

ARTICLE III. ILLICIT DISCHARGES TO STORM DRAIN SYSTEM

Sec. 16-99. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Authorized enforcement agency means the City Engineer and the Engineer's authorized representatives, which shall specifically include all inspectors and code enforcement, and any other individual designated by the City Manager of Keego Harbor to enforce this article. Where applicable, the term may also mean the Director of the **Department of Environment Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE)** or designated official, and/or the United States EPA Administrator or designated official.

Best management practices (BMPs) means schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, general good housekeeping practices, pollution prevention and educational practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants directly or indirectly to stormwater, receiving waters, or stormwater conveyance systems. BMPs also include treatment practices, operating procedures, and practices to control site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or water disposal, or drainage from raw materials storage.

City means the City of Keego Harbor.

Clean Water Act means the federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 USC 1251 et seq.), and any subsequent amendments thereto.

County means the County of Oakland.

Construction activity means activities subject to NPDES construction permits. These include construction projects resulting in land disturbance of five (5) acres or more requiring an issued permit and small construction activities impacting one (1) to five (5) acres of land deemed to operate under a national permit. Such activities include, but are not limited to, clearing and grubbing, grading, excavating, and demolition.

Hazardous materials means any material, including any substance, waste, or combination thereof, which because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics may cause, or significantly contribute to, a substantial present or potential hazard to human health, safety, property, or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of, or otherwise managed.

Illegal discharge means any direct or indirect non-stormwater discharge to the storm drain system, except any discharges exempted in Section 16-104(b).

Illicit connections mean either of the following:

- (1) Any drain or conveyance, whether on the surface or subsurface, which allows an illegal discharge to enter the storm drain system, including, but not limited to, any conveyances which allow any non-stormwater discharge, including sewage, process wastewater, and wash water, to enter the storm drain system and any connections to the storm drain system from indoor drains and sinks, regardless of whether said drain or connection had been previously allowed, permitted, or approved by an authorized enforcement agency; or
- (2) Any drain or conveyance connected from a commercial or industrial land use to the storm drain system which has not been documented in plans, maps, or equivalent records and approved by an authorized enforcement agency.

Industrial activity means activities subject to NPDES industrial permits as defined in 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14).

MS4 means a municipal separate storm sewer system.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater discharge permit means a permit issued by United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), or by the State under authority delegated pursuant to 33 USC 1342(b) and codified in the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act Protection at MCL 324.101 et seq that authorizes the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States or the State, whether the permit is applicable on an individual, group, or general area-wide basis.

Nonstormwater discharge means any discharge to the storm drain system that is not composed entirely of stormwater.

Person means any individual, association, organization, partnership, firm, corporation or other entity recognized by law and acting as either the owner or as the owner's agent.

Pollutant means anything which causes or contributes to pollution. Pollutants may include, but are not limited to, paints, varnishes, and solvents; oil and other automotive fluids; nonhazardous liquid and solid wastes and yard wastes; refuse, rubbish, garbage, litter, or other discarded or abandoned objects, articles, and accumulations, so that same may cause or contribute to pollution; floatables; pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers; hazardous substances and wastes; sewage, fecal coliform and pathogens; dissolved and particulate metals; animal wastes; wastes and residues that result from constructing a building or structure; and noxious or offensive matter of any kind.

Premises mean any building, lot, parcel of land, or portion of land whether improved or unimproved including adjacent sidewalks and parking strips.

Storm sewer system or storm drainage system means a publicly-owned facility by which stormwater is collected and/or conveyed, including, but not limited to, any roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, gutters, curbs, inlets, piped storm drains, pumping facilities, retention and detention basins, natural and human-made or altered drainage channels, reservoirs, and other drainage structures.

Stormwater means any surface flow, runoff, and drainage consisting entirely of water from any form of natural precipitation, and resulting from such precipitation.

Stormwater pollution prevention plan means a document which describes the best management practices and activities to be implemented by a person or business to identify sources of pollution or contamination at a site and the actions to eliminate or reduce pollutant discharges to stormwater, stormwater conveyance systems, and/or receiving waters to the maximum extent practicable.

Wastewater means any water or other liquid, other than uncontaminated stormwater, discharged from a facility.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.59), 1-19-2017)

Sec. 16-100. Purpose.

The purpose of this article is to provide for the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of **the City of Keego Harbor** through the regulation of non-stormwater discharges to the storm drainage system to the maximum extent practicable as required by federal and State law. This article establishes methods for controlling the introduction of pollutants into the municipal storm sewer system in order to comply with requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit process. The objectives of this article are:

- (1) To regulate the contribution of pollutants to the municipal storm sewer system by stormwater discharges by any user.
- (2) To prohibit illicit connections and discharges to the municipal storm sewer system.

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- (3) To establish legal authority to carry out all inspection, surveillance and monitoring procedures necessary to ensure compliance with this article.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.60), 1-19-2017)

Sec. 16-101. Applicability.

This article shall apply to all water entering the storm drain system generated on any developed or undeveloped lands unless expressly exempted by an authorized enforcement agency.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.61), 1-19-2017)

Sec. 16-102. Enforcement, responsibility for administration.

This article shall be enforceable by the City Engineer or other authorized enforcement agency.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.62), 1-19-2017)

Sec. 16-103. Minimum standards.

The standards set forth herein and promulgated pursuant to this article are minimum standards; therefore, this article does not intend nor imply that compliance by any person will ensure that there will be no contamination, pollution, nor unauthorized discharge of pollutants.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.63), 1-19-2017)

Sec. 16-104. Discharge prohibitions.

- (a) *Prohibition of illegal discharges.* No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged into the storm drain system or watercourses any materials, including, but not limited to, pollutants or waters containing any pollutants that cause or contribute to a violation of applicable water quality standards, other than stormwater. The commencement, conduct or continuance of any illegal discharge to the storm drain system is prohibited except as described as follows:
- (1) Discharges from footing drains (not including active groundwater dewatering systems), crawl space pumps, air conditioning condensation, springs, non-commercial washing of vehicles, natural riparian habitat or wetland flows, swimming pools (if dechlorinated - typically less than one (1) PPM chlorine), exclude prohibiting the discharges or flows from firefighting activities to the application.
 - (2) Discharges specified in writing by the City Engineer as being necessary to protect public health and safety.
 - (3) Dye testing is an allowable discharge, but requires a verbal notification to the City Engineer prior to the time of the test.
 - (4) The prohibition shall not apply to any non-stormwater discharge permitted under an NPDES permit, waiver, or waste discharge order issued to the discharger and administered under the authority of the Federal Environmental Protection Agency, provided that the discharger is in full compliance with all requirements of the permit, waiver, or order and other applicable laws and regulations, and provided that written approval has been granted for any discharge to the storm drain system.
 - (5) Discharge stormwater runoff directly into any lake, pond, or other surface water body within the City without prior treatment and flow control, regardless of zoning classification, parcel size, or impervious

surface area, unless expressly exempted in writing by the City Engineer based on demonstrated finding that equivalent water quality protection is provided or the compliance is technically infeasible.

(b) *Exempt discharges.* The following discharges are exempt from the discharge prohibitions established by this article:

- (1) Water line flushing and discharges from potable water sources.
- (2) Landscape irrigation runoff, lawn watering runoff, and irrigation waters.
- (3) Diverted stream flows and flows from riparian habitats and wetlands.
- (4) Rising ground waters and springs.
- (5) Uncontaminated groundwater infiltration and seepage.
- (6) Foundation drains, water from crawl space pumps, footing drains, and basement sump pumps.
- (7) Air conditioning condensation.
- (8) Waters from noncommercial car washing.
- (9) Street wash water.
- (10) Dechlorinated swimming pool water from single-, two- or three-family residences. (A swimming pool operated by the permittee shall not be discharged to a separate storm sewer or to surface waters of the State without NPDES permit authorization from MDEQ.)
- (11) Discharge of flows from firefighting activities
- (12) Uncontaminated pumped groundwater, except for groundwater cleanups specifically authorized by NPDES permits.

(c) *Prohibition of illicit connections.*

- (1) The construction, use, maintenance or continued existence of illicit connections to the storm drain system is prohibited.
- (2) This prohibition expressly includes, without limitation, illicit connections made in the past, regardless of whether the connection was permissible under law or practices applicable or prevailing at the time of connection.
- (3) A person is considered to be in violation of this article if the person connects a line conveying sewage to a storm drain system or MS4 or allows such a connection to continue.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.64), 1-19-2017)

Sec. 16-105. Suspension of storm sewer system access.

- (a) *Suspension due to illicit discharges in emergency situations.* The City Engineer or other authorized enforcement agency may, without prior notice, suspend storm sewer system discharge access to a person when such suspension is necessary to stop an actual or threatened discharge which presents or may present imminent and substantial danger to the environment, or to the health or welfare of persons, or to the storm sewer system or the waters of the United States or the State. If the violator fails to comply with a suspension order issued in an emergency, the authorized enforcement agency may take such steps as deemed necessary to prevent or minimize damage to the storm sewer system or waters of the United States or the State, or to minimize danger to persons.
- (b) *Suspension due to the detection of illicit discharge.* Any person discharging to the storm sewer system in violation of this article may have their storm sewer system access terminated if such termination would

abate or reduce an illicit discharge. The City Engineer will notify a violator of the proposed termination of its storm sewer system access. The violator may petition the City Engineer for reconsideration and hearing.

- (c) *Violation.* A person violates this article if the person reinstates storm sewer system access to premises terminated pursuant to this section, without the prior approval of the City Engineer or other authorized enforcement agency.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.65), 1-19-2017)

Sec. 16-106. Industrial or construction activity discharges.

Any person subject to an industrial or construction activity NPDES stormwater discharge permit shall comply with all provisions of such permit. Proof of compliance with said permit may be required in a form acceptable to the City Engineer or other authorized enforcement agency prior to the allowing of discharges to the storm sewer system.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.66), 1-19-2017)

Sec. 16-107. Monitoring of discharges.

- (a) *Applicability.* This article applies to all facilities that have stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity, including construction activity, **within the city of Keego Harbor.**

- (b) *Access to facilities.*

- (1) The City Engineer and/or representatives of the authorized enforcement agency shall be permitted to enter and inspect facilities subject to regulation under this article as often as may be necessary to determine compliance with this article. If a discharger has security measures in force which require proper identification and clearance before entry into its premises, the discharger shall make the necessary arrangements to allow access to the City Engineer or representatives of the authorized enforcement agency.
- (2) Facility operators shall allow the City Engineer and/or representatives of the authorized enforcement agency ready access to all parts of the premises for the purposes of inspection, sampling, examination and copying of records that must be kept under the conditions of an NPDES permit to discharge stormwater, and the performance of any additional duties as defined by State and federal law.
- (3) The City Engineer and/or representatives of the authorized enforcement agency shall have the right to set up on any permitted facility such devices as are necessary in the opinion of the City Engineer or authorized enforcement agency to conduct monitoring and/or sampling of the facility's stormwater discharge.
- (4) The City Engineer has the right to require the discharger to install monitoring equipment as necessary. The facility's sampling and monitoring equipment shall be maintained at all times in a safe and proper operating condition by the discharger at its own expense. All devices used to measure stormwater flow and quality shall be calibrated to ensure their accuracy.
- (5) Any temporary or permanent obstruction to safe and easy access to the facility to be inspected and/or sampled shall be promptly removed by the operator at the written or oral request of the City Engineer and/or designee and shall not be replaced. The costs of clearing such access shall be borne by the person operating the facility.
- (6) Unreasonable delays in allowing the City Engineer and/or a representative of the authorized enforcement agency access to a permitted facility is a violation of a stormwater discharge permit and

of this article. A person who is the operator of a facility with a NPDES permit to discharge stormwater associated with industrial activity violated this article if the person denies the City Engineer or authorized enforcement agency reasonable access to the permitted facility for the purpose of conducting any activity authorized or required by this article.

- (7) If the City Engineer and/or representatives of the authorized enforcement agency has been refused access to any part of the premises from which stormwater is discharged, and the City Engineer is able to demonstrate probable cause to believe that there may be a violation of this article, or that there is a need to inspect and/or sample as part of a routine inspection and sampling program designed to verify compliance with this article or any order issued hereunder, or to protect the overall public health, safety, and welfare of the community, then the City Engineer and/or authorized enforcement agency may seek issuance of a search warrant from any court of competent jurisdiction.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.67), 1-19-2017)

Sec. 16-108. Requirement to prevent, controls, and reduce stormwater pollutants by the use of best management practices.

The City Engineer shall adopt requirements identifying best management practices for any activity, operation, or facility which may cause or contribute to pollution or contamination of stormwater, the storm drain system, or waters of the United States or the State. The owner or operator of a commercial or industrial establishment shall provide, at their own expense, reasonable protection from accidental discharge of prohibited materials or other wastes into the municipal storm drain system or watercourses through the use of these structural and non-structural BMPs. Further, any person responsible for a property or premises, which is, or may be, the source of an illicit discharge, may be required to implement, at said person's expense, additional structural and non-structural BMPs to prevent the further discharge of pollutants to the storm sewer system. Compliance with all terms and conditions of a valid NPDES permit authorizing the discharge of stormwater associated with industrial activity, to the extent practicable, shall be deemed compliance with the provisions of this section. These BMPs shall be part of a stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPP) as necessary for compliance with requirements of the NPDES permit.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.68), 1-19-2017)

Sec. 16-109. Watercourse protection.

Every person owning property through which a watercourse passes, or such person's lessee, shall keep and maintain that part of the watercourse within the property free of trash, debris, excessive vegetation, and other obstacles that would pollute, contaminate, or significantly retard the flow of water through the watercourse. This responsibility does not apply to publicly or privately owned drains that are not owned by the property owner and are otherwise the responsibility of the drain owner. In addition, the owner or lessee shall maintain existing privately owned structures within or adjacent to a watercourse, so that such structures will not become a hazard to the use, function, or physical integrity of the watercourse.

All direct discharge to any lake, pond, or surface water body within the City shall be required to pass through an approved pretreatment system designed to clean stormwater prior to discharge into waterways, complying with the following requirements:

(1) Single-family residential properties.

- a. Stormwater runoff shall be directed through a minimum 15-foot vegetated buffer for properties adjacent to a receiving water body prior to discharge whenever feasible. The vegetated buffer

shall consist of maintained natural vegetation, native plantings, or other approved vegetation designed to promote infiltration, pollutant removal, and runoff reduction.

- b. For properties not adjacent to a lake, pond, stream, wetland, or other surface water body, stormwater runoff may discharge to a ditch, swale, drainage course, or other conveyance system approved by the City Engineer. Property owners are encouraged to use vegetated swales, rain gardens, infiltration areas, or similar practices to reduce runoff and improve water quality where feasible.

(2) Non-single family residential properties.

- a. All direct discharges from a non-single family residential development or redevelopment projects shall be routed through one or more approved stormwater pretreatment system, including, but not limited to:
 - 1. Sump or pump system designed to maintain to detain and control discharge;
 - 2. Mechanical filtration system designed to remove sediment, hydrocarbons, and other pollutants; and/or
 - 3. Vegetated infiltration or treatment area including, but not limited to, bioswales, rain gardens, or other green infrastructure approved by the City Engineer.

(3) Compliance.

- a. The city engineer may approve alternative stormwater management practices that provide equivalent or greater water quality treatment and flow control.
- b. All pretreatment and treatment systems shall be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained in accordance with City standards and applicable state or federal requirements.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.69), 1-19-2017)

Sec. 16-110. Notification of release or discharge.

Notwithstanding other requirements of law, as soon as any person responsible for a facility or operation, or responsible for emergency response for a facility or operation has information of any known or suspected release of materials which are resulting or may result in illegal discharges or pollutants discharging into stormwater, the storm drain system, or water of the United States or the State said person shall take all necessary steps to ensure the discovery, containment, and cleanup of such release. In the event of such a release of hazardous materials said person shall immediately notify emergency response agencies of the occurrence via emergency dispatch services. In the event of a release of non-hazardous materials, said person shall notify the authorized enforcement agency in person or by telephone or facsimile no later than the next business day. Notifications in person or by telephone shall be confirmed by written notice addressed and mailed to the City Engineer within three (3) business days of the telephone notice. If the discharge of prohibited materials emanates from a commercial or industrial establishment, the owner or operator of such establishment shall also retain an on-site written record of the discharge and the actions taken to prevent its recurrence. Such records shall be retained for at least three (3) years.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.70), 1-19-2017)

Sec. 16-111. Notice of violation.

- (a) Whenever the City Engineer or authorized enforcement agency finds that a person has violated a prohibition or failed to meet a requirement of this article, the City Engineer or designee or other authorized

enforcement agency may order compliance by written notice of violation to the responsible person. Such notice may require, without limitation:

- (1) The performance of monitoring, analyses, and reporting;
 - (2) The elimination of illicit connections or discharges;
 - (3) That violating discharges, practices, or operations shall cease and desist;
 - (4) The abatement or remediation of stormwater pollution or contamination hazards and the restoration of any affected property;
 - (5) Payment of a fine to cover administrative and remediation costs; and
 - (6) The implementation of source control or treatment BMPs.
- (b) If abatement of a violation and/or restoration of affected property are required, the notice shall set forth a deadline within which such remediation or restoration must be completed. Said notice shall further advise that, should the violator fail to remediate or restore within the established deadline, the work will be done by the City or the authorized enforcement agency or a contractor and the expense thereof shall be charged to the violator.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.71), 1-19-2017)

Sec. 16-112. Appeal of notice of violation.

Any person receiving a notice of violation may appeal the determination of the City Engineer to the City Council. The notice of appeal must be received by the City Engineer's office within seven (7) days from the date of the notice of violation. A hearing on the appeal before the City Council shall take place within 15 days from the date of receipt of the notice of appeal. The decision of the City Council shall be final.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.72), 1-19-2017)

Sec. 16-113. Enforcement measures after appeal.

If the violation has not been corrected pursuant to the requirements set forth in the notice of violation, or, in the event of an appeal, within 15 days of the denial of an the appeal, then representatives of the City Engineer or authorized enforcement agency shall enter upon the subject private property and are authorized to take any and all measures necessary to abate the violation and/or restore the property. It shall be unlawful for any person, owner, agent or person in possession of any premises to refuse to allow the government agency or designated contractor to enter upon the premises for the purposes set forth above.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.73), 1-19-2017)

Sec. 16-114. Cost of abatement of the violation.

- (a) Within 30 days after abatement of the violation, the owner of the property will be notified of the cost of abatement, including administrative costs. The property owner may file a written protest objecting to the amount of the assessment within 15 days. If the amount due is not paid within 60 days or by the expiration of the time in which to file an appeal, the charges shall become a special assessment against the property and shall constitute a lien on the property for the amount of the assessment.
- (b) Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall become liable to the City for the cost of the abatement by reason of such violation. The liability shall be paid in not more than 12 equal payments.

Interest at the legal rate then applicable shall be assessed on a per annum basis on the balance beginning on the first day following discovery of the violation.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.74), 1-19-2017)

Sec. 16-115. Compensatory action.

In lieu of bringing enforcement proceedings to seek the penalties and remedies authorized by this article, the City Engineer or authorized enforcement agency may impose alternative compensatory actions upon a violator, such as storm drain stenciling, attendance at compliance workshops, creek cleanup, etc. The decision to seek alternative compensatory actions does not waive the City's or authorized enforcement agency's right to seek legal enforcement from a court of law.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.76), 1-19-2017)

Sec. 16-116. Violations deemed a public nuisance.

In addition to the enforcement processes and penalties provided, any condition caused or permitted to exist in violation of any of the provisions of this article is a threat to public health, safety, and welfare, and is declared and deemed a public nuisance, and may be summarily abated or restored at the violator's expense, and/or a civil action to abate, enjoin, or otherwise compel the cessation of such nuisance may be taken.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.77), 1-19-2017)

Sec. 16-117. Criminal prosecution.

- (a) All violations of this article shall be misdemeanor.
- (b) The authorized enforcement agency may recover all attorney fees court costs and other expenses associated with enforcement of this article, including sampling and monitoring expenses.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.78), 1-19-2017)

Sec. 16-118. Remedies not exclusive.

The remedies listed in this article are not exclusive of any other remedies available under any applicable federal, State or local law and it is within the discretion of the authorized enforcement agency to seek cumulative remedies.

(Ord. No. 438, § 1.01(10.79), 1-19-2017)

Secs. 16-119—16-149. Reserved.