

Washington State University Spokane
Stormwater Management Program Plan
2026

Introduction

The Washington State University (WSU) Spokane Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) Plan has six requirements derived from the Eastern Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit. WSU Spokane shall meet all regulatory requirements for Secondary Permittees in this Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit.

The overall goal for this Program is to prevent and minimize stormwater pollution and to manage stormwater as a resource more efficiently and effectively.

Please note that paraphrased sections from the Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit are in regular font, and the WSU Spokane sections are in *italics*.

Program and Permit Requirements

Public Education and Outreach (S6.D.1)

Goal

To promote awareness and support for stormwater management activities among students and tenants (no residents present) to show how they can prevent stormwater pollution.

Permit Requirement

WSU Spokane shall implement the following stormwater education strategies: Storm drain inlets (catch basins) owned and operated by WSU Spokane that are located in maintenance yards, in parking lots, along sidewalks, and at pedestrian access points shall be clearly and permanently labeled with the message “Dump No Waste Drains to Waterbody.”

Description of program activities: Currently, all catch basins are labeled on campus. Catch basins that are found to have labels removed or damaged will be re-labeled as soon as weather permits. Facilities Operations maintains a map of catch basin locations.

Permit Requirement

As identified during visual inspection and regular maintenance of catch basins, or as otherwise reported to WSU Spokane, any catch basin having a label that is no longer clearly visible and/or easily readable shall be re-labeled within 90 days.

Description of program activities: A work order is generated in the AiM database at the beginning of each year to visually inspect all catch basin labels.

Permit Requirement

Each year WSU Spokane shall distribute educational information on the impact of storm water discharges on receiving waters, and steps that can be taken to reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff. Where relevant tenants shall receive education information about the following topics. Distribution of this information will be by electronic means. Appropriate topics may include:

- How stormwater runoff affects local waterbodies.
- Benefits of litter control and proper disposal of pet waste.
The following are not relevant to tenants on campus:
- Proper use and application of pesticides and fertilizers.
- Benefits of using well-adapted vegetation.
- Alternative equipment washing practices including cars and trucks that minimize pollutants in stormwater.
- Benefits of proper vehicle maintenance and alternative transportation choices; proper handling and disposal of waste, including the location of hazardous waste collection facilities in the area;
- Hazards associated with illicit connections
- Source control BMPs for building materials to reduce pollution to stormwater; including, but not limited to, stormwater pollution from PCB-containing materials (*not relevant to WSU Spokane tenants*).

Description of program activities: *WSU Spokane has developed an education and outreach stormwater quality awareness program for campus tenants, stakeholders and university visitors (the public) to reduce and/or eliminate practices that cause or contribute to adverse impact to stormwater.*

Each year an email is sent to staff and tenants on campus in April directing them to the WSU stormwater website which has the Annual Report, Stormwater Management Program Plan and public education documents. Announcements are documented by saving a PDF of the announcement. EHS will continue to update the stormwater website and send out educational information via WSU Insider.

Public Involvement and Participation (S6.D.2)

Goal

To promote and facilitate faculty, staff, student and public participation and involvement in the WSU Spokane SWMP Plan and planning process including: 1) creating opportunities for the public to participate in the decision making processes involving the development; 2) implementation and update of WSU Spokane SWMP Plan; 3) development and adoption of all required ordinances, and; 4) receipt and consideration of information on construction site stormwater runoff control.

Permit Requirement

Each year no later than May 31 WSU Spokane shall:

- Make the annual report available on the website.
- Make the latest updated version of the SWMP Plan available on the website.

Description of program activities: *The annual report and updated SWMP are posted on the WSU website each year. Last year the WSU Pullman and WSU Spokane stormwater management websites were combined into one joint website at <https://ehs.wsu.edu/environmental-issues/ph-stormwatermanagement/>*

Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (S6.D.3)

Goal

To identify and eliminate illicit discharges to WSU Spokane storm sewer system, thereby improving local surface water quality.

Permit Requirement

WSU Spokane shall comply with all relevant ordinances, rules, and regulations of the City of Spokane that govern non-stormwater discharges (illicit discharges for example).

Description of program activities: *WSU Spokane complies with all relevant ordinances, rules, regulations of the City of Spokane that govern non-stormwater discharges.*

Permit Requirement

Implement appropriate policies prohibiting illicit discharges and an enforcement plan to ensure compliance with illicit discharge policies. These policies shall address at a minimum: illicit connections; non-stormwater discharges including spills of hazardous materials; and improper disposal of pet waste and litter. Policies shall be revised, if necessary, to meet the requirements of this section no later than July 1, 2027.

Description of program activities:

WSU Spokane developed and published an enforcement policy in the Safety Policies and Procedures Manual 6.58 Stormwater Management.

Permit Requirement

Maintain a storm sewer map showing the locations of all known storm drain outfalls and discharge points, labeling the receiving waters, other than groundwater, and delineating the areas contributing runoff to each outfall and discharge point. Make the map (or completed portions of the map) available on request to Ecology and to the extent appropriate to other Permittees. No later than 12-31-26, the required format for mapping is an electronic format with fully described mapping standards. No later than 3-31-27, submit locations of all known MS4 outfalls according to the standard templates and format provided in the Annual report. This reporting shall include the size and material of the outfalls.

Description of program activities: *WSU Spokane has a storm sewer map and makes updates to the map as needed. The map is available for Ecology upon request.*

Permit Requirement

Conduct field inspections and visually inspect for illicit discharges at all known municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4) outfalls and discharge points. Visually inspect at least one third of all known outfalls and discharge points each year. Implement procedures to identify and remove any illicit discharges. Keep records of inspections and follow-up activities.

Description of program activities: *Procedures for identifying and removing illicit discharges were developed and are incorporated in the WSU Spokane Illicit Discharge*

and Detection Policies and Procedures. When illicit discharges are identified, either the Department of Ecology will be contacted (per G3 and/or S4F.1 of the permit) or the discharge will be logged into our database and reported at the end of the year in the annual report. Corrective actions will be enforced when it is human or mechanical error that caused the discharge. No illicit discharges have been identified to date.

Permit Requirement

Implement a spill response plan that includes coordination with a qualified spill responder.

Description of program activities: *WSU Spokane developed and implemented a Spill Response Plan that includes coordination with a qualified spill responder (local fire department or WA State Emergency Response contractor depending on the size of the spill) for releases that exceed the capabilities of campus resources.*

Permit Requirement

Provide staff training or coordinate with existing training efforts to educate staff on proper best management practices for preventing illicit discharges.

- **Description of program activities:** *WSU EH&S provides training for appropriate staff on best practices for preventing illicit discharges. SPCC training is provided annually, and online training transcript kept by HRS via Precipio.*

Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control (S6.D.4)

Goal

To prevent the discharge of sediment, erosion, and other construction related pollutants from construction sites.

Permit Requirement

WSU Spokane shall comply with all relevant ordinances, rules, and regulations of the City of Spokane that govern construction phase stormwater pollution prevention measures.

Description of program activities: *WSU Spokane complies with the City of Spokane ordinances, rules and regulations regarding applicable projects.*

Permit Requirement

Ensure that all construction projects under the control of WSU Spokane which require a construction stormwater permit obtain coverage under the NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction Activities.

Description of program activities: *WSU Spokane does not manage construction projects on campus. WSU hires contractors that are granted control of construction and they are required to obtain all required permits, provide appropriate sediment controls and meet all requirements for access and inspection. WSU Spokane does monitor contractor activities to help ensure they are meeting permit requirements. There are no scheduled projects for 2026.*

Permit Requirement

Coordinate with the City of Spokane regarding projects owned and operated by other entities which discharge into the WSU Spokane storm sewer system, to assist the City with achieving compliance with all relevant ordinances, rules, and regulations of the City.

***Description of program activities:** WSU Spokane has been and will continue to follow the requirements for applicable projects. No projects owned by other entities discharged into the WSU Spokane MS4 system in 2025 and no projects are anticipated in 2026.*

Permit Requirement

Provide training or coordinate with existing training efforts to educate relevant staff in erosion and sediment control Best Management Practices (BMPs) and requirements or hire trained contractors to perform the work.

***Description of program activities:** WSU Spokane does not manage construction projects on campus. Construction projects that may result in the discharge of sediments, WSU hires contractors that are granted control of construction and they are required to obtain all required permits, provide appropriate sediment controls and meet all requirements for access and inspection. WSU Spokane has staff trained in proper construction BMPs and they monitor contractor activities to help ensure they are meeting permit requirements.*

Permit Requirement

Coordinate as requested with Ecology or the City of Spokane to provide access for inspection of construction sites or other land disturbances, which are under the control of WSU Spokane during the land disturbing activities and/or construction period.

***Description of program activities:** WSU Spokane complies with Ecology, or the City of Spokane as requested. Access was not requested by Ecology or the City of Spokane 2025.*

Post-Const. Stormwater Management-New Development/Redevelopment (S6.D.5)

Goal

To control stormwater runoff flow from new development and redevelopment projects.

Permit Requirement

WSU Spokane shall comply with all relevant ordinances, rules and regulations of the City of Spokane that govern post-construction stormwater pollution prevention measures.

***Description of program activities:** WSU Spokane complies with the City of Spokane post-construction pollution prevention measures.*

Permit Requirement

Coordinate with the City of Spokane regarding projects owned or operated by other entities which discharge into WSU Spokane's MS4 to assist the City of

Spokane with achieving compliance with the City of Spokane's relevant ordinances, rules, and regulations.

Description of Program Activities: *Other entities do not discharge onto the WSU Spokane campus.*

Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations (S6.D.6)

Goal

To reduce pollutant loading in stormwater runoff from roadways, parking areas, maintenance and storage yards, vehicle fleets, parks, impervious surfaces, etc.

Permit Requirement

WSU Spokane shall implement a municipal operation and maintenance (O&M) plan to minimize stormwater pollution from activities conducted by WSU Spokane. The O&M Plan shall include appropriate pollution prevention and good housekeeping procedures for operations, activities, and/or types of facilities that are present within WSU Spokane's boundaries, and under the functional control of WSU Spokane. The O&M Plan shall be updated, as needed, no later than July 1, 2027.

- Stormwater collection and conveyance system, including catch basins, stormwater pipes, open channels, culverts, and stormwater treatment and/or flow control BMPs and facilities. The O&M Plan shall address, at a minimum: scheduled inspections and maintenance activities, including cleaning and proper disposal of waste removed from the system. WSU Spokane shall properly maintain stormwater collection and conveyance systems owned and operated by WSU Spokane, and regularly inspect and maintain all stormwater facilities to ensure facility function.

WSU Spokane shall establish maintenance standards that are as protective as or more protective of facility function than those specified in Chapters 5, 6 and 8 of the 2004 *Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington*.

WSU Spokane shall review their maintenance standards to ensure they are consistent with the requirements of this section.

Description of program activities: *An O&M Plan was developed and will be revised this year. Vacuum truck will be used this year to clean out catch basins and drywells.*

Permit Requirement

WSU Spokane shall conduct spot checks of potentially damaged permanent stormwater treatment and flow control facilities following major storm events (24-hour event with a 10 year or greater recurrence interval).

Description of program activities: *Spokane receives 1.8 inches of precipitation in a 10-year 24-hour storm per the Eastern WA Stormwater Manual Figure 4.9 Isopluvial Map. However, no storms involving 1.8 inches of precipitation in a 24-hour period occurred in Spokane in 2025. Therefore, spot checks were not performed.*

WSU Spokane will continue to monitor forecasts for 10-year 24-hour storm events and conduct spot checks afterwards as necessary.

Permit Requirement

- Roads, highways, and parking lots. The O&M Plan shall address, at a minimum: deicing, anti-icing, and snow removal practices; snow disposal areas; material (e.g., salt, sand, or other chemical) storage areas; all-season BMPs to reduce road and parking lot debris, and other pollutants from entering the MS4.
- Vehicle fleets. The O&M Plan shall address at a minimum: storage, washing, and maintenance of WSU Spokane's vehicle fleets; and fueling facilities. WSU Spokane shall conduct all vehicle and equipment washing and maintenance in a self-contained covered building or in designated wash and/or maintenance areas.
- External building maintenance. The O&M Plan shall address at a minimum: building exterior cleaning and maintenance including cleaning, washing, painting; maintenance and management of dumpsters; and other maintenance activities. For buildings owned by WSU Pullman and built between the years 1950 and 1980, the O&M Plan shall include building material assessment for PCBs consistent with *How to Find PCBs in Building Materials* (Ecology, 2024; Publication No. 22-040-024) prior to routine exterior building washdown to the MS4. Structures confirmed or suspected to have PCB-containing materials shall not discharge washdown to the MS4.
- *Preparing buildings for renovation or demolition.* The O&M Plan shall address Source Control BMPs for building materials to prevent PCBs from entering the MS4 in preparation for and during demolition and renovations.
- Parks and open space. The O&M Plan shall address at a minimum: proper application of fertilizer, pesticides, and herbicides; sediment and erosion control; BMPs for landscape maintenance and vegetation disposal; and trash management.
- Material storage facilities and heavy equipment maintenance or storage yards. WSU Spokane shall develop and implement a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan to protect water quality at each of these facilities owned or operated by WSU Spokane.
- Other facilities that would reasonably be expected to discharge contaminated runoff. The O&M Plan shall address proper stormwater pollution prevention practices for each facility.

Description of program activities: *WSU Spokane developed and implemented a Stormwater O&M Plan. Please note that WSU Spokane does have material storage facilities however there is no discharge to storm drains or surface waters from these areas. In addition, tractors and other heavy equipment are stored indoors. WSU Spokane has maintenance vehicles and a few rental cars but there is no designated vehicle fleet area where vehicles are maintained, washed and stored. All State vehicles are washed at an off-site car wash except one vehicle is washed on a parking lot that discharges to a swale with no catch basin, drywell or outlet.*

Permit Requirement

Facilities Services will: 1) perform maintenance at the University's stormwater detention ponds; 2) continue cleaning catch basins and drywells; 3) install catch basin labels on all grates and; 4) regularly inspect stormwater BMPs to ensure facility function.

WSU Spokane shall have permit coverage for all facilities operated by WSU Spokane that are required to be covered under the *General NPDES Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities*.

Description of program activities: *WSU Spokane currently does not have any facilities that are required to be covered under this Permit. In the future WSU Spokane will obtain permits for facilities that meet this Permit requirement.*

Permit Requirement

The O&M Plan shall include sufficient documentation and records as necessary to demonstrate compliance with the O&M Plan requirements described above.

Description of program activities: *WSU Spokane is in compliance with this requirement. Facilities Operations set up an AiM database for better recordkeeping in 2023.*

Permit Requirement

WSU Spokane shall implement a program designed to train all employees whose construction, operations, or maintenance job functions may impact stormwater quality. The training shall address:

- The importance of protecting water quality.
- The requirements of this Permit.
- Operation and maintenance requirements.
- Inspection procedures.
- Ways to perform their job activities to prevent or minimize impacts to water quality.
- Procedures for reporting water quality concerns, including potential illicit discharges, including spills.

Description of program activities: *WSU EH&S provides on-going training to applicable employees as needed.*