

**HAWKINS COUNTY 2022 PUBLIC INFORMATION
AND EDUCATION PLAN**

1. The 2022 MS4 Permit requires adoption of a Public Information and Education Plan and specifies minimum criteria. This plan will incorporate those requirements at a minimum which will apply to the urbanized areas (UA) of the County as designated by the US Census Bureau and the Highway Department property on Flora Ferry Road.

2. The County will use the County web site to disseminate information and participate in the Tennessee Stormwater Association (TNSA) Education Program to meet these minimums. First, the amount of funds needed will be identified and requested. Upon receipt, educational materials and supplies will be obtained. Thereafter, stormwater information will be provided at public events such as festivals, block parties and the like in the UA as well as on the County web site. This information will target the issues and be aimed at the audiences specified below:

Multiple issues and audiences may be addressed at any one event.

3. Records of these events will be maintained. Participation will be measured by counts of the educational material available at the beginning and end of each event. A separate count for each item will be maintained (e.g. 100 copies of fact sheet XYZ available at beginning and 75 and end shows 25 taken and success; if none taken, redesign or use a different means at the next event). A voluntary attendance list will also be available with those signing maintained for future information notice.

4. The County will also encourage public participation by announcing educational events, UA sub-division considerations and Stormwater program development, and major changes to the stormwater program on the County web site and by public notice. Hawkins County public notice consists of posting an event notice on three bulletin boards—this is the process that will be used unless a newspaper notice is required by law/rule. Comments received will be considered and provided response. The SWMP and PIE as well as BMP information will be provided on the County web site along with contact information. The County web site will also continue to provide the public a means to report illegal spills, discharges and illegal dumping as well as other illegal disposal of materials into the storm sewer system.

5. The County has identified the job categories of employees whose duties require stormwater training. These are employees of the Highway Department excluding office staff. These employees will receive training which will inform them of how to identify pollutants, how to reduce pollutants and how daily activities they engage in can have an impact on water quality. Training method may be to watch a video or read a hand out or attend an in-person training session. Records of training to include the date, topic and name of each attendee will be maintained. Each current (December 2022) identified employee will attend a minimum of one event during the permit cycle (September 2022 – September 2027) and a record of that training maintained. All new hires or transfers in will attend an event during the first 6 months of employment with a record maintained. Additional training is encouraged.

6. The County will address audiences and target audiences as shown below as part of the public education and outreach (Multiple issues/audiences may be addressed at any one event) :

Audience	Topic(s)	Minimum frequency
Public	General Awareness of water quality impacts Awareness of Maintenance of BMPs Awareness of proper storage, use & disposal of	Twice during the 5 year permit period.

	pesticides, herbicide, fertilizers, oil and other auto related products, Awareness of identifying & reporting procedures for illicit connections/discharges, sanitary sewer seepage, spills, etc	
Engr & Dev Community	Awareness of stormwater resolutions, regulations & guidance materials related to long-term water quality impacts	Once during the 5 year permit period
Employees	Road Superintendent employees to be trained on as specified in the Operations and Maintenance Plan	Current (Dec 22) employees trained at least once during the 5 year permit period; new hires trained within 6 months of beginning work.

The calendar of events and evaluation methodology are:

The County will provide education and participation opportunities as shown below. Multiple issues may be addressed to multiple audiences at the same event. Inasmuch as there are no engineering or development communities in the UA, a notice to those listed on a web search will be the way they are made aware of the UA stormwater program. The following are minimums.		
Permit Year	Event	Evaluation methodology
1	Determine budget requirement, request funds	Budget submitted/yes, no
2	Receive fund, obtain materials/supplies, schedule event.	Funds received/yes, no Materials received/yes, no
3	Participate in event/evaluate effectiveness	Participated/yes, no
4-5	DITTO	DITTO

7. The County will address audiences and issues identified below as part of the public involvement and participation components:

- a. Opportunities created for the public to participate in development of all elements taken to implement the 2022 MS4 permit requirements (develop new SWMP and PIE, update resolution, procedures, etc.)
- b. Public made aware of when new development/redevelopment plans are being considered and offered the opportunity to submit comments with procedures to consider any such comments.
- c. Continue identification of illicit program.
- d. Make information available to the public by including it on the web-site physically or with a link

Audience	Topic(s)	Minimum Frequency
General Public	Pollution prevention Impacts on water quality of local SW Management issues Storage, use and disposal of household hazardous waste, auto related fluids,	Twice during the 5 year permit period.

	pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers use Identifying and reporting procedures for illicit connections/discharges, sanitary seepage, spills, illegal dumping, etc.	
Commercial/development Community	Pollution prevention Impacts on water quality of local SW Management issues	Once during the 5 year permit period

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3	Participate in event/evaluate effectiveness	Participated/yes, no
4-5	DITTO	DITTO

8. Records will be maintained and be available for inspection/review.

Vince Pishner
Stormwater Manager

Citizen Advisory Committee Concurred: May 25, 2023