

TOWN OF ATKINSON, NEW HAMPSHIRE
PROPOSED ORDINANCE:
MS4 ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION AND ELIMINATION

The Atkinson Planning Board proposes the following zoning **ordinance amendment** to be added to the Atkinson Zoning Ordinance as Article XVII MS4 Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination and recommended this ordinance be placed as a warrant article for vote at the March 12, 2019 town meeting.

ORDINANCE ARTICLE/NO. **Article XVII MS4 Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination**

1700.1 PURPOSE AND INTENT

The purpose of the Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) ordinance is to provide for the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of Atkinson through the regulation of non-storm water discharges to the storm drainage system to the maximum extent practicable as required by federal and state law. The IDDE ordinance establishes methods for controlling the introduction of pollutants into the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) in order to comply with requirements of the EPA National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and MS4 permit process. The objectives of this ordinance are to:

1. Regulate the contribution of pollutants to the MS4 by storm water discharges by any user.
2. Prohibit illicit connections and discharges to the MS4.
3. Establish legal authority to carry out all inspection, surveillance, monitoring, and enforcement procedures necessary to ensure compliance with this ordinance.

1700.2 DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this ordinance, the following terms shall mean:

Authorized Enforcement Agency. Employees or designees of the Board of Selectmen designated to enforce this ordinance.

Best Management Practices (BMPs). 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 storm water, receiving waters, or storm water 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.

Illegal Discharge. Any direct or indirect non-storm water discharge to the storm drain system, except as exempted in Section 8 of this ordinance.

Illicit Connections. An illicit connection is defined as either of the following:

- Any drain or conveyance, whether on the surface or subsurface that allows an illegal discharge to enter the storm drain system including but not limited to any conveyances that allow any non-storm water 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,
- Any drain or conveyance connected from a commercial or industrial land use to the storm drain system that has not been documented in plans, maps, or equivalent records and approved by an authorized enforcement agency.

Industrial Activity. Activities subject to NPDES Industrial Storm Water Permits as defined in 40 CFR, Section 122.26 (b)(14).

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). The system of conveyances (including sidewalks, roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains) owned and operated by the Town of Atkinson and designed or used for collecting or conveying storm water, and that is not used

for collecting or conveying sewage.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Storm Water Discharge Permit. means a permit issued by EPA (or by a State under authority delegated pursuant to 33 USC § 1342(b)) that authorizes the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States, whether the permit is applicable on an individual, group, or general area-wide basis.

Non-Storm Water Discharge. Any discharge to the storm drain system that is not composed entirely of storm water.

Pollutant. Anything which causes or contributes to pollution. Pollutants may include, but are not limited to: paints, varnishes, and solvents; oil and other automotive fluids; non-hazardous liquid and solid wastes and yard wastes; refuse, rubbish, garbage, litter, or other discarded or abandoned objects, ordinances, 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.

Storm Drainage System. Publicly-owned facilities by which storm water 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.

Storm Water. Any surface flow, runoff, and drainage consisting entirely of water from any form of natural precipitation and resulting from such precipitation.

Storm Water Management Plan. 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 Storm Water, Storm Water Conveyance Systems, and/or Receiving Waters to the Maximum Extent Practicable.

Wastewater. Any water or other liquid, other than uncontaminated storm water, discharged from a facility.

1700.3. APPLICABILITY

This ordinance shall apply to all water, pollutants or other substances entering the storm drain system generated on any developed and undeveloped lands unless explicitly exempted by the Board of Selectmen.

1700.4 COMPATIBILITY WITH OTHER REGULATIONS

The requirements of this ordinance are in addition to the requirements of any other ordinance, rule, regulation, or other provision of law, and where any provision of this ordinance imposes restrictions different from those imposed by any other ordinance, rule, regulation, or other provision of law, whichever provision is more restrictive or imposes higher protective standards for human health or the environment shall control.

1700.5 DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS

1700.5.1 Prohibition of Illegal Discharges.

No person shall throw, drain, or otherwise discharge, cause, or allow others under its control to throw, drain, or otherwise discharge into the MS4 any pollutants or waters containing any pollutants, other than storm water.

The commencement, conduct or continuance of any illegal discharge to the storm drain system is prohibited except as described as follows and if it is determined that the activity is causing an adverse impact:

1. The following discharges are exempt from discharge prohibitions established by this ordinance: water line flushing, landscape irrigation, diverted stream flows, rising ground waters, uncontaminated ground water infiltration, uncontaminated pumped ground water, discharges from potable water sources, foundation drains, air conditioning condensation, irrigation water, springs, water from crawl space pumps, footing drains, lawn watering, individual residential car washing, flows from riparian habitats and wetlands, dechlorinated swimming pool discharges, and street wash water.
2. Discharges or flow from firefighting, and other discharges specified in writing by the Board of Selectmen as

being necessary to protect public health and safety.

3. Discharges associated with dye testing, however this activity requires a verbal notification to the Board of Selectmen prior to the time of the test.
4. The prohibition shall not apply to any non-storm water discharge permitted under an NPDES permit, waiver, or waste discharge order issued to the discharger and administered under the authority of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

1700.5.2 Prohibition of Illicit Connections.

1. The construction, use, maintenance or continued existence of illicit connections to the storm drain system is prohibited.
2. The prohibition in #1 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 ordinance if the person connects a line conveying sewage to the MS4 system or allows such a connection to continue.
4. Improper connections in violation of this ordinance must be disconnected and redirected, if necessary, to an approved onsite wastewater management system or the sanitary sewer system upon approval of the Board of Selectmen.
5. Any drain or conveyance that has not been documented in plans, maps or equivalent, and which may be connected to the storm sewer system, shall be located by the owner or occupant of that property upon receipt of written notice of violation from the Board of Selectmen requiring that such locating be completed. Such notice will specify a reasonable time period within which the location of the drain or conveyance is to be determined, that the drain or conveyance be identified as storm sewer, sanitary sewer or other, and that the outfall location or point of connection to the storm sewer system or other stormwater discharge point be identified. Results of these investigations are to be documented and provided to the Board of Selectmen.

1700.6 SURFACE WATER PROTECTION

Every person owning property through which surface waters or a watercourse passes, or such person's lessee, shall keep and maintain that part of the surface waters or 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. 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.

1700.7 REQUIREMENT TO PREVENT, CONTROL, AND REDUCE STORM WATER POLLUTANTS BY THE USE OF BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The Board of Selectmen will adopt requirements identifying Best Management Practices for any activity, operation, or facility which may cause or contribute to pollution or contamination of storm water, the storm drain system, or waters of the United States.

1700.8 NOTIFICATION OF SPILLS

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 storm water, the storm drain system, or waters of the United States, said person shall take all necessary steps to ensure the discovery, containment, and cleanup of such release. Failure to provide notification of a release as provided above is a violation of this ordinance.

1700.9 VIOLATIONS, ENFORCEMENT, AND PENALTIES

1700.9.1 Violations.

It shall be unlawful for any person to violate any provision or fail to comply with any of the requirements of this ordinance. Any person who has violated or continues to violate the provisions of this ordinance, may be subject to the enforcement actions outlined in this section or may be restrained by injunction or otherwise abated in a manner provided by law.

In the event the violation constitutes an immediate danger to public health or public safety, the Board of Selectmen is authorized to enter upon the subject private property, without giving prior notice, to take any and all measures necessary to abate the violation and/or restore the property. The Board of Selectmen is authorized to seek costs of the abatement as outlined in Section 17.

1700.9.2 Warning Notice.

When the Board of Selectmen finds that any person has violated, or continues to violate, any provision of this ordinance, or any order issued hereunder, the Board of Selectmen may serve upon that person a written Warning Notice, specifying the particular violation believed to have occurred and requesting the discharger to immediately investigate the matter and to seek a resolution whereby any offending discharge will cease. Investigation and/or resolution of the matter in response to the Warning Notice in no way relieves the alleged violator of liability for any violations occurring before or after receipt of the Warning Notice.

1700.9.3 Suspension of MS4 Access due to the Detection of Illicit Discharge

Any person discharging to the MS4 in violation of this ordinance may have their MS4 access terminated if such termination would abate or reduce an illicit discharge. The Board of Selectmen will notify a violator of the proposed termination of its MS4 access. The violator may petition the Board of Selectmen for a reconsideration and hearing.

A person commits an offense if the person reinstates MS4 access to premises terminated pursuant to this Section, without the prior approval of the Board of Selectmen.

The Town of Atkinson IDDE Administrative Program Implementation Procedure is available in the Board of Selectmen's Office at Town Hall, 21 Academy Ave, Atkinson, NH 03811.

ADOPTED March 12, 2019.