

NPDES MS4 Storm Water Program

The City of Montevideo is now required to operate with a Minnesota NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit. MS4s designated by rule are cities and townships with a population of at least 10,000; and cities and townships with a population of at least 5,000 and discharging or the potential to discharge to valuable or polluted waters. As a designated MS4, the City of Montevideo was required to obtain permit coverage as of February 15, 2007.

The City of Montevideo's permit contains a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program that includes 6 Minimum Control Measures (MCMs):

- 1) Public education and outreach;
- 2) Public participation/involvement;
- 3) Illicit discharge, detection and elimination;
- 4) Construction site runoff control;
- 5) Post-construction site runoff control; and
- 6) Pollution prevention/good housekeeping.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) that apply to each MCM are implemented to reduce the amount of sediment and pollution that enters surface and ground water from storm sewer systems to the maximum extent practicable.

Storm Water Management and Maintenance

Storm water runoff is water from rain or snowmelt that flows over all of our properties. This runoff picks-up seemingly negligible amounts of chemicals, sediment, debris and other pollutants and deposits them into the City's Municipal Storm Sewer System. The City's Public Works Department operates and maintains the separate storm sewer system which consists of catch basins you see in the street, underground pipes and detention ponds.

Unlike wastewater, none of the storm water entering the City's storm sewer system is treated before it is discharged into the bodies of water used for swimming, fishing and drinking water. The ramifications of high levels of pollutants in the water include beach closings, endangered wildlife and polluted drinking water.

Residents can help protect our nation's water resources by following these simple guidelines that help keep the storm water leaving your home or workplace clean:

- . Use Pesticides Sparingly
- . Use Phosphorus Free Fertilizer (required by law)
- . Sweep Up Yard Debris, Fertilizer and Compost Material
- . Clean Up After Your Pet
- . Use a Commercial Car Wash
- . Repair Auto Leaks
- . Properly Dispose Household Hazardous Wastes (Antifreeze, Paint, Oil, etc.)

