



# Oklahoma County Phase II Separate Storm Sewer System Annual Report

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## Executive Summary

### Stormwater Management Annual Report

#### Executive Summary:

This annual report has been prepared in compliance with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality's permitting requirements for small municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s). Oklahoma County has been designated a MS4 based on population in the urbanized areas in the unincorporated portions of Oklahoma County. Under Phase II requirements MS4's must apply for a general permit in order to be authorized to discharge stormwater into "waters of the United States". The permit requires MS4's to develop, implement, and enforce a stormwater management program designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable. Municipalities, counties, and state entities have five years to achieve complete implementation of the program, but each year they must show incremental progress towards accomplishing that goal. To monitor progress of the stormwater management program, the ODEQ requires all entities to conduct an annual evaluation and submit the results in the form of an annual report. This document has been prepared to satisfy this requirement.

Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality conducted a Phase II Screening Evaluation in February 2010. ODEQ conducted an audit of the previous five years of implementation of Oklahoma County's Stormwater Management Plan. ODEQ also did a field visit of Oklahoma County District One's Road Maintenance and Construction yard, OG&E project in eastern Oklahoma County, and the Crutcho Park Project. ODEQ found that Oklahoma County is in substantial compliance with the current permit, and no deficiencies were identified during the audit.

**MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE 1 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH**

**Support of a Regional Stormwater Website**

Status: **Complete**

Since 2005 Oklahoma County has supported the Association of Central Oklahoma Governments to distribute basic information about the region's stormwater program. Oklahoma County will continue to support ACOG in this effort.

Oklahoma County will try to add stormwater information to its website in the future. We would include information about the County's program which includes brochures, Oklahoma County Stormwater Map, and information about current stormwater activity in Oklahoma County.

**Brochures**

Status: **Complete**

Oklahoma County has two brochures that we utilize to inform the general public about Oklahoma County's program and how they can help reduce pollution through stormwater runoff. We utilize EPA's "After the Storm" brochure and Oklahoma County has created its own brochure to inform citizens about the issues of stormwater runoff and how they can be of assistance.

**Future Plans for Public Education**

Oklahoma County is currently considering a quarterly or biannual newsletter that would be sent to subdivisions in unincorporated Oklahoma County. The newsletters would provide information about household hazardous waste and where Oklahoma County citizens can drop off their household hazardous waste. Due to budgetary constraints, Oklahoma County has put the newsletter on hold at this time.

Oklahoma County is also looking into adding a webpage to get out information about the County's program.

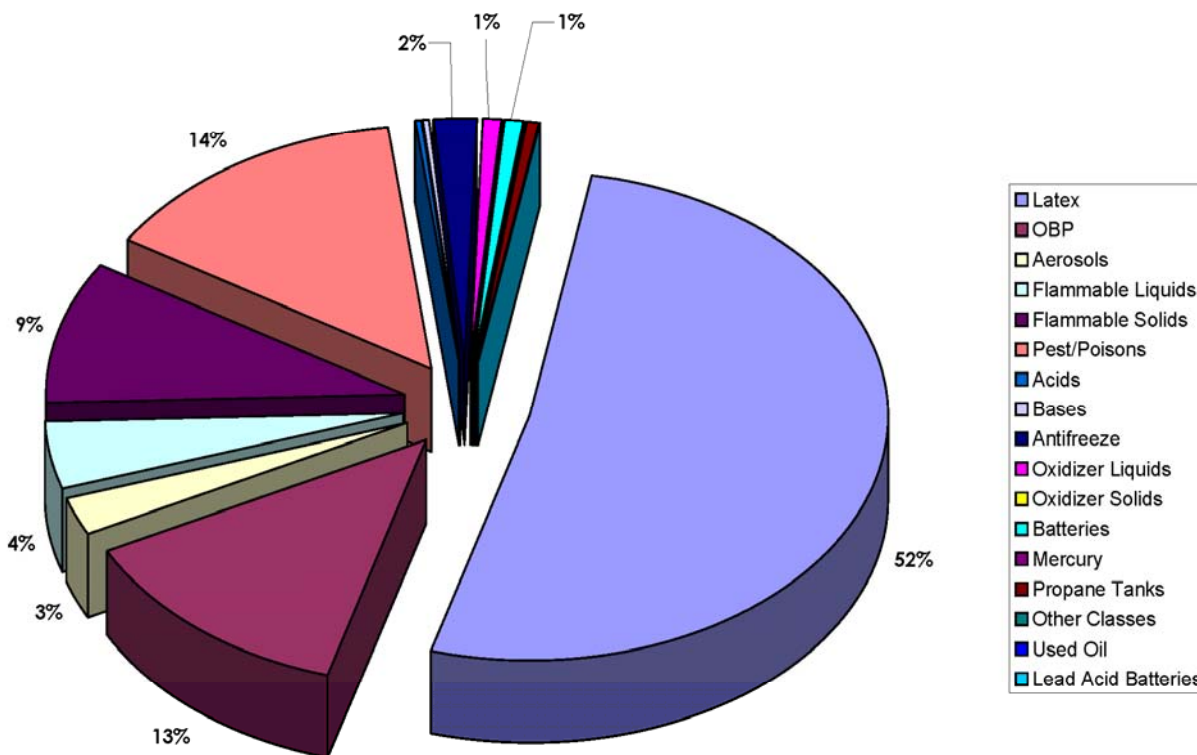
**MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE 2 PUBLIC INVOLEMENT AND PARTICIPATION**

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection**

Status: **Complete**

Oklahoma County has been working with Midwest City and other communities before the MS4 program was initiated under the umbrella of COMEA. COMEA disbanded in 2007 and now Oklahoma County is partnering with Midwest City so residents of unincorporated Oklahoma County can dispose of household hazardous waste at their facility. In 2008 Oklahoma County residents dropped off 712.6 pounds of household hazardous waste. In 2009 Oklahoma County residents dropped off 812.2 pounds of household hazardous waste. In 2010 Oklahoma County residents dropped off 1,140 pounds of household hazardous waste. The pie chart below is a breakdown of the type of waste that was dropped off at the Midwest City facility.

2010 Unincorporated Oklahoma County HHW Dropoff Chart



Oklahoma County will continue to support and promote Midwest City in the recycling of household waste.

**Brochure**

Status: **Complete**

Oklahoma County has created a brochure to explain to the general public household hazardous waste, non-point source pollution, and the importance of proper disposal of these wastes. Oklahoma County distributes this pamphlet with building permits and is at the County planning and engineering office for the general public to consume.

**MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE 3 - ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION & ELIMINATION**

**MAPPING OF THE MS4**

Status: **Complete**

Oklahoma County hired C.H. Guernsey & Company to collect GPS data that depicts Oklahoma County's dry weather screening points that can also be used as possible monitoring points in the future. Oklahoma County and C.H. Guernsey also took pictures at these dry weather screening points for our records. Oklahoma County has created a map showing these locations and is available upon request. Oklahoma County will continue to dry weather screen these points in the future and will take photographs for documentation purposes. There are a total of 22 dry weather screening/monitoring points in unincorporated Oklahoma County.

**STORMWATER REGULATION**

Status: **Complete**

C.H. Guernsey & Company was employed by Oklahoma County to assist in the creation of Oklahoma County's Stormwater Regulation. The stormwater regulation was approved by the Board of County Commissioners in August 2009. A few months before the approval of the Stormwater Regulation Oklahoma County had been working to change state statutes to have the capability to write citations for zoning violations, building code violations, and stormwater violations. That measure has been approved but no stormwater violations have been found and no citations have been written at this time.

**CRUTCHO PARK PROJECT**

Status: **Ongoing**

Oklahoma County is in the process of purchasing homes in the Crutcho Park Subdivision and demolishing the homes. The empty lots will be restored, and remain open space in perpetuity. This is a voluntary program to remove residents from harms way and reduce flood losses. Oklahoma County has demolished 35 residences at this time, and as various phases of the project are approved and implemented, it is the goal to remove approximately 105 homes from the floodway. The removal of these homes is

a substantial benefit to Crutch Creek, which is an impaired water body. It is possible the water quality of Crutch Creek could improve dramatically, with the removal of these homes.

**TRAINING**

Status: **Ongoing**

Ruth Walters and Erik Brandt have been to several training events throughout the years. They have received training by attending the Stream Team Conference, ASFPM Annual Conference, annual stormwater conference in Waco, TX, Santa Fe, NM, and Oklahoma City, OK, Central Oklahoma Stormwater Alliance workshop, and other events that are put on in the local area. Oklahoma County will continue to receive training and provide training to other county staff as the program continues to grow.

**MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE 4 – CONSTRUCTION SITE STORM WATER CONTROL**

**INSPECTION**

Status: **Ongoing**

Oklahoma County reviews all plats during the three phases of the platting process. Oklahoma County staff will make visits to the development site during the preliminary plat phase to make sure that all runoff is contained to the site and all best management practices are followed. Once the preliminary plat is approved staff continues to follow the project during the final plat phase. Once the final plat phase is complete staff will conduct a final inspection to make sure all roads are constructed to county standards and ensure all storm water controls are in place.

Once the final plat phase is approved by the Board of County Commissioners the developer is then able to sell lots and obtain building permits. Oklahoma County staff continues the inspection process during the construction of individual homes from the foundation inspection until the Certificate of Occupancy is obtained. The foundation inspection includes storm water control best management practices are installed. The final inspection, conducted prior to issuance of the certificate of occupancy, includes inspecting the lots for proper grading and installation of sod, hydromulch, or grass to control storm water runoff from the site.

**ENFORCEMENT**

Status: **Ongoing**

Oklahoma County enforces its storm water regulation with the help of the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality. Oklahoma County will enforce the regulation on any project in the unincorporated areas of Oklahoma County. We also investigate citizen complaints. We have had a few complaints from citizens in unincorporated Oklahoma County; most of the complaints were resolved before any citations were



written. The complaints were received primarily from the Stone Valley Ranch subdivision.

## **MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE 5 – POST CONSTRUCTION STORM WATER MANAGEMENT**

### **INSPECTION**

Status: **Ongoing**

Oklahoma County reviews all plats during the three phases of the platting process. Oklahoma County staff will conduct visits to the development site during the preliminary plat phase to make sure that all runoff is contained to the site and all best management practices are followed. Once the preliminary plat is approved staff continues to follow the project during the final plat phase. Once the final plat phase is complete staff will conduct a final inspection to make ensure all roads are constructed to county standards and to make ensure that all stormwater controls are in place.

Once the final plat phase is approved by the Board of County Commissioners the developer is then able to sell lots and obtain building permits. Oklahoma County staff continues the inspection process during the construction of individual homes from the foundation inspection until the Certificate of Occupancy is obtained. The foundation inspection includes storm water runoff best management practices are in place to control storm water runoff. The final inspection, conducted prior to issuance of the certificate of occupancy, includes proper grading and sod, hydromulch, or grass is in place to control storm water runoff from the site.

### **ENFORCEMENT**

Status: **Ongoing**

Oklahoma County enforces its stormwater regulation with the help of the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality. Oklahoma County will enforce the regulation on any project in the unincorporated parts of Oklahoma County; this includes the ability to issue citations, if warranted. We also investigate complaints from citizens. We have had a few complaints from citizens in unincorporated Oklahoma County and those complaints were resolved before any citations were written. Most of the complaints have originated from the Stone Valley Ranch subdivision.

## **MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE 6 – POLLUTION PREVENTION & GOOD HOUSEKEEPING**

### **Household Hazardous Waste Collection**

Status: **Complete**

Oklahoma County worked with Midwest City and other communities before the MS4 program was initiated, under the umbrella of COMEA. COMEA disbanded in 2007; Midwest City took over the program. Oklahoma County is partnering with Midwest City

so residents of unincorporated Oklahoma County can dispose of household hazardous waste at the Midwest City facility. In 2008 Oklahoma County residents dropped off 712.6 pounds of household hazardous waste. In 2009 Oklahoma County residents dropped off 812.2 pounds of household hazardous waste. In 2010 Oklahoma County residents dropped off 1,140 pounds of household hazardous waste. Oklahoma County will continue our work with Midwest City in the future.

### **ENFORCEMENT**

Status: **Ongoing**

Oklahoma County enforces its stormwater regulation with the help of the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality. Oklahoma County will enforce the regulation on any project in the unincorporated parts of Oklahoma County. We also investigate complaints from citizens. We have had a few complaints from citizens in unincorporated Oklahoma County and those complaints were resolved before any citations were written. We have called on assistance from ODEQ on a couple of occasions and those issues were resolved.

### **TRAINING**

Status: **Ongoing**

Staff has conducted training of County Road crews and County Commissioners from each County Commissioner district about the County's new regulations and the impact County activities have on water quality. We have gone over the basics of stormwater quality and how road crews and citizens can help prevent pollution. We have had road crews and commissioners watch videos explaining the affects of water pollution and what road crews and citizens can do to keep stormwater runoff to a minimum.

### **FUTURE ACTIVITES FOR THE OKLAHOMA COUNTY STORMWATER PLAN**

ODEQ audited Oklahoma County's Stormwater Program and made some recommendations regarding how to improve the program. ODEQ recommended that Oklahoma County establish a method to document pollutant reduction across a few areas of the program. ODEQ also recommended that we continue to develop Minimum Control Measure 5 – Post Construction Management in New Development and Redevelopment. Oklahoma County has been and will continue to look into strengthening these areas of our current plan.

As the 2010 Census is wrapping up and population numbers start to be disseminated to local governments, Oklahoma County concerns about the urbanized area expanding into the unincorporated areas of Oklahoma County. Oklahoma County planned for the possible expansion of the urbanized area by examining and adding some dry weather screening points in the northwest part of Oklahoma County. Oklahoma County is also awaiting the possible changes that may need to be made in the next five year general permit authorization that, to date, have not been announced.

There have been discussions concerning some additional responsibilities being added to Phase II entities. These additional responsibilities, in conjunction with the possible expansion of the urbanized area, could prove challenging for Oklahoma County's future storm water plan.