SECTION V
CHAPTER 12
STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION POLICY

1. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures to facilitate compliance with federal, state and local stormwater regulations and conformance with the environmental stewardship goals of the St. Cloud VA Health Care System’s (HCS) Green Environmental Management System (GEMS).

This policy establishes methods for controlling the introduction of pollutants into the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) in order to comply with requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit process. The objectives of this policy are:

a. To regulate the contribution of pollutants to the MS4 by storm water discharges by any user.
b. To prohibit illicit connections and discharges to the MS4
c. To establish authority to carry out all inspection, surveillance, monitoring, and enforcement procedures necessary to ensure compliance with this policy.
d. To establish procedures to ensure compliance with the permit Part III.D.3. to detect and eliminate illicit discharges into the small MS4.

2. POLICY:

It is the policy of the HCS to manage stormwater in a manner consistent with the environmental stewardship goals of the GEMS and comply with Section 438 of the Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA) of 2007, Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) rules as well as the Sauk River Watershed District (SRWD) Administrative Rules governing stormwater discharge. It is also the policy of the HCS to follow erosion and sediment control Best Management Practices (BMPs) for construction projects including station projects when federal, state and local regulations do not apply.

a. Prohibition of Illegal Discharge:

(1) No person shall throw, drain, or otherwise discharge, cause, or allow others under its control to throw, drain, or otherwise discharge into the MS4 any pollutants or wastes containing any pollutants, other than storm water.

(2) Non-stormwater discharges are prohibited with the exception of the following authorized discharges:

i. water line flushing, landscape irrigation, diverted stream flows, rising ground waters, uncontaminated ground water infiltration, uncontaminated pumped ground
water, discharges from potable water sources, foundation drains, air conditioning condensation, irrigation water, springs, water from crawl space pumps, footing drains, lawn watering, individual residential car washing, flows from riparian habitats and wetlands, dechlorinated swimming pool discharges, and street wash water.

ii. Discharges or flow from firefighting, and other discharges specified in writing by the St. Cloud VA Health Care System Director as being necessary to protect public health and safety.

iii. Discharges associated with dye testing authorized by the Director of Facilities Management.

(3) The non-stormwater discharge prohibition shall not apply to any discharge permitted under an NPDES permit, waiver, or waste discharge order issued to the discharger and administered under the authority of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), provided that the discharger is in full compliance with all requirements of the permit, waiver, or order and other applicable laws and regulations, and provided that written approval has been granted for any discharge to the storm drain system.

b. Prohibition of Illicit Connections

(1) The construction, use, maintenance or continued existence of illicit connections to the storm drain system is prohibited.

(2) The prohibition expressly includes, without limitation, illicit connections made in the past, regardless of whether the connection was permissible under law or practices applicable or prevailing at the time of connection.

c. Construction Site Runoff Control

(1) Construction activity that disturbs greater than or equal to one acre and projects less than one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development shall meet all the requirements of the most current MPCA NPDES Construction General Permit.

d. Post-Construction Stormwater Management

(1) New development or redevelopment that disturbs greater than or equal to one acre and projects less than one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development shall meet all the post-construction stormwater management requirements of the most current MPCA NPDES MS4 General Permit.

(2) The following activities are exempt from Post Construction Stormwater Management:

i. Maintenance or repair to any stormwater BMP deemed necessary by the St. Cloud VA; and
ii. Any emergency project that is immediately necessary for the protection of life.

(3) Highest preference shall be given to Green Infrastructure techniques and practices (e.g. infiltration, evapotranspiration, reuse/harvesting, conservation design, urban forestry, etc.), necessary to meet the following conditions on the site of a construction activity to the Maximum Extent Possible (MEP):

i. For New Development Projects– Retain a runoff volume from a 1.4” 24 hour storm event AND no net increase from pre-project conditions (on an annual average basis) of:

   i) Stormwater discharge Volume, unless precluded by the stormwater management limitations outlined in Part III.D.5.a.(3)(a).
   ii) Stormwater Discharges of Total Suspended Solids (TSS).
   iii) Stormwater Discharges of Total Phosphorus (TP).

ii. For Redevelopment Projects –Retain a runoff volume from a 1.4” 24 hour storm from new impervious surfaces AND A net reduction from pre-project conditions (on an annual average basis) of:

   (a) Stormwater discharge Volume, unless precluded by the stormwater management limitations outlined in Part III.D.5.a.(3)(a).
   (b) Stormwater Discharges of (TSS).
   (c) Stormwater Discharges of (TP).

iii. Runoff Rate Control – All stormwater facilities shall be designed, installed and maintained to effectively accomplish the following:

   (d) Maintain or reduce predevelopment peak runoff rates for the 2-year, 24-hour storm event.
   (e) Maintain or reduce predevelopment peak runoff rates for the 10-year, 24-hour storm event. At a minimum the storm sewer conveyance system shall be designed for this storm event. Low areas must have an acceptable overland drainage route with the proper transfer capacity when the storm event is exceeded.
   (f) Safely pass the 100-year, 24-hour storm event.

iv. Outlets – Discharges from new construction sites must have a stable outlet capable of carrying designed flow at a non-erosive velocity. Outlet design must consider flow capacity and flow duration. This requirement applies to both the site outlet and the ultimate outlet to stormwater conveyance or waterbody.

e. Stormwater Management Limitations and Exceptions

(1) Infiltration techniques to achieve the conditions for post-construction stormwater management shall be prohibited when the infiltration structural stormwater BMP will receive discharges from, or be constructed in areas:
i. Where industrial facilities are not authorized to infiltrate industrial stormwater under an NPDES/SDS industrial stormwater permit issued by the agency

ii. Where vehicle fueling and maintenance occur

iii. With less than three (3) feet of separation distance from the bottom of the infiltration system to the elevation of the seasonally saturated soils or the top of bedrock

iv. Where high levels of contaminants in soil or groundwater will be mobilized by the infiltrating stormwater

(2) Infiltration techniques to achieve the conditions for post-construction stormwater management, without higher engineering review, sufficient to provide a functioning treatment system and prevent adverse impacts to groundwater, shall be restricted when the infiltration device will be constructed in areas:

v. With predominately Hydrologic Soil Group D (clay) soils

vi. Within 1,000 feet up-gradient, or 100 feet down-gradient of active karst features

vii. Within a Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA) as defined in Minn.R.4720.5100, subp.13

viii. Where soil infiltration rates are more than 8.3 inches per hour

(3) Exceptions for stormwater discharge volume:

The St. Cloud VA may allow for lesser volume control on the site of the original construction activity than that in the conditions for the post-construction stormwater management section above only under the following circumstances:

(a) The area of the construction activity is precluded from infiltrating stormwater through a designed system due to any of the infiltration related limitations described above, and

(b) The designer of the construction activity implements, to the MEP, volume reduction techniques, other than infiltration (e.g., evapotranspiration, reuse/harvesting, conservation design, green roofs, etc.) on the site of the original construction activity that reduces stormwater discharge volume, but may not meet the conditions for post-construction stormwater management.

(4) Mitigation Provisions

The St. Cloud VA shall identify, or may require designers of a construction activity to identify, locations where mitigation projects can be completed. Any stormwater discharges of TSS and/or TP not addressed on the site of the original construction activity shall be addressed through mitigation and, at minimum, shall ensure the following requirements are met:
(1) Mitigation Project areas are selected in the following order of preference:

(a) Locations that yield benefits to the same receiving water that receives runoff from the original construction activity
(b) Locations within the same Department of Natural Resource (DNR) catchment area as the original construction activity
(c) Locations in the next adjacent DNR catchment area up-stream
(d) Locations anywhere within the St. Cloud VA’s MS4 jurisdiction

(2) Mitigation projects must involve the creation of new structural stormwater BMPs or the retrofit of existing structural stormwater BMPs, or the use of a properly designed regional structural stormwater BMP.

(3) Routine Maintenance of structural stormwater BMPS already required by the NPDES permit cannot be used to meet mitigation requirements of this part.

(4) Mitigation projects shall be completed within 24 months after the start of the original construction activity.

(5) The St. Cloud VA shall determine, and document, who is responsible for long-term maintenance on all mitigation projects of this part.

5. Long-term maintenance of structural stormwater BMPs

The St. Cloud VA shall conduct inspections of all structural stormwater BMPs annually and perform necessary maintenance on all VA owned BMPs as needed. If site configurations or structural stormwater BMPs change, causing decreased structural stormwater BMP effectiveness, new or improved structural stormwater BMPs shall be implemented to ensure the conditions for Post-Construction Stormwater Management continue to be met.

f. Plan Reviews

Plan reviews shall be conducted by key VAHCS staff throughout the schematic, design development, and construction document approval phases of project. Construction documents include specifications and drawings. Prior to the start of construction activity this process will ensure that the requirements of this policy shall be met.

g. Supporting Documentation

Supporting documentation used to comply with this policy shall include construction project files maintained by Facilities Management which includes documentation of site plan reviews, mitigation projects, and inspection and maintenance of stormwater BMPs.
3. DEFINITIONS:

a. **Best Management Practices (BMPs)** means erosion prevention and sediment control, and water quality management practices that are the most effective and practicable means of controlling, preventing, and minimizing degradation of surface water, including avoidance of impacts, construction-phasing, minimizing the length of time soil areas are exposed, prohibitions, and other management practices published by state or designated area-wide planning agencies.

b. **Common Plan of Development or Sale** means a contiguous area where multiple separate and distinct land disturbing activities may be taking place at different times, on different schedules, but under one proposed plan. One plan is broadly defined to include design, permit application, advertisement or physical demarcation indicating that land-disturbing activities may occur.

c. **Construction Activity** includes construction activity as defined in 40 C.F.R. pt. 122.26(b) (14) (x) and small construction activity as defined in 40 C.F.R. pt. 122.26(b) (15) and construction activity defined by Minn. R, 7090.0080, subp4. This includes a disturbance to the land that results in a change in the topography, existing soil cover (both vegetative and non-vegetative), or the existing soil topography that may result in accelerated stormwater runoff, leading to soil erosion and movement of sediment into surface waters or drainage systems. Examples of construction activity may include clearing, grading, filling, and excavating. Construction activity includes the disturbance of less than one acre of total land area that is a part of a larger common plan of development or sale if the larger common plan will ultimately disturb one (1) acre or more.

d. **Erosion Prevention** means measures employed to prevent erosion including but not limited to: soil stabilization practices, limited grading, mulch, temporary erosion protection or permanent cover, and construction phasing.

e. **Hazardous Materials** means any material, including any substance, waste, or combination thereof, which because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infection characteristics may cause, or significantly contribute to, a substantial present or potential hazard to human health, safety, property or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of, or otherwise managed.

f. **Illegal Discharge** means any direct or indirect non-storm water discharge to the storm drain system, except as exempted in this plan.

g. **Illicit Connection** is defined as either of the following:
- Any drain or conveyance, whether on the surface or subsurface that allows an illegal discharge to enter the storm drain system including but not limited to any conveyances that allow any non-storm water discharge including sewage, process wastewater, and wash water to enter the storm drain system and any connections to the storm drain system from indoor drains and sinks, regardless of whether said drain or connection had been previously allowed, permitted, or approved by an authorized enforcement agency or,

- Any drain or conveyance connected from a commercial or industrial land use to the storm drain system that has not been documented in plans, maps, or equivalent records and approved by an authorized enforcement agency.

h. **Impervious Surface** means a constructed hard surface that either prevents or retards the entry of water into the soil and causes water to run off the surface in greater quantities and at an increased rate of flow than prior to development. Examples include rooftops, sidewalks, patios, driveways, parking lots, storage areas, and concrete, asphalt, or gravel roads.

i. **Industrial Activity** means Activities subject to NPDES Industrial Stormwater Permits as defined in 40 CFR, Section 122.26 (b)(14).

j. **Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)** means The system of conveyances (including sidewalks, roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains) owned and operated by the St. Cloud VA and designed or used for collecting or conveying storm water, and that is not used for collecting or conveying sewage. means The system of conveyances (including sidewalks, roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains) owned and operated by the St. Cloud VA and designed or used for collecting or conveying storm water, and that is not used for collecting or conveying sewage.

k. **National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Stormwater General Permit** means A permit issued by EPA (or by a State under authority delegated pursuant to 33 USC § 1342(b)) that authorizes the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United State, whether the permit is applicable on an individual, group, or general area-wide basis.

l. **Notice of Termination** means notice to terminate coverage under the MPCA General Stormwater Construction Permit after construction is complete, the site has undergone Final Stabilization, and maintenance agreements for all permanent facilities have been established, in accordance with all applicable conditions of this permit.

m. **Permanent Cover** means surface types that will prevent soil failure under erosive conditions. Examples include: gravel, asphalt, concrete, rip rap, roof
taps, perennial cover, or other landscaped material that will permanently arrest soil erosion. A uniform perennial vegetative cover (e.g., evenly distributed, without large bare areas) with a density of 70% of the native background vegetative cover for the area must be established on all unpaved areas and areas not covered by permanent structures, or equivalent permanent stabilization measures. Permanent cover does not include the practices listed under temporary erosion protection.

n. **Pollutant** means anything which causes or contributes to pollution. Pollutants may include, but are not limited to: paints, varnishes, and solvents; oil and other automotive fluids; non-hazardous liquid and solid wastes and yard wastes; refuse, rubbish, garbage, litter, or other discarded or abandoned objects, ordinances, and accumulations, so that same may cause or contribute to pollution; floatables; pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers; hazardous substances and wastes; sewage, fecal coliform and pathogens; dissolved and particulate metals; animal wastes; wastes and residues that result from constructing a building or structure; and noxious or offensive matter of any kind.

o. **Sediment Control** means methods employed to prevent sediment from leaving the site. Sediment control practices include silt fences, sediment traps, earth dikes, drainage swales, check dams, subsurface drains, pipe slope drains, storm drain inlet protection, and temporary or permanent sedimentation basins.

p. **Stabilized** means the exposed ground surface has been covered by appropriate materials such as mulch, staked sod, riprap, erosion control blanket, mats or other material that prevents erosion from occurring. Applying mulch, hydromulch, tackifier, polyacrylamide or similar erosion prevention practices is not acceptable stabilization in temporary or permanent drainage ditches or areas where concentrated overland flow occurs. Grass seeding is not stabilization.

q. **Storm Drainage System** means publicly-owned facilities by which storm water is collected and/or conveyed, including but not limited to any roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, gutters, curbs, inlets, piped storm drains, pumping facilities, retention and detention basins, natural and human-made or altered drainage channels, reservoirs, and other drainage structures.

r. **Stormwater** is defined under Minn. R. 7077.0105, subp. 41(b), and includes precipitation runoff, stormwater runoff, snowmelt runoff, and any other surface runoff and drainage.

s. **Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)** means a plan for stormwater discharge that includes erosion prevention measures, sediment controls and Permanent Stormwater Management Systems that, when implemented, will decrease soil erosion on a parcel of land and decrease off-site nonpoint pollution.
t. **Temporary Erosion Protection** means methods employed to prevent erosion. Examples of temporary erosion protection include; straw, wood fiber blanket, wood chips, and erosion netting.

u. **Wastewater** means any water or other liquid, other than uncontaminated storm water, discharged from a facility.

### 3. RESPONSIBILITIES:

a. **St. Cloud VA Health Care System Director**
   
   (1) The HCS Director has the responsibility and authority to ensure the Health Care System is in compliance with stormwater rules and regulations.

   (2) The HCS Director is responsible for ensuring that adequate resources are acquired and applied to implement this policy.

b. **Director, Facilities Management**
   
   (1) Is responsible for assuring compliance with stormwater regulations by effectively applying resources provided to Facilities Management Service (FMS).

   (2) Is responsible for the maintenance and operation of the stormwater conveyance system and stormwater treatment systems.

   (4) Is responsible for ensuring annual illicit discharge inspections are conducted during dry-weather conditions or periods of 72 or more hours with no precipitation, on all outfalls, where feasible.

   (a) Priority Areas likely to have illicit discharges include all outfalls discharging directly into the Sauk River.

   (5) Is responsible for ensuring The St. Cloud VA keep and maintain that part of the watercourse within the property free of trash, debris, excessive vegetation, and other obstacles that would pollute, contaminate, or significantly retard the flow of water through the watercourse.

c. **Projects Section Chief**

   (1) Is responsible for maintaining drawings of the stormwater conveyance and discharge system.

   (2) Is responsible for prohibiting contractor concrete washout and vehicle washing operations on the HCS System grounds.
(3) Is responsible for ensuring that projects are designed by project designers and constructed by contractors thoroughly familiar with the rules and regulations that apply to the HCS and the project.

(4) Is responsible for ensuring that projects are designed and constructed to meet federal, state and local stormwater and erosion and sediment control regulations applicable to development and redevelopment projects. Applicable regulations include:

a) Section 438 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 which requires projects exceeding 5,000 square feet of disturbed area must retain the 95th percentile (1/4”) rainfall event onsite through infiltration and low impact development, and maintain exiting flow rates and temperature.

b) Minnesota Pollution Control Agency National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)/State Disposal System (SDS) Construction Stormwater General Permit for any construction disturbing:
   - One or more acre of soil.
   - Less than one acre of soil if the activity is part of a larger common plan of development or sale that is greater than one acre.
   - Less than one acre of soil, but the MPCA determines the activity poses a risk to water resources.

c) Sauk River Watershed District Administrative Rules for Erosion Control and Stormwater requires a permit for any land disturbing activity of greater than 200 square feet in area and within 500 feet of any waterbody or wetland.

(5) Is responsible for ensuring that project Scopes of Work (SOWs) specify that project designers submit SWPPPs or erosion and sediment control plans, as applicable. The SWPPPs or plans shall include drawings, detail sheets, narrative descriptions and supporting calculations that have been prepared by individuals trained in SWPPP design. Project designers shall provide sufficient and complete information that meets federal, local and state permitting requirements as described in c.3(4) a, b and c. The SWPPP shall contain all the information required for a Contractor and the VA to apply for a General Construction Stormwater Permit.

(6) Is responsible for ensuring that project SOWs specify that the project designer is responsible for assuring that any land disturbing activities occurring in the design phase of the project such as testing, drilling or boring include BMPs.

(7) Is responsible for periodically updating the Storm Sewer drawing to incorporate permanent treatment systems or other permanent BMPs.
(8) Is responsible for ensuring that contract specifications require the contractor to comply with federal, state and local stormwater rules and regulations including but not limited to providing onsite personnel trained to oversee and implement the SWPPP or erosion and sediment control plan, revise and amend the SWPPP or plan, inspect, install, maintain and repair BMPs, and maintain records as required by permits or plans.

(9) Is responsible for ensuring that all required permits have been obtained before commencement of construction and that all required records are retained for a minimum of three years following project termination.

(10) If necessary, the Projects Section Chief will adopt requirements identifying Best Management Practices for any activity, operation, or facility which may cause or contribute to pollution or contamination of storm water, the storm drain system, or waters of the U.S. Compliance with all terms and conditions of a valid NPDES permit authorizing the discharge of storm water associated with industrial activity, to the extent practicable, shall be deemed compliance with the provisions of this section. These BMPs shall be part of a stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) as necessary for compliance with requirements of the NPDES permit.

(11) Is responsible for ensuring the site plan incorporate the following erosion and sediment controls and waste controls in the MPCA's general permit to Discharge Stormwater Associated with Construction Activity (CSW Permit) No.MN R1000001 (Part III.D.4.a.(1)-(8)) (Document can be found on the MPCA website at http://www.pca.state.mn.us/wfhya5b):

Refer to Satisfying Regulatory Mechanism Requirements for Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control in Municipal Stormwater Permits for elaboration on each of the eight permit requirements in Part III.D.4.a.(1)-(8). (Document can be found on the MPCA website at http://www.pca.state.mn.us/sbiza7c)

1. BMPs to minimize erosion
2. BMPs to minimize discharge of sediment and other pollutants
3. BMPs for dewatering activities (if allowed)
4. Site Inspections and Records of Rainfall Events
5. BMP maintenance
6. Management of solid and hazardous wastes on each project site
7. Final Stabilization upon the completion of construction activity, including the use of perennial vegetative cover on all exposed soils or other equivalent means

d. **Supervisor, Facilities Management Maintenance and Operations Section**

   (1) Ensures clear access to storm sewer inlets and outlets, and maintains and prominently marks them to ensure they can be easily accessed and located, even at night.
(2) Ensures that upon discovery, any surface or subsurface illicit connection to the storm drain system is disconnected and redirected to the sanitary sewer system.

(3) Ensures that a preventative maintenance program is created and implemented for all permanent stormwater treatment systems including inspection, cleaning, and repair as necessary to maintain the systems.

(4) Ensures that Maintenance and Operation (M & O) staff follow BMPs practices to prevent stormwater pollution associated with buildings and grounds activities, and station projects.

(5) Ensures that no engine degreasing, vehicle washing, or concrete washout is conducted outdoors.

(6) Ensures that chemicals including de-icing and melt chemicals are not used to open frozen storm drains.

(7) Ensures that M & O staff are trained on stormwater pollution prevention and regulatory compliance as it relates to their job duties including best management practices for snow and ice control, pesticide and fertilizer application, and station projects.

(8) Ensures that the individual(s) that apply pesticides use only non-restricted pesticide formulations.

e. **Service Line Directors/Supervisors/Program Managers**

   (1) Must ensure that employees are performing their work activities in a proper manner that prevents discharge of pollutants to storm drain conveyances.

   (2) Must ensure that employees respond appropriately to spills per the HCS Spill Policy within the Red Book (HCSM FM-01).

   (3) Must ensure employees participate in training applicable to the employee’s job duties and perform those duties as trained.

f. **GEMS Coordinator**

   (1) Is responsible for maintaining the HCS Stormwater Comprehensive Plan (SCP) documents.

   (2) Provides guidance and technical assistance to facilitate stormwater compliance and pollution prevention within the scope of the HCS GEMS Program.

   (3) Is responsible for reviewing SWPPPs and BMP plans, drawings, narrative descriptions and supporting calculations that have been prepared by
individuals trained in SWPPPs to ensure projects are designed to meet federal, local and state permitting requirements.

(4) Is responsible for submitting permit applications to regulatory agencies and maintaining permit approval documents.

(5) Ensures that a Notice of Termination (NOT) is submitted to the MPCA within 30 days of final stabilization.

(6) Is responsible for ensuring that Project Section staff is familiar with construction SWPPPs, rules and regulations as they relate to their project oversight job duties.


(8) Is responsible for ensuring that plans and projects are in compliance with federal laws and regulations designed to protect the environment by assisting FMS Projects and M & O staff with project reviews per the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

(9) Is responsible for ensuring the following prohibitions for illicit discharges:

(a) Prohibition of Illegal Discharges:
No person shall throw, drain, or otherwise discharge, cause, or allow others under its control to throw, drain, or otherwise discharge into the MS4 any pollutants or wastes containing any pollutants, other than storm water.

The commencement, conduct or continuance of any illegal discharge to the storm drain system is prohibited except as described as follows:

i. The following discharges are exempt from discharge prohibitions established by this plan: water line flushing, landscape irrigation, diverted stream flows, rising ground waters, uncontaminated ground water infiltration, uncontaminated pumped ground water, discharges from potable water sources, foundation drains, air conditioning condensation, irrigation water, springs, water from crawl space pumps, footing drains, lawn watering, individual residential car washing, flows from riparian habitats and wetlands, dechlorinated swimming pool discharges, and street wash water.

ii. Discharges or flow from firefighting, and other discharges specified in writing by the St. Cloud VA Health Care System Director as being necessary to protect public health and safety.
iii. Discharges associated with dye testing, however this activity requires a verbal notification to the St. Cloud VA Health Care System Director prior to the time of the test.

iv. The prohibition shall not apply to any non-storm water discharge permitted under an NPDES permit, waiver, or waste discharge order issued to the discharger and administered under the authority of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), provided that the discharger is in full compliance with all requirements of the permit, waiver, or order and other applicable laws and regulations, and provided that written approval has been granted for any discharge to the storm drain system.

(b) Prohibition of Illicit Connections:

i. The construction, use, maintenance or continued existence of illicit connections to the storm drain system is prohibited.

ii. This prohibition expressly includes, without limitation, illicit connections made in the past, regardless of whether the connection was permissible under law or practices applicable or prevailing at the time of connection.

iii. A person is considered to be in violation of this plan if the person connects a line conveying sewage to the MS4, or allows such a connection to continue.

iv. Improper connections in violation of this policy attachment must be disconnected and redirected, if necessary, to an approved onsite wastewater management system or the sanitary sewer system upon approval of the St. Cloud VA Health Care System Director.

g. All Employees:

(1) Shall not discharge to the storm drain system anything other than stormwater.

(2) Shall report spills and any known or suspected release of discharges to the stormwater conveyance system to the GEMS Coordinator.

(3) Shall perform duties and work activities with care and attention given to good housekeeping practices, best management practices, and in accordance with HCS policies and procedures that make possible the prevention of non-stormwater discharges to the stormwater conveyance systems.

(5) Shall perform material and waste handling, transfer, loading, unloading and storage using best management practices and in accordance with HCS policies and procedures to prevent or reduce the discharge of
pollutants either directly or indirectly to stormwater, receiving waters or stormwater conveyances.

(6) Notwithstanding other requirements of law, as soon as any person has information of any known or suspected release of materials which are resulting or may result in illegal discharges or pollutants discharging into storm water, the storm drain system, or waters of the U.S., that person shall take all necessary steps to ensure the discovery, containment, and cleanup of such release. In the event of such a release of hazardous materials, that person shall immediately notify Minnesota Department of Public Safety Duty Officer (1-800-422-0798), as defined in Minn. Stat. §115.061. In the event of a release of non-hazardous materials, said person shall notify Facilities Management in person or by phone no later than the next business day.

4. PROCEDURES:

a. Facilities Management Operations and Maintenance

(1) Grounds maintenance shall be performed using BMPs to prevent or reduce the discharge of sediment, street sweepings, grass clippings, pesticides, snow and salt storage, either directly or indirectly to stormwater, receiving waters or stormwater conveyance systems.

(2) Vehicle and equipment parking, maintenance, fueling, storage and washing shall be performed using BMPs to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants either directly or indirectly to stormwater, receiving waters or stormwater conveyances.

(3) Bulk fuel transfer must be performed according to transfer procedures provided in the HCS Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures Plan.

(4) Station projects will be designed and completed in compliance with environmental regulations designed to protect the environment and shall incorporate BMPs.

(5) NEPA determinations will be completed by M & O Leads and the GEMS Coordinator when applicable to M & O projects.

b. Facilities Management Projects

(1) The primary HCS regulatory mechanism relies on FMS Projects Section administrative procedures and contractual relationships to ensure compliance.
(2) In the design and development stage, project managers and the GEMS Coordinator conduct a NEPA review and identify the applicability of stormwater construction permits.

(3) The Projects Section Chief includes construction stormwater requirements in Architect/Engineer SOWs.

(4) The A/E incorporates construction stormwater requirements into construction documents.

(5) The GEMS Coordinator reviews construction documents for compliance with requirements and provides an approval signature when documents are complete.

(6) Contractors are required to sign off on project SWPPPs before the GEMS Coordinator completes permit application(s).

(7) The GEMS Coordinator submits permit application(s) and maintains documents associated with the application and the approved permit.

(8) Contractors are required to implement the SWPPP according to schedules and specifications in construction documents and permit requirements.

(9) Contractors are required to provide onsite personnel trained to oversee and implement the SWPPP including revision and amendment, site inspections, installation, maintenance and repair of BMPs, documentation and record retention.

(10) Project Managers ensure the required permits and the SWPPP or plan applicable to a project is in place before commencement of construction.

(11) Project Managers ensure Construction site inspections be done by a certified inspector every seven days during active construction and within 24 hours of a rainfall event of 0.5 inches or greater in 24 hours to ensure compliance with the SWPPP.

(12) Project Managers monitor contractor implementation of BMPs sediment controls and the SWPPP and if deficiencies are found which are not corrected within 24 hours, report the deficiencies to the GEMS Coordinator and Projects Section Chief.

(13) The GEMS Coordinator will keep record of the each inspection and maintenance activity including the following:

(a) Name(s) of individual(s) or position titles of inspections.

(b) Date and time of inspection.

(c) Findings.

(d) Corrective actions.
(e) Date and amount of rainfall events.

(f) Documentations of changes made to SWPPP.

(14) Project Managers monitor contractor compliance by assuring that a Construction Supervisor with valid certification in erosion and sediment control is onsite to direct the contractor’s and subcontractor’s operations. The Project Manager will report contractor noncompliance to the GEMS Coordinator and Projects Section Chief.

(15) The Project Section Chief and FMS Director determine the appropriate response to contractor noncompliance.

(16) The Project Section Chief notifies the GEMS Coordinator and Project Section Chief when final stabilization of a project occurs and all SWPPP and permit records and documentation have been filed with the project folder.

(17) Within 30 days of final stabilization and filing of project documentation, the GEMS Coordinator submits applicable SWPPP termination forms to regulatory authorities.

c. Stormwater Compliance Training

(1) The GEMS Coordinator attends stormwater compliance training to maintain knowledge of legal and other requirements.

(2) The GEMS Coordinator provides stormwater pollution prevention training opportunities and materials to staff as it relates to their job duties.

(3) The GEMS Coordinator recommends offsite training for personnel when deemed appropriate and necessary to facilitate HCS compliance with legal requirements.

(4) Field Staff responsible for conduction annual outfall inspections will be trained in accordance with PartIII.D.6.g(2) of the MS4 NPDES Permit.

(5) Violations of this plan shall be documented by the GEMS Coordinator and corrective actions submitted by the appropriate Department Head over the operation causing the violation. All corrective actions will be kept on file by the GEMS Coordinator in accordance with MS4 record retention requirements. Any Illicit Discharge found will be marked as a priority area for future inspections.
(a) In the event the violation constitutes an immediate danger to the public health or public safety, the Facilities Management Safety Personnel of the St. Cloud VA is/are authorized to take any and all measures necessary to abate the violation and/or restore the property.
5. **ENFORCEMENT**

6. **REFERENCES:**

   a. St. Cloud VA Health Care System Stormwater Comprehensive Plan
   c. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (1972) Stormwater Program
   e. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)/State Disposal System (SDS) Construction Stormwater General Permit MN R100001
   f. City of St. Cloud Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance (City Code of Ordinances Section 365)
   g. Sauk River Watershed District Administrative Rules

7. **FOLLOW-UP RESPONSIBILITY:** GEMS Coordinator