



MCMO

MCMO Storm Water Program Operation/Administration

The District's SWMP and regulations are posted on the District website (follow QR code).

PURPOSE: Provide administrative and operational services complying with Ohio EPA's General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4), also known as the MS4 Permit.

RESPONSIBLE PARTIES: Hamilton County Storm Water District (District), Hamilton County Engineer's Office (HCEO)

Partner Agency Contacts: HCEO – Todd Long, Deputy Chief Engineer – todd.long@hamilton-co.org



Background:

The District was formed by the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners in 2004 by authorities granted under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 6117. The District comprises all townships in Hamilton County and any cities and villages that have elected to become District Co-Permittees. The primary responsibility of the District is to provide the services necessary to assist the County and its Co-Permittees in complying with the Ohio EPA's MS4 Permit. The District has dedicated funding from a special assessment based on the storm water generated by each property within the District. District services are administered by the HCEO and are implemented by Hamilton County Public Health (HCPH), Hamilton County Planning & Development (HP+D), and Hamilton County Conservation District (HCCD), in cooperation with other partners—both government and private organizations.

District and Co-Permittee Permit Compliance Activities:

Program and Policy Development: The District developed a new 2021 Storm Water Management Program (SMWP) Plan with the release of the 2021 MS4 permit. The SWMP Plan is a written document required by Ohio EPA that defines the specific actions the District and each of its Co-Permittees must take to meet the MS4 permit requirements during the 2021–2026 permit cycle. District actions are completed through its partner agencies with as-needed consultant support. The District also maintains a variety of policies and protocols that provide additional details regarding implementation of the SWMP Plan.

The District recently revised and enacted regulations as required by the MS4 permit under minimum control measures (MCMs) 3, 4, and 5. District regulations are required to address all requirements of the latest Ohio EPA Construction General Permit and/or the MS4 permit. Municipal Co-Permittees must enact District regulations through ordinance or resolution or create regulations that meet or exceed the requirements of the District's regulations.

Activity Tracking, Reporting, and Recordkeeping: The District tracks all permit compliance activities and periodically collects data from its Co-Permittees and partner agencies. Data is evaluated and compiled annually for the entire District between January – March; and submitted to Ohio EPA on April 1 of each year. The District report is available for download on the District website; other records are available upon request.

Financial Management: The District develops annual budgets for District and partner agency expenditures. The District also develops a billing file to allocate costs to properties within District boundaries—based on their storm water contribution—which is proportionate to the area of impervious surfaces on the property (e.g., pavement, buildings, and other land cover that does not allow precipitation to soak into the soil). Communities are billed in one of two ways—either directly (for storm water services) or as special assessments on property tax bills (depending on the annual Level of Service [LOS] election form selection). The annual LOS form offers municipal Co-Permittees the choice to perform their own MCM 3, 4, or 5 program compliance activities, or to have the District conduct those activities for the municipality.



District-produced reports and official guidance documents and regulations are available on the District website.

Coordination: The District provides guidance and training to Co-Permittees to meet MS4 permit requirements. A formal Oversight Board guides regulatory and policy actions of the District. Oversight Board meetings are open to the public and serve as an opportunity for you to provide input pertaining to District programs and topics. The District coordinates with its partner every quarter to assess progress toward MS4 Permit compliance as well as coordinate activities and develop new opportunities to provide cost-effective services to your communities.



Permit/District Requirements

Permit/District Requirement	Description	Responsible Party	
		Co-Permittee	Partner Agency(ies)/ District
Maintain a Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) Plan	Maintain the existing SWMP, conduct annual reviews, and update, as necessary, to meet new MS4 permit requirements		✓
Maintain District regulations, policies, and protocols	Develop District regulations, policies, and protocols, revising as necessary		✓
Keep records	Retain key documents following retention requirements in the MS4 Permit	✓	✓
Develop a budget and billing file and account for District costs	Estimate expenditure and revenue, prepare billing files, and monitor District finances		✓
Coordinate with Co-Permittee jurisdictions, the District Oversight Board, Partner Agencies, and other stakeholders	Respond to Co-Permittee requests, hold Oversight Board meetings, and hold coordination meetings with the District's partner agencies	✓	✓

