



POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN

City of Pontiac – Wastewater Treatment Plant



2022

City of Pontiac, Illinois
Pollution Prevention Plan

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I. STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN OVERVIEW

A. Introduction

1. The City of Pontiac Wastewater Treatment Plant has been issued a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (NPDES Permit) for wastewater treatment plant effluent and combined sewer overflow (CSO) discharges. The Permit, as developed by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), requires the permittee to prepare and implement Pollution Prevention Plan (PPP). A goal of IEPA's storm water/CSO program is to improve water quality by reducing the amount of pollutants contained in storm water runoff.

The objectives of this PPP are as follows: (1) to identify potential sources of pollution which may affect the quality of storm water discharges, (2) to describe best management practices (BMPs) or control measures intended to minimize the pollutants in the facility's runoff, (3) to provide practical guidance for implementing the PPP, and (4) to comply with the terms and conditions of the General Permit.

I. STREET MAINTENANCE

A. Street Cleaning

1. The City of Pontiac Street Department possesses a Pelican® brand street sweeper. The department sweeps an approximate 40 lane miles of city streets, including gutters and storm drain surfaces where applicable. Street cleaning season takes place primarily April thru November each calendar year.

The City of Pontiac Street Department and Wastewater Department share a joint effort of storm drain/catch basin surface cleaning immediately prior to and during rain storm events to reduce street flooding. All debris removed is disposed of at the wastewater treatment plant, where it separated and disposed of properly based on the level of non-biological debris (plastics, metals, etc.) found in the bulk of the debris.

B. Street Salting

1. During the winter season, prior and during snow & ice storms, the City of Pontiac has historically activated a "salt route" program. This program consists of salting heavily-traveled streets and routes through the corporate city limits to provide safe travel conditions.

As of 2019, the City has incorporated the use of a salt brine solution that is applied prior to freezing precipitation as a way to reduce the use of rock salt. This program has proven to be effective in maintaining safe road conditions while reducing the amount of rock salt applied by over twenty percent (20%) annually.

C. Catch-Basin Maintenance

1. The City of Pontiac Wastewater Department performs annual routine inspections and cleaning of storm catch basins and drains. Department staff inspect a specific area of the city on a rotating annual basis. All structures or pipes requiring cleaning or repair are recorded during inspections. Cleaning and repairs are then performed following inspections.

D. Catch-Basin Design

1. The City of Pontiac has maintained a mild to aggressive policy schedule for street improvements, including the replacement of deteriorated asphalt, concrete, and additions/replacements of curbs, gutters, and catch basins.

II. SEWER SYSTEM MAINTENANCE

A. Sewer Cleaning

1. The City of Pontiac Wastewater Treatment Plant utilizes a Vactor® brand combination vacuum/jet truck to perform maintenance on the sanitary, storm, and combined sewer systems throughout the City corporate limits. Sewers are cleaned on a rotating basis, with a targeted city-wide sewer leaning schedule of every five (5) years. Combined sewer systems are targeted more frequently as a result of both their potential to collect more debris and to prevent pollution from occurring during a combined sewer overflow event. All sewer collection system lift stations are cleaned on a quarterly basis.

All debris removed from the sewer collection system is dewatered at the wastewater treatment plant and disposed of at the local landfill owned by American Disposal Systems of Illinois.

B. Sewer System Improvements

1. Since 1995, the City of Pontiac has undergone major sewer collection system improvement projects to reduce inflow, infiltration, CSO event frequencies & volumes, and improve sewer service reliability. This includes the replacement of over 175 sanitary manholes, replacement of over 10,000 feet of deteriorated sewer pipe, and cured-in-place-pipe lining of over 100,000 linear feet of sanitary sewer pipe. The City allocates funds annually to continue to replace deteriorated manholes and sewer pipe.

II. WASTE COLLECTION

A. Solid Waste & Recycling Collection

1. The City of Pontiac is currently engaged in a ten-year service contract with Republic Services. This contract includes all municipal solid waste and recyclable material disposal on a weekly basis. Republic Services provides all local home, offices, industrial, and commercial facilities with ninety-gallon “tote” style solid waste receptacles. The receptacles have built-in hinged lids that secure into place to prevent pollution should the receptacle be toppled for any reason.

Republic Services also owns and manages the local landfill. The landfill has a convenience location for local citizens to dispose of larger items that will not fit into a trash tote.

2. The City of Pontiac also periodically assists the Pontiac Township High School with a city-wide electronics recycling program. Home and business owners are encouraged to set their unwanted electronic devices (televisions, DVD players, computers, batteries, etc.) at the curb line on a specific day. That day, the City and high school students will collect all of the electronics and recycle them at Advanced Technology Recycling located in Pontiac.

B. Bulk Waste Collection

1. Republic Services allows each residence & business to dispose of one (1) large bulk item per week. The bulk item is to be placed at the curb line. Republic Services, once away of the bulk item, will dispatch a crew member to remove the bulk item.

The City of Pontiac Street Department will also assist home & business owners in the event they need to dispose of multiple bulk items. The Street Department staff will haul away items to the landfill for a small fee.

C. Yard Waste Collection

1. The City of Pontiac offers a free yard waste collection service to the local homes and businesses. All tree branches and tree material are picked up by City personnel once a property owner places the waste at the curb line. All tree material is hauled to the City Garage, where it is chipped into mulch and available to the public for landscaping, is hauled to the local landfill where Republic Services uses the mulch for roads throughout their trash mounds, and is available to local landscape supply companies to dye and sell.
2. The City also offers a leaf pick-up service from October thru April every year. Home and business owners are to place leaves at the curb line. The City then uses leaf vacuums to remove the leaf piles from the properties. Leaves are then disposed of in various crop fields throughout the county.

In addition, the City provides leaf bags to residents. Bags are available for pick-up at the Pontiac City Hall office. Street Department crews will pick up leaf bags once they are placed at the property curb line.

3. The City of Pontiac Street Department offers a free yard waste disposal area within the compound. Citizens can dispose of grass clippings, tree waste, soil, and various yard wastes Monday thru Friday during business hours.

III. HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

A. Petroleum Products

1. In order to reduce chemical pollution into local waterways and groundwater, local residents of Pontiac are encouraged to contact the City in regards to hazardous waste disposal. Residents are able to dispose of used oil, gasoline, kerosene, and other petroleum products at the Wastewater Treatment Facility. The facility possesses a bulk used petroleum product tank for disposal. The used petroleum products are then properly disposed of by a contracted environmental disposal company once the tanks are full.

B. Household Chemicals

1. The wastewater treatment facility also possesses a tank for discarded fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, and other miscellaneous chemicals. Local residents can drop off these discarded wastes free of charge for disposal. Like the petroleum products, the City contracts an environmental disposal company for proper disposal.

C. Prescription Drug Disposal

1. The City of Pontiac works in conjunction with the Pontiac Township High School to establish and enforce the "Prescription Pill and Drug Disposal Program," also known as the P2D2 Program. This program consists of educating the general public on the importance of proper disposal of pills and drugs. The program also identifies drop-off locations for unused medications, which includes the Pontiac Police Department, local pharmacies, and other county-wide police departments. Information is distributed periodically on the City of Pontiac monthly sewer bill newsletters, local radio broadcasts, local newspaper publishing, and on the City of Pontiac municipal website as a permanent fixture. Information can be found at <https://www.pontiac.org/445/Prescription-Pill-and-Drug-Disposal-Prog>.



D. Fats, Oils, & Grease (FOG)

1. Residents are encouraged to dispose of cooking oils and greases properly, rather than through sewers and storm water systems. Alternative disposal methods include soaking up small amounts of grease & oil with paper towels and disposing of them in the trash, collecting FOGs in a container and disposing of them to a recycling center, and adjusting lifestyles to reduce FOG generation.

IV. POLLUTION PREVENTION – LOCAL INTERACTIONS

A. Public Education

1. The City of Pontiac takes an active role in educating its citizens on the importance of pollution prevention. Monthly sewer billing newsletters periodically contain notices explaining the importance of properly disposing of household chemicals, automotive fluids, oil, prescription drugs, and other miscellaneous pollutants. Residents are encouraged to contact the City to direct them to properly dispose of such substances.

2. All new storm sewer manhole covers, catch basins grates & covers, and junction structures contain phrases such as “dump no waste” and “drains to waterway” in an attempt to deter residents from illegally disposing of pollutants through the storm sewer system.



B. Public Notification

1. All CSO overflow discharge points include permanent signage at the discharge structure. In addition to being required by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, the signs are designed to warn the public of the potential of pollutants entering the waterway during a CSO event. The signs are inspected on a weekly basis by Wastewater Department staff.
2. Monthly CSO event locations and durations are posted on the City of Pontiac website (www.pontiac.org) and the City Hall public notice bulletin board.



C. Public Interaction Programs

1. The Pontiac Township High School, with the assistance of the City of Pontiac, engages students in an annual “trash clean-up” day. This consists of high school students walking

throughout the city picking up litter and trash and disposing of it in trash bags. City employees assist the students and chaperones with disposing of the trash bags once they are filled.

In addition to picking up trash, the students also carry stencils and non-toxic spray paint to label any storm sewer manhole covers or catch basin gratings that do not possess the “dump no waste” warnings. (see cover sheet photo)

D. Product Bans

1. The City of Pontiac has not historically banned specific products from being used or purchased by local residents to prevent pollution. The City typically strives to educate residents on proper disposal techniques and pollution prevention practices. The lack of serious pollution instances has not warranted a product ban at this time.

E. Water Conservation Efforts

1. Many factors have been considered in regards to water conservation to prevent pollution. The City of Pontiac potable water supply system is fed by both the Vermilion River and a 350-acre water-storage compound located on the northwest edge of town. Potable water supply has not historically been an issue during droughts.

As a result of the sewer collection system improvements and storm sewer separations, the average daily flow to the wastewater treatment plant has dropped by over one million gallons (MGD) per day since the facility was constructed in 1986. Combined sewer overflows are a direct result of the many storm water catch basins still connected to the combined system. It is anticipated that the storm sewer separation efforts the City of Pontiac is currently engaged in will reduce the level of CSO events to only taking place during catastrophic storms with significant rainfall.

V. INSPECTIONS

A. Inspection Methods

1. The City of Pontiac Wastewater Department staff will conduct regular visual inspections of designated areas of facility for the evidence of, or the potential for, pollutants entering the storm water drainage system. The purpose of the visual inspection is to confirm that potential pollution sources are being properly controlled. Areas to inspect, at a minimum, include:
 - Potential sources of storm water pollutants identified in Section 2
 - Outdoor material handling and chemical storage areas
 - Loading/unloading areas
 - Areas where spills/leaks have occurred in the past and
 - Fuel storage and pump areas.

A routine inspection form will be filled out each time an inspection is conducted that documents the following information:

- Facility name
- Date of inspection
- Name of inspector
- Potential pollution sources identified and
- Corrective actions needed to control the sources.

A blank routine inspection form is shown on Table 3-1. All routine inspection forms will be retained with this SWPPP for at least three years from the date of inspection.

VI. COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION PREVENTION

A. Pollution Identification

1. City of Pontiac Public Works employees will periodically perform inspections at commercial/industrial sites to identify any potential or existing sources of pollution, whether it be liquid or solid based pollutants. Any and all identified pollutants are reported to a department supervisor and documented. City supervisory staff will then contact the industrial business owner/manager to eliminate the source of pollution.

VII. CSO REDUCTION MEASURES

A. Collection System Storage

1. The City of Pontiac Wastewater Treatment Plant utilizes the collection system for stormwater/combined sewer storage whenever possible. CSO weir elevations are set to a level high enough to achieve maximum storage, but low enough to prevent residential basement back-up situations.

B. Wastewater Treatment Plant

1. In 2019, the City of Pontiac Wastewater Treatment Plant underwent a forty-two million dollar rehabilitation/upgrade project. A major component of this upgrade was the development of additional combined sewer storm flow storage. The facility now has the capacity to store up to 3.2 million gallons of stormwater. This additional storage capacity is a key component in reducing CSO events, durations, and overflow volumes.

C. Storm Sewer Separation

1. Beginning in the early 1990's, the City has taken a proactive approach to reduce both combined sewer overflow events and total flow to the wastewater treatment plant. The City has installed many city blocks worth of new storm sewer infrastructure to improve storm drainage and to separate storm sewers/catch basins from the combined sewer system.

In 2019, the City of Pontiac began a forty-two million dollar wastewater treatment plant rehabilitation project. As part of this project, the City also began a four-phase approach to separate ninety percent of the remaining combined sewer storm catch basins. Phase 1 of this project began in 2022, which included the removal of over thirty combined sewer storm catch basins, new storm sewer infrastructure, and miscellaneous storm water inflow reduction measures. Phases 2 and 3 are scheduled to begin in 2023, which will include the separation of over seventy-four combined storm sewer inlets. This separated sewer system will drastically reduce the amount of annual CSO events, as well as allow the wastewater treatment plant to reserve additional treatment capacity for heavier rain storms.

Inspection Location: _____

Potential Pollutant Sources	Yes	No	If No, Describe Location & Action Needed	Initial & Date After Action is Completed
A. Material and waste storage areas are maintained in good condition to minimize discharge of pollutants.				
B. Any oil leaks or spills present are properly contained by drip pans or absorbents. Absorbents are picked up and properly disposed of in a timely manner.				
C. Containers and aboveground storage tanks are in sound condition (check for corroded or damaged containers, supports, and valves).				
D. Road salt is stored properly.				
E. Vehicle and equipment maintenance areas in sound condition.				
F. Grounds do not show signs of erosion.				
G. Other:				

Inspected by: _____

Date: _____

City of Pontiac
 Annual Site Inspection Report
 Public Works/Street Department Locations

Location: _____			
Source/Location	Yes	No (describe)	Comments
1. Material Storage & Handling Areas			
2. Loading & Unloading Areas			
3. Vehicle Fueling Area			
4. Vehicle Maintenance Area			
5. Sludge Drying Beds / Storage			
6. Salt Storage Area			
7. Other:			
8. Other:			
9. Other:			
10. Other:			

Inspector: _____ Date: _____

PONTIAC WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Combined Sewer Overflow Inspection Report

Date: _____

Inspector: _____

CSO 002 (Across River Gravity)

Valve Open or Closed Structure Intact? _____ Overflowing? _____

Signs of Recent Overflow? _____ Maintenance Needed? _____

Comments: _____

CSO A02 (Across River Excess Flow Pumps)

Pumps set to Excess Flow or River Structure Intact? _____ Overflowing? _____

Signs of Recent Overflow? _____ Maintenance Needed? _____

Comments: _____

CSO 003 (Interlake Road)

Valve Open or Closed Structure Intact? _____ Overflowing? _____

Signs of Recent Overflow? _____ Maintenance Needed? _____

Comments: _____

CSO 004 (Lyons Park)

Pumps set to Forcemain Yes or No Structure Intact? _____ Overflowing? _____

Signs of Recent Overflow? _____ Maintenance Needed? _____

Comments: _____

CSO 005 (Locust Street)

Valve Open or Closed Structure Intact? _____ Overflowing? _____

Signs of Recent Overflow? _____ Maintenance Needed? _____

Comments: _____