

LCCWC

Lancaster County MS4 Protocol

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December 2, 2010

What is an MS4?

- **Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System**
- Specific type of National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit
 - Authorized by Clean Water Act of 1972
 - EPA program Administered by Authorized States
 - NPDES regulates Point Discharges
 - MS4s are Point Discharges

Who Needs an MS4 Permit?

- Phase 1 (1990) medium to large cities with populations of 100,000 or more
- Phase 2 (1999) Municipalities or other public entities that own and operate a storm sewer system within a designated “Urbanized Area,” as defined by the 2000 census

What is Required?

- **PAG-13 (General Permit)**
 - 6 Minimum Control Measures (MCMs)
 1. Public Education and Outreach
 2. Public Participation and Involvement
 3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
 4. Construction Site Runoff Control
 5. Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment
 6. Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations and Maintenance

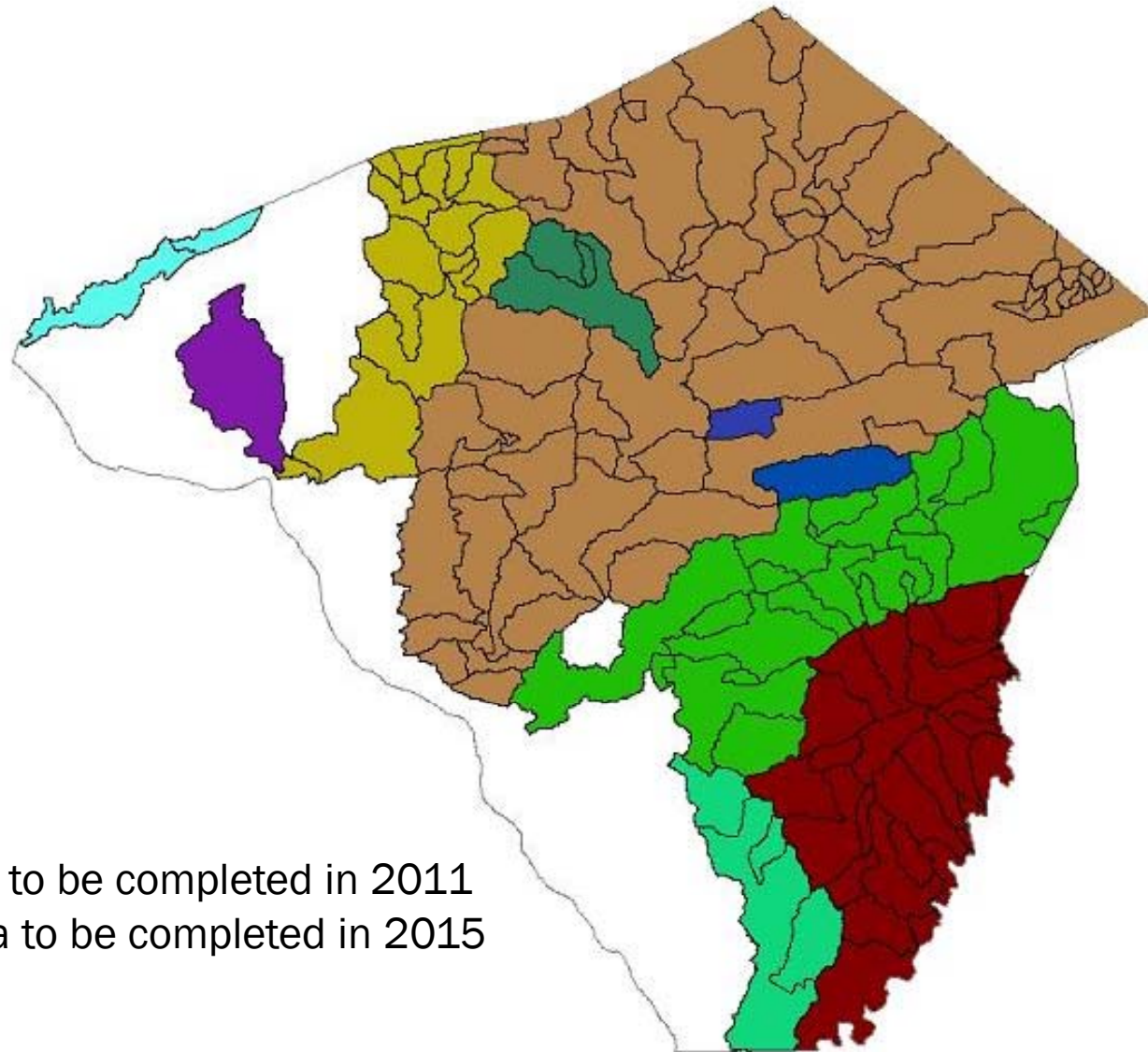
What is Required?

- Draft PAG-13

- In addition, municipalities located in, or discharging to, a waterbody for which a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) has been approved must:

- 1) Implement at least two additional control measures, such as disconnecting impervious areas, planting trees, constructing recharge/infiltration facilities, retrofitting stormwater basins, restoring stream banks, establishing new stream buffers, and installing green infrastructure; and
- 2) Obtain pollutant reductions consistent with the TMDL.

Lancaster County Watersheds with Established TMDLs*



*Octoraro to be completed in 2011
Conestoga to be completed in 2015

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- LCCWC Submitted a Growing Greener Grant Application that included MS4 Protocol as a deliverable
- The Goals of this Protocol Would Include:
 - Pooling resources and experiences to aid municipalities in meeting MS4 requirements
 - Develop Strategies to meet TMDL requirements through WIPs
 - Develop Strategies for Multi-Municipal coordination and BMP implementation to increase compliance efficiency

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Coordination to Meet MCMs

- Compile “Lessons Learned” from EPA visits and experience of municipal staff
- Develop toolbox for use by all Lancaster County Municipalities
- Evaluate possibilities for shared resources to meet MCM requirements

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TMDL Compliance

- Develop template for TMDL compliance in watersheds with existing WIP
- Develop template for TMDL compliance in watersheds without existing WIP
- Incorporate input from Phase 2 of PA Chesapeake Bay WIP
- Negotiate with DEP

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Individual Permit Options

- It is possible that more efficient/ cost effective solutions exists than are provided for in PAG-13
- Evaluate potential alternatives to PAG-13 that could be applied in a specific municipality or watershed
- Negotiate alternatives with DEP

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Watershed Overlay Permit

- DEP has expressed interest in an “Overlay Permit” that would cover multiple municipalities in a given watershed
- Multiple municipalities could be covered under a single NPDES permit with appropriate agreements
- Formation of a Stormwater Authority???
- Potential for increased water quality benefits at a lower total cost

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Deliverables

- Toolbox for meeting MCMs
- Specific strategies for meeting TMDL requirements
- Options for Individual Permits
- Options for multi-municipal coordination to increase efficiency and effectiveness
- Concurrence from DEP

Questions?