

### 4.1 Permit Requirements

Section S5.C.2 of the Permit requires the City to address the following public involvement and participation elements:

- Provide ongoing opportunities for the public to participate in the decision making processes involving the development, implementation and updates of the SWMP.
- Make the SWMP and Annual Report available to the public, including posting on the City’s website by May 31 each year.

### 4.2 Current Compliance Activities

The City of Burlington provides opportunities for public involvement and participation through City Council and Public Works Committee meetings, community meetings, program evaluation surveys, city web site, and volunteer public participation programs. Status reports on the Stormwater Management Program were presented at the monthly Public Works Committee meetings. These meetings are open to the public and are always listed on the Council Agenda. The current SWMP is made available to the public by posting downloadable versions on the City’s website, with a request for public comment.

Public Involvement Opportunity	Description of Opportunity
<b>City Council Meetings</b>	City Council holds meetings twice a month. These are open to the public
<b>Public Works Committee Meetings</b>	Public Works Department holds monthly committee meetings that are open to the public
<b>Website posting of SWMP and Annual Report</b>	Downloadable versions of the current stormwater management documents are available to the public on the City website, with a request for public comment on how the SWMP can be improved.
<b>Storm Drain Workshops</b>	Staff provided support to several workshops and events.
<b>Storm Drain Labeling Project</b>	Storm drain labeling is promoted through SCD’s Newsletter (4600 subscribers).
<b>Gages Slough Stream Team</b>	Volunteers are trained and then monitor water quality monthly at 4 sites in Gages Slough each year
<b>Watershed Masters Volunteer Training Program</b>	Watershed Masters Volunteer Training program was conducted September 23 <sup>rd</sup> through November 12 <sup>th</sup> , with 19 individuals completing the training.

#### 4.3 Planned Program Activities for 2016

In 2016, the City plans to similarly offer public involvement opportunities. See Section 3 of this report for additional details.

### 5.0 Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) (S5.C.3)

#### 5.1 Permit Requirements

Section S5.C.3 of the Permit requires the City to address the following illicit discharge detection and elimination (IDDE) elements:

- Implement an ongoing program designed to prevent, detect, characterize, trace, and eliminate illicit connections and illicit discharges, into the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) owned or operated by the City
- Maintain a map of the MS4
- Implement ordinances or other regulatory mechanisms to effectively prohibit non-stormwater illicit discharges, and an ongoing program to detect and address illicit discharges.
- Develop procedures for and complete field screening of at least 40 percent of the MS4 no later than December 31, 2017 and on average 12 percent each year thereafter, and document field screening methodology in the Annual Report.
- Publicize a hotline or other local telephone number for public reporting of spills and other illicit discharges
- Inform staff, businesses, and the general public on proper IDDE response procedures and general hazards associated with illegal discharges and improper disposal of waste.
- Track all spills, illicit discharges and connections reported to the City and response actions taken, including enforcement actions, and identify any IDDE updates to the SWMP.

#### 5.2 Current Compliance Activities

The City has taken many steps to identify and eliminate illicit discharges to address the NPDES Permit requirements. The City has a comprehensive map of its MS4. The map contains all known municipal storm sewer outfalls and receiving waters, and structural stormwater BMP's owned or operated by the City. The City tracks and locates all outfalls, retains development records, and updates the map on an annual basis to show all connections. The map is periodically updated in AutoCAD. Copies of the map are available to the public at the Public Works/ Engineering Department counter.

An outfall reconnaissance inventory was conducted during dry weather conditions to screen for illicit connections. This inventory was conducted in accordance with the Center for Watershed Protection's Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Guidance Manual. The desktop assessment portion of pollutant source study was completed in 2012 to identify potential pollutant generating sources, activities and hotspots within the City of Burlington and neighboring areas that drain to Gages Slough.

The City of Burlington is supported by the Skagit County Health Department for source control and pollution prevention education. Through the local source control program, the County Health Specialists have made 147 business inspection visits in Burlington since 2008. Specifically, 19 visits were made in 2015, 28 visits in 2014, 13 visits in 2013, 18 visits in 2012, 22 visits in 2011, 9 visits in 2010, 36 visits in 2009, and 2 visits in 2008. The year to year variation is due to a special emphasis on different business types each year. This program will continue in

2016. Educational materials were distributed to the businesses and the County sent follow-up letters itemizing specific recommendations for pollution prevention.

The biannual Flood Bulletins encourage the general public to report spills and illegal discharges to the Police Department and provides phone numbers. A water quality, illicit discharge hotline number (360-755-9715) is posted on the City's website. The Public Works Department is ready to record all calls regarding illicit discharges or illegal spills that are received on the hotline. No calls were received on the hotline number in 2014. The Fire Department and/or Police Department responded to 19 calls. These were primarily minor spills of automotive fluids. All circumstances were dealt with fully and resolved and contained prior to entering the MS4.

The illicit discharges reported to the water quality hotline and those identified by the County are typically associated with less toxic discharges such as wash water and can be handled by public works staff. Most of these are not continuous and can be addressed directly with the discharger. The City developed a spill response plan that is housed at both the public works engineering department and the street department. This plan offers detailed instructions to first responders with steps for containment, if safe. Emergency contacts and reporting requirements are explicitly discussed. A spill report form is used to document the event. All crew vehicles have spill kit for containment and cleanup of small spills. The street crew has received training on the spill response plan and safety meetings address any additional questions or concerns that arise.

Medium and large spills require the fire department and/or police department to be notified. These departments have emergency response protocols that include procedures for characterizing the nature of and potential threat to the public from illicit discharges. They have extensive training in emergency situations. Because the City is not equipped to respond to all hazardous spills, the City relies on Skagit County Department of Emergency Management (SDEM), Ecology and other agencies to assist. The fire department will call upon the SDEM if the spill clean-up is beyond its capabilities. Both departments have incident tracking software documenting each circumstance and follow-up actions. All incidents are submitted in the annual report to Ecology.

### 5.3 Planned Program Activities for 2016

The city plans to continue to responding to illicit discharges at a commensurate level of effort listed above.

## **6.0 Controlling Runoff from New Development, Redevelopment and Construction Sites (S5.C.4)**

### 6.1 Permit Requirements

Section S5.C.4 of the Permit requires the City to address the following elements regarding controlling runoff for new development, redevelopment and construction sites:

- Enforce regulations to ensure proper installation of permanent stormwater controls for both private and public projects.
- Implement an ordinance to address runoff from new development, redevelopment, and construction activities from both public and private sites including roads and Erosion and Sediment Control, using Appendix 1 as the standard. The regulations are required to include the LID provisions found in appendix 1 no later than December 31, 2016. And summarized in the annual compliance report by March 31, 2017.
- Implement a permitting process for development that includes plan review, inspection, and escalating enforcement capability.

- Verify adequate long term operation and maintenance
- Provide copies of the Notice of Intent for construction or industrial activities to representatives of the proposed new development and redevelopment as applicable
- All primary staff are trained on stormwater program implementation
- Implement a process to record and maintain all inspections and enforcement actions by staff, and provide an inspection of all permanent stormwater treatment and flow control facilities including those on private property or associated with single family residences.

## 6.2 Current Compliance Activities

The City updated the runoff code in 2010 to include many procedures that control runoff from new development, redevelopment and construction sites. In 2015, the City implemented the features of the code in the following ways:

- City Staff instructed development applicants to meet the Department of Ecology's 2005 Stormwater Manual requirements to guide practices related to new development or redevelopment
- At monthly Technical Review Committee meetings, the City instructs developers to comply with the 2005 manual requirements
- Public Works Department reviews stormwater site plans and maintenance plans for all new development and redevelopment projects
- The City also conducts pre- and post-construction inspections, and enforces implementation of Best Management Practices during construction, as needed
- The City Permit Center provides Notice of Intent (NOI's) for all permitted development
- The City Public Works Department currently inspects all public stormwater treatment facilities on an annual basis and records these inspections in log books
- The City established procedures for tracking inspections and enforcement activities on development, redevelopment and construction sites.
- The City began work on the transition to LID that is required to be in effect by December 31, 2016.

## 6.3 Planned Program Activities for 2016

The city plans to continue to control runoff at a commensurate level of effort as in 2015.

# 7.0 Pollution Prevention and Operation and Maintenance for Municipal Operations (S5.C.5)

## 7.1 Permit Requirements

Section S5.C.5 of the Permit requires the City to address the following operation and maintenance elements:

- Continue an operations and maintenance program, with the ultimate goal of preventing pollutant runoff from municipal operations
- Perform and document inspections and maintenance of stormwater facilities
- Update maintenance standards that are at least as protective as those found in the 2012 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington no later than December 31, 2016.
- Implement practices, policies, and procedures to reduce stormwater impacts associated with runoff from all lands owned by the City of Burlington
- Implement an ongoing training program for employees whose primary construction, operations or maintenance job functions may impact stormwater quality

- Implement a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs) for all heavy equipment maintenance or storage yards, and material storage facilities owned or operated by the City

#### 7.2 Current Compliance Activities

The City of Burlington maintains its stormwater facilities on an annual basis and responds promptly to reported maintenance issues. The inspection program for private stormwater facilities requires maintenance within 60 days of inspection problem notification. In addition, the City completed the following:

- Implemented the components of the SWPPP for the maintenance yard located off Section Street
- Continued to inspect municipally owned facilities annually at a minimum and after major storms
- Continued to inspect privately owned facilities and ensure maintenance when needed

#### 7.3 Planned Program Activities for 2016

The city plans to continue to implement pollution prevention and maintenance for municipal operations at a commensurate level of effort as in 2015.

### **8.0 Monitoring and Assessment (S8)**

#### 8.1 Permit Requirements

The Permit requires municipalities to conduct water quality sampling and program assessments during this permit cycle or to participate in State conducted programs to meet these requirements:

The City of Burlington has selected Option 1 regarding status and trends monitoring and will pay into a collective fund as part of the Regional Stormwater Management Program.

The City of Burlington has also selected Option 1 regarding effectiveness studies and will pay into a collective fund.

The City of Burlington also participates in collective fund for source identification and diagnostic monitoring as required by the permit.

#### 8.2 Current Compliance Activities

The City has selected Option 1 for status and trends monitoring, and Option 1 for effectiveness studies.

#### 8.3 Planned Program Activities for 2016

The city plans to continue to participate in these collectives and studies for municipal operations at a commensurate level of effort as in 2015.