

## **POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN**

MARCH 1, 2019

VILLAGE OF NILES, ILLINOIS

NPDES PERMIT # ILM580035

This plan was developed in compliance with the requirements of the Village's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) General Permit No. ILM580035. The primary objective of this plan is to keep contaminants from entering the combined sewer system.

### **Description of the Pollution Prevention Plan**

Since the combined sewer system discharges consist of wastewater and stormwater, pollution contained therein could include industrial wastewater, discarded litter from streets and parks, domestic wastewater, household hazardous wastes, oil and gasoline from streets and parking lots, and any other chemicals that may be discharged into the combined sewer system.

By minimizing pollutants entering the system, significant water quality and habitat benefits can be achieved. Pollution prevention as a rule relies on low technology practices which involve practices to reduce or eliminate the generation of waste and pollutants at the source. This Pollution Prevention Plan addresses the following types of source control:

- Street Cleaning
- Public Education Programs
- Solid Waste Collection and Recycling
- Product Ban/Substitution
- Control of Product Use
- Illegal Dumping
- Bulk Refuse Disposal
- Hazardous Waste Collection
- Water Conservation
- Commercial/Industrial Pollution Prevention

### **Street Cleaning**

Street cleaning can be an effective means of reducing the accumulation of street debris which can enter the combined sewer system during wet weather events. In addition to removing litter, leaves and dirt on the streets, street sweeping can also reduce nutrients, bacteria and metal loading to the combined sewer system. In addition, street sweeping can add aesthetic benefit to the community by reducing the litter that accumulates in the street over time.

To reduce this litter and other materials from streets and curbsides, the Village of Niles maintains a street sweeping program that sweeps approximately 8,000 lane miles per year.

Since pedestrian and vehicular traffic is higher in commercial areas, business district streets are swept three times a week. Street sweepings do not occur during below freezing temperatures or after a heavy rainfall.

### **Public Education**

Public awareness is a critical component in pollution reduction. Public education programs can encourage the proper disposal of litter, household hazardous wastes, sanitary and personal hygiene items, and grease which all can affect the combined sewer system. The general public has a limited understanding of what the combined sewer system is and how they can impact receiving stream water quality. Programs which educate the public on the repercussions of dumping and littering may decrease the frequency of such incidents.

The Village of Niles has begun promoting methods by which residents can reduce or eliminate stormwater runoff pollution through the Village newsletter, press releases and website.

The Village of Niles has produced a Stormwater Toolbox to educate and assist residents with the Village's stormwater management requirements, and detail sources of stormwater planning strategies including: BMPs for stormwater treatment, storage technology and conveyance technology; planning a project; retention practices; filtration practices; and assessment, monitoring, operation and maintenance of the chosen alternatives.

### **Solid Waste Collection and Recycling**

Niles residential homes have refuse, recycling and yard waste (April-Dec) collections once a week. Collections for commercial and industrial businesses vary per week, dependent on the amount of waste generated.

The residents of Niles have a curbside collection program. They are allowed unlimited refuse, recycling and yard waste each week as long as items are prepared accordingly. Residents are also allowed to place one bulk item at the curbside per week for collection.

Residents receive 18-gallon recycling bins and may obtain more, if necessary. Items collected in recycling include metals (aluminum cans, clean foil, tin/steel/bi-metal, cookie tins, empty aerosol cans), glass (clear, green, blue, brown), plastics (#1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7), and paper (newspaper, mixed paper, corrugated cardboard).

Proper refuse, recycling and yard waste procedures, are announced on the Village's website, through the Village's quarterly newsletters, and through the local cable channel.

### **Product Ban/Substitution**

Currently, the Village of Niles does not ban any product packaging or participate in product packaging substitution.

However, there are state wide bans. As of January 1, 2012, electronic waste is banned from Illinois landfills. In support of this electronics ban, the Village of Niles offers two free electronics recycling collection events. One is held in March, and the second collection event is held the last Saturday in June at the Niles Public Works Department, 6849 W. Touhy Avenue in Niles

### **Control of Product Use**

The Public Works Department uses herbicides sparingly throughout the summer/autumn (May through Oct). Sprayings concentrate directly on the weed or wild growth on curb lines, islands, sidewalks, medians, and expansion joints. Areas of weeds and wild growth are sprayed with herbicides only once a year.

The Village has also follows a sensible salting program to reduce the amount of salt used on roadways during winter months to the lowest amount possible while maintaining roads in an acceptable condition for the motoring public. This helps decrease the amount of salt in storm runoff, while also saving money. Guidelines include: planning, personnel training, equipment maintenance, spreader calibration, proper storage, proper maintenance around chemical storage areas and environmental awareness. Village staff receive annual training on the proper use and application rates of roadway salt. In addition, roadway surfaces are pre-treated to further reduce the amount of salt needed for deicing. Salt spreaders are also annually maintained and calibrated.

### **Illegal Dumping**

The Niles Public Works Department posts illegal dumping signs in designated areas where illegal dumping is frequent in the Village. The Niles Police Department or Community Development investigates illegal dumping occurrences. Items that have been illegally dumped are collected by the Public Works Department after the initial investigation and disposed accordingly. It is also announced periodically in the Village's quarterly newsletter.

### **Bulk Refuse Disposal**

The Village's waste hauler collects one cubic yard of construction debris at residential curbsides once a week for a small fee. In addition, the Niles Public Works Department possesses a list of local facilities that will accept construction debris from individuals. This information is passed to individuals who contact the department. It is also announced on the Village's web site

### **Hazardous Waste Collection**

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency sponsors household hazardous waste collection days in various municipalities throughout Illinois during the spring and summer. There are also two long-term facilities that are available throughout the year. These collection days and facilities are provided to the residents for suitable disposal of household hazardous items. The

collection days and facilities are announced on the local cable channel, Village's website, Village's newsletter and local newspapers. The information is also given to residents upon contacting the Public Works Department.

In conjunction with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) the Village has operated a Medication Take Back Program for residents. Residents can anonymously and free of charge, dispose of medications at a drop box located at the offices of Senior Center. This program helps reduce disposal of medications in the sewer system by collecting the follow items:

- Unused/Expired prescription medications
- Expired over-the-counter medications
- Residential sharps (needles/syringes)

### **Water Conservation**

Water conservation can be broadly defined as practices and techniques that improve the efficiency of water use. Water conservation programs can help reduce sanitary flow and increase the CSS collection and treatment capacity during storm events.

The Village of Niles enforces outdoor water restriction usage from May 15 to September 15 of each year. During this time, residents are not allowed to water their lawns between 12:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

The Village of Niles has also installed rain gardens at two locations, a bioinfiltration facility and a pollinator garden. These facilities are designed to retain stormwater runoff during rain events and allow it to slowly infiltrate into the ground. This process naturally removes runoff contaminants such as sand, dirt and grit, excess fertilizer and chemicals from vehicles before it returns to the ground. Removing stormwater runoff from the combined sewer system reduces frequency of surcharging and quantity of stormwater

### **Commercial/Industrial Pollution Prevention**

A qualified plant employee should conduct a visual inspection of storm water to ensure that non-storm water discharges are not entering the storm water. In addition, an inspection of procedures/equipment for the discharge on non-storm water should be conducted when appropriate.

The Village of Niles is planning to work with the Chamber of Commerce in the future to promote additional pollution prevention programs in commercial and industrial establishments.