



south portland

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What is stormwater runoff?

Stormwater runoff is precipitation (rain or melted snow) that flows over land. Stormwater can pick up pollutants as it runs off the land into lakes, streams, rivers, and the ocean; this is called polluted runoff.

Storm drains collect runoff and convey it without treatment directly into water bodies. Polluted runoff affects drinking water, human health, wildlife, and property values.

What are common stormwater pollutants?



Soil, sand, and sediments cloud the water and smother wildlife habitat.

Chemicals (fertilizer, weed & bug killers, vehicle fluids, coal tar pavement sealers, etc.), are carried with runoff and can be toxic to wildlife.

Pet waste contains bacteria that can wash into swimming areas and create health hazards, and may contribute to beach closures.

Salt, which is spread on roads, sidewalks, and parking lots to melt snow and ice, dissolves in water or snowmelt. Once salt gets into our water it cannot be removed. Salt in our waterways can be toxic to wildlife.

Debris, like cigarette butts and other forms of litter, is unsightly and can harm wildlife.



What is an MS4?

MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM, or MS4, means a stormwater conveyance that is separated from sanitary sewer systems. The storm sewer system includes roads, curbs and gutters, ditches, catch basins, storm drains, outfalls, and pipes connecting these features.

South Portland has a **CLEAN WATER ACT PERMIT** that is administered by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). This permit allows the City to discharge runoff into water bodies if measures are taken to minimize pollution from your storm sewer system and municipal facilities and operations. The permit is referred to as the Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) MS4 Permit.



Under the Federal CLEAN WATER ACT, some municipalities must have a permit that allows them to direct stormwater to water bodies in their communities, provided that specific steps are taken to minimize pollution.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE STEPS IS MANDATORY
for regulated municipalities including South Portland.

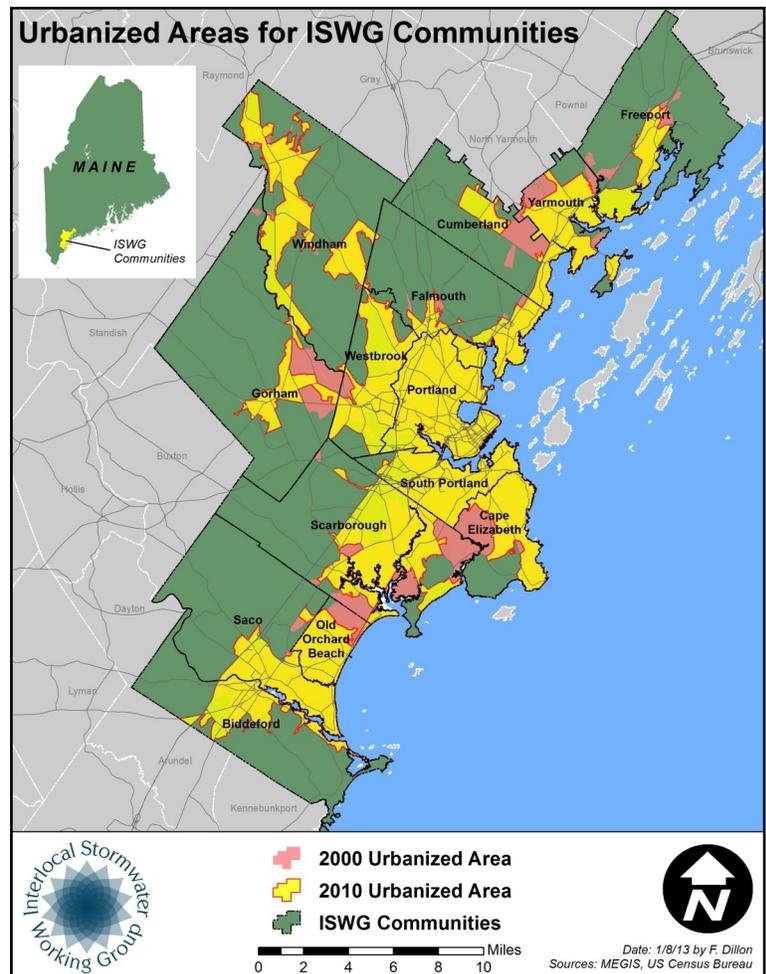
Who is regulated, and what does it mean for South Portland?

Municipalities, transportation agencies, public universities, prisons, military bases, and other state and federal facilities are subject to MEPDES regulation.

Regulated municipalities are determined by population density and proximity to population density, based on US Census Bureau data. The regulated municipalities in Greater Portland and Saco areas are shown on the map to the right.

As a regulated community, South Portland is subject to:

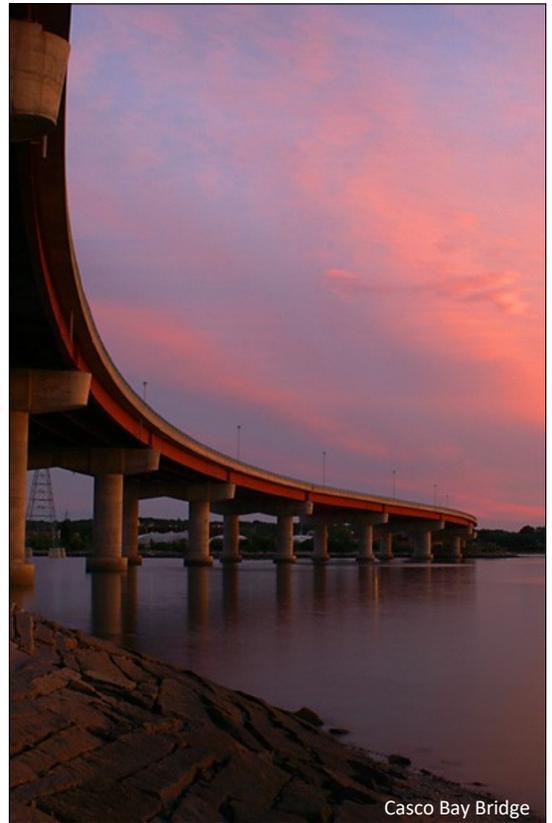
- Full compliance with permit requirements, including six minimum steps outlined in the permit (see next page).
- Additional costs for operations, permitting, capital improvements, etc. as compared to non-regulated municipalities.
- Heightened scrutiny from Maine DEP, EPA, and environmental or citizen action groups.
- Identification and improvement of priority water body. South Portland's current priority water body is Trout Brook.



What are the minimum steps required in the MS4 Permit?

- 1 Educate the public and municipal staff and officials about polluted runoff and how to reduce pollution.
- 2 Provide the public an opportunity to participate in South Portland's stormwater program.
- 3 Identify and eliminate illegal sewer connections, dumping into storm drains, and other sources of pollution. Carry out long-term maintenance and mapping of all stormwater infrastructure.
- 4 Ensure that construction on both public and private property does not impact water resources.
- 5 Implement new development and redevelopment stormwater ordinances, and encourage developers to utilize techniques to reduce the impact of development on water resources.
- 6 Prevent pollution from municipal operations and facilities. Educate municipal staff about practices to reduce polluted runoff.

In addition to these minimum steps, South Portland is also required to protect and restore polluted water bodies within your municipality.



Casco Bay Bridge

INTERDEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION IS ESSENTIAL FOR SUCCESS

A municipality-wide effort is needed to meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act permit

To meet these requirements, South Portland must adopt increased stormwater standards applicable to:

- New development, redevelopment, and construction;
- Long-term maintenance and inspection of stormwater infrastructure;
- Preventing pollution from all municipal operations and facilities;
- Improving polluted water bodies within the City, with priority given to Trout Brook; and
- Raising awareness of stormwater, specifically the appropriate practices that should be used, inspected, and maintained on a regular basis to reduce polluted runoff.

TROUT BROOK MANAGEMENT PLAN

Trout Brook, a small stream that flows through Cape Elizabeth and South Portland, is South Portland's priority water body. Working with municipal and regional partners, a comprehensive Watershed Management Plan was completed in 2012, and extensive efforts are underway to implement the Plan and restore the Brook.



Hinkley Park

How is South Portland meeting these Clean Water Act requirements?

The City of South Portland is working hard to comply with stormwater permit requirements. The Water Resource Protection Department administers the program and shares permit responsibilities with various municipal departments, as described below.

Water Resource Protection – Collection Systems Division | **Primary Point of Contact:** Fred Dillon, *Stormwater Program Coordinator*

- Implements Stormwater Management Plan; serves as stormwater point of contact with DEP.
- Inspects and maintains all municipal stormwater and sewage infrastructure.
- Ensures pollution prevention measures are followed at the Division's maintenance garage to prevent polluted runoff from entering water resources.
- Ensures use of **erosion and sedimentation control (ESC)** measures during all construction and maintenance activities.
- Identifies potential pollution sources and works to eliminate these sources with department heads.
- Trains City staff to minimize pollution, including: chemical and material storage, spill prevention and clean up, and proper use of ESC measures.
- Reviews site plans for proper ESC measures and post-construction **stormwater control measures (SCMs)**
- Ensures compliance with construction and post-construction stormwater management requirements.

The Interlocal Stormwater Working Group (ISWG) is composed of 14 regulated communities and 2 nested MS4s in the Greater Portland and Saco Bay areas (see map on Page 2). ISWG is coordinated by the Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District and works cooperatively to meet the permit's education requirements (steps 1 & 2) for all ISWG members.

Public Works | **Primary Point of Contact:** Melissa Hutchins, *Superintendent*

- Ensures all publicly owned streets and parking areas are swept at least annually.
- Ensures **Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPP)** are followed at Municipal Services Facility and Transfer Station to prevent polluted runoff from entering water resources.
- Ensures proper use of ESC measures during all construction and maintenance activities.
- Works with Stormwater Program Coordinator to provide training for staff to minimize pollution, including: chemical storage, spill prevention and clean up, and use of ESC measures.
- Works with staff to identify and eliminate potential pollution sources and notifies the Stormwater Program Coordinator.

School Department | **Primary Point of Contact:** Tony Lombardo, *Facilities Director*

- Ensures SWPPP is followed at school bus maintenance garage to prevent polluted runoff from entering water resources.
- Works with Stormwater Program Coordinator to train staff in procedures for minimizing pollution, including: chemical storage and spill prevention and clean up.

Planning | **Primary Point of Contact:** Milan Nevajda, *Planning Director*

- Reviews site plans for proper ESC practices to ensure:
 - Construction projects include SCMs to avoid polluting water resources; and
 - Appropriate post-construction SCMs are incorporated into development designs.
- Works with inspectors to coordinate pre-construction meetings for medium-large public and private projects (>15,000 ft²) to review ESC inspection and reporting requirements.
- Encourages developers to use Low Impact Development, which minimizes environmental impacts.
- References South Portland's Stormwater Performance Standards and Non-Stormwater Discharge ordinance.
- Works with Third Party Inspectors for larger projects (≥ 1 acre) to ensure construction and post-construction systems implement appropriate ESC SCMs and are designed to collect and treat stormwater from public and private properties.

Engineering | **Primary Point of Contact:** Justin Gove, *Engineering Division Manager*

- Ensures all municipal stormwater and sewer infrastructure maps are current and up to date.
- Ensures all City construction projects use appropriate ESC measures throughout duration of project.
- Oversees development of Asset Management Program to help prioritize infrastructure replacement and repair.

Code Enforcement | **Primary Point of Contact:** Barbara Skelton, *Code Enforcement Director*

- Works with Field Inspector to ensure small-scale construction projects (e.g., single-family homes) use proper ESC.
- Enforces noncompliance incidents per City's ordinance and state regulations (Ch. 500 and Maine Construction General Permit).

Parks & Recreation Department | **Primary Point of Contact:** Karl Coughlin, *Deputy Director*

- Ensures operation and maintenance (O&M) plans are implemented for all applicable facilities to ensure departmental activities do not contribute to stormwater pollution.
- Works with Stormwater Program Coordinator to ensure staff are trained in proper procedures for minimizing pollution, including chemical storage and spill prevention and clean up.
- Works with staff to identify and eliminate potential pollution sources and notifies the Stormwater Program Coordinator as needed.

Public Safety | **Primary Points of Contact:** James Wilson, *Fire Chief* and Kevin Gerrish, *Deputy Police Chief*

- Ensures O&M plans are implemented for all applicable facilities to ensure departmental activities do not pollute water.
- Works with Stormwater Program Coordinator to ensure all relevant staff are trained in proper procedures for minimizing pollution, including chemical storage and spill prevention and clean up.
- Works with staff to identify and eliminate potential pollution sources and notifies the Stormwater Program Coordinator.