



Cascade County Public Works

“WORKING TOGETHER TO PROVIDE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE PUBLIC SERVICE”

November 9, 2020

RE: Cascade County MS4 Permit – MCM#1 Key Target Audience
Earthwork Contractors

Dear Contractor,

As an earthwork contractor doing business in the Cascade County area, you have been listed as a target audience for the County’s Public Education & Outreach program to raise awareness about the impacts of storm water discharges on waterbodies due to activities completed by your company. Additionally, as you may be applying for and administering the DEQ Construction Stormwater Permit, you may be tasked with coordinating permit application documents with the County prior to submittal to the DEQ.

DEQ Construction Stormwater Permit – Cascade County Review

All construction activities disturbing more than 1-acre of land require permitting with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality’s (DEQ) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction Activity. As part of the County’s compliance with the MS4 permit, the MS4 Coordinator is tasked with reviewing construction stormwater permit applications and the BMP’s selected for proposed projects located within the County MS4 boundaries prior to the permit being submitted to the DEQ (refer also to Section D of the DEQ NOI). As such, please coordinate all proposed projects with our office prior to submitting them to the DEQ. Submittal can be made via email to kmay@bigskyce.com or hard copies can be submitted to PO Box 3625, Great Falls, MT 59403. Additionally, DEQ permit information is available online at <http://deq.mt.gov/Water/StormWater/StormSystems>. Attached herein is a copy of the current MS4 permit boundaries along with current City of Great Falls corporate limits. Note: County MS4 permit boundaries are those areas included outside of the City of GF but within the limits of the 2010 Census Urban Area.

BMP Selection

As permittees of the DEQ’s general permit, it is typically the Contractor’s responsibility to select, install, and maintain appropriate BMP’s for each site to achieve both technology-based effluent limits as well as water quality-based effluent limitations. Information regarding standard BMP’s is available at <http://deq.mt.gov/Portals/112/Water/WPB/MPDES/pdfs/montfieldguide.revised4-4-14.pdf>. With effective BMP selection and implementation, stormwater impacts associated with construction activities can be minimized and the overall health of our watershed will improve.

Public Signage Requirement (Effective January 1, 2021)

FYI: As noted within Section 1.2.3 of the general permit, “the permittee must post a sign or other form of notice to display confirmation of coverage under this General Permit.” As the County may perform limited inspection on projects within the MS4 boundaries, please be aware of this updated requirement from the DEQ which is effective Jan. 1, 2021.

If you have any questions regarding your project’s location in relation to the MS4 boundary, questions regarding the DEQ stormwater permitting process, or general questions regarding the County’s MS4 permit please feel free to contact me at (406) 727-2185 or via the email listed above. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kevin May, P.E. – Big Sky Civil & Environmental, Inc.
Cascade County MS4 Coordinator

Les Payne, Director

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