

University of Wisconsin La Crosse
Storm Water Management Program
Pollution Prevention Program
(Last Updated: March 10, 2023)

Background:

This document was developed to summarize actions being taken at the University of Wisconsin La Crosse (UWL) to comply with requirements in the WI Department of Natural Resources general permit to discharge under the Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) Permit No. WI-S050075-3.

Permit Conditions – Pollution Prevention:

UWL is required to develop and implement a pollution prevention program that establishes measurable goals for pollution prevention. The program shall include:

- Routine inspection and maintenance of municipally owned or operated structural storm water management facilities to maintain their pollutant removal operating efficiency.
- Routine street sweeping and cleaning of catch basins with sumps where appropriate.
- Proper disposal of street sweeping and catch basin cleaning waste.
- If road salt or other deicers are applied by the permittee, no more shall be applied than necessary to maintain public safety.
- Proper management of leaves and grass clippings, which may include on-site beneficial reuse as opposed to collection.
- Storm water pollution prevention planning for municipal garages, storage areas and other sources of storm water pollution from municipal facilities.
- Application of lawn and garden fertilizers on municipally controlled properties, with pervious surfaces over 5 acres each, in accordance with a site-specific nutrient application schedule based on appropriate soil tests.
- Education of appropriate municipal and other personnel involved in implementing this program.

Program Elements

Note: The City of La Crosse performs routine inspection and maintenance of municipally owned or operated structural storm water management facilities, street sweeping, cleaning of catch basins and proper disposal of collected materials. As necessary, UWL collaborates with the City of La Crosse to fulfill permit conditions for City of La Crosse owned structural storm water management facilities within the campus-approved boundary.

Element Number	Element Description	Measureable Goal/Expected Results
1	Inspect and evaluate designated hazardous material storage rooms to ensure compliance with State and Federal spill compliance regulations.	Perform periodic audits to monitor overall inventory and effectiveness of spill containment measures. <i>Ensure hazardous materials are properly stored.</i>
2	Continue to implement the Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) Plan to minimize the potential for oil releases into the environment.	Continued implementation of the SPCC Plan. <i>Reduce the risk of oil entering the storm sewer system.</i>
3	Continue to collect and properly manage solid and hazardous waste/materials.	Maintain records on the amount of solid waste, hazardous waste and hazardous materials disposed and recycled. <i>Ensure waste materials are properly recycled or disposed.</i>
4	Evaluate the storage of all soil, sand and other erodible materials to ensure proper techniques are being used to minimize storm water pollution.	Monitor the locations where erodible materials are being stored to check for the possibility of storm water pollution. <i>Prevent the storage of erodible materials on campus from causing storm water pollution.</i>
5	Road salt and other deicers are spread by UWL Grounds Services on campus sidewalks and by contractor(s) in campus parking lots. A minimal amount of road salt and other deicer is applied to maintain safety. UWL Grounds Services will evaluate deicing agents to identify the most effective and environmentally friendly deicer for sidewalks. The contract for maintaining parking lot plowing/deicer application will include a clause to use salt/sand judiciously for the joint benefit of maintaining safety and environmental quality.	Monitor the amount of salt and other materials applied by Grounds Services and contract service providers to aid in snow and ice removal. <i>Ensure snow and ice removal on campus is done in a manner that maintains public safety and minimizes storm water pollution.</i>

Element Number	Element Description	Measureable Goal/Expected Results
6	All UWL fleet and maintenance vehicles are washed inside the Maintenance and Stores building automotive shop, Grounds Services building or at an indoor commercial vehicle washing facility. The campus wash bays have sediment traps and discharge water to the sanitary sewer system.	Monitor operations and inform affected staff of the requirement to wash vehicles in facilities that do not negatively impact storm water quality. <i>Eliminate illicit discharges from vehicle and equipment washing operations.</i>
7	The Grounds Services unit continues to collect outdoor trash, leaves and other ground litter. This task includes monitoring storm drains within and along the campus boundary to clear surface obstructions of litter and debris as needed. To the greatest extent possible leaves are mulched in place. Leaves that cannot be mulched in place and other compostable materials are delivered to the City of La Crosse compost site. City generated compost is used on campus as necessary. UWL has outdoor trash and recycling bins to minimize litter and enhance campus recycling.	Monitor the activities that the Grounds Services unit undertakes regarding outdoor trash, litter and landscaping debris collection. <i>Reduce the amount of trash, ground litter, and landscaping debris that enters the storm sewer system.</i>
8	The application of all pesticides is conducted in accordance with State and Federal requirements. UWL currently contracts out some services to licensed/certified pesticide applicators. The Grounds Services unit employs five licensed commercial pesticide applicators in the nursery and turf category. UWL continues to enhance upon an integrated pest management approach that begins with proper species selection for a given site. UWL is enhancing diversity of plant species on as part of this integrated management approach. When use of pesticides is warranted UWL chooses the least toxic option available that will be effective.	Retain documentation on training and other records for staff designated as certified pesticide applicators. <i>Reduce the quantity and toxicity of pesticides used on UWL property and ensure proper application when they are used.</i>

9	UWL continues to implement a Landscape Nutrient Management Plan. The Plan covers all lawn and landscaped areas of the campus that receive nutrients and outlines the rates and frequencies that nutrients may be applied. The plan also covers best practices to follow regarding the application of these nutrients.	Maintain records of nutrient applications. <i>Ensure nutrients are applied in a manner that minimizes their impact on stormwater quality.</i>
10	Continue to educate campus employees on various pollution prevention programs that contribute to the enhancement of storm water quality. These programs include, but are not limited to: SPCC Plan, solid waste disposal and recycling, hazardous waste/material disposal and recycling.	Maintain records on the total number of personnel trained and training sessions offered. <i>Improve awareness and active demonstration of work-related requirements to enhance storm water quality.</i>
11	Continue to make use of a State negotiated contract to provide emergency response services for any hazardous material release that could negatively impact the environment.	The campus will record the number of spill incidents requiring activation of the State contracted emergency response service. <i>The campus will continue to prevent hazardous material spill incidents that require activation of the emergency spill response contract.</i>