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Outagamie County Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Annual Report for WI Permit #S050075-3 Reporting Year: 2025

March 24, 2026

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1. Annual Report Submittal Requirements

Annual Reporting Requirements of WPDES-WI-S050075:

- The status of implementing the permit requirements, status of meeting measurable program goals, and compliance with permit schedules.
 - a. *Outagamie County has outlined their compliance plan, submitted to the WDNR in March of 2021.*
- A fiscal analysis which includes the annual expenditures and budget for the reporting year, and the budget for the next year.
 - a. *See section 13.*
- A summary of the number and nature of inspections and enforcement actions conducted to ensure compliance with the required ordinances.
 - a. *See sections 5, 6, 7, & 8.*
- Identification of any known water quality improvements or degradation in the receiving water to which the permittee's MS4 discharges. Where degradation is identified, identify why and what actions are being taken to improve the water quality of the receiving waters.
 - a. *Outagamie County Staff did not identify any improvements or degradation as we prepared this annual report.*
- An evaluation of program compliance, the appropriateness of identified BMPs, and progress towards achieving identified measurable goals. Any program changes made as a result of this evaluation shall be identified and described in the annual report. For any identified deficiencies towards achieving the requirements under section 2 of this permit or lack of progress towards meeting a measurable goal, the permittee shall initiate program changes to improve their effectiveness.
 - a. *Outagamie County will provide details when the new permit is issued.*
- If applicable, notice that the permittee is relying on another municipality or entity to satisfy any of the permit requirements and a description of the arrangement where a permit requirement is being met in this manner.
 - a. *Outagamie County has a municipal agreement with the City of Appleton and is a member of Northeast Wisconsin Stormwater Consortium (NEWSC).*
- A duly authorized representative of the permittee shall sign and certify the annual report and include a statement or resolution that the permittee's governing body or delegated representatives have reviewed or been apprised of the content of the annual report.
 - a. *Outagamie County will hold a public hearing on March 24, 2026 in regards to this annual report.*

List of Supplementary Documents:

- Adopt-A-Hwy and Adopt-A-Roundabout
- Highway SWPPP Inspections Reports
- Winter Road Maintenance Summary
- Highway Department Training Agenda
- Highway Department Summary
- NEWSC Annual Report
- IDDE Ongoing Screening Summary Report
- LCD Social Media Report
- LCD Summary
- LCD Permitted Projects Report
- Recycling and Solid Waste Social Media Postings
- Recycling and Solid Waste HHW Collection Events Brochure
- Recycling and Solid Waste Recycling Guide
- Recycling and Solid Waste HHW Collection Summary
- CTH AA (Bluemound) Pond Inspection Report
- Plamann Park Nutrient Management

2. Introduction

Outagamie County is a permitted Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) community and is required to comply with the regulations outlined in the Wisconsin DNR Permit #S050075-3. This permit establishes specific requirements to ensure proper stormwater management and environmental protection. Additionally, the permit mandates the submission of an annual report detailing the County's compliance efforts.

This report serves to demonstrate how Outagamie County continues to meet permit requirements while also providing additional details and supporting data on the County's stormwater management initiatives.

3. Public Education and Outreach

Outagamie County is a member of the Northeast Wisconsin Stormwater Consortium (NEWSC), a group consisting of many MS4-permitted members and other entities dedicated to providing Public Education and Outreach. The consortium submits an annual report to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) outlining its activities for the permitting year. Outagamie County's annual report highlights those NEWSC initiatives which have directly benefitted County residents.

Beyond its involvement with NEWSC, Outagamie Staff conduct a significant amount of public education and outreach through one-on-one interactions during development and construction projects. These educational efforts come from various departments including Development and Land Services, Highway, Land Conservation, Parks, Recycling and Solid Waste, among others.

Although most of the County's urbanized area fall within other MS4-permitted communities, ordinances required by the County's MS4 permit have been adopted County-wide. As a result, County staff are routinely involved in development projects that provide opportunities to educate the public through the permitting process, even outside the designated MS4 Urbanized Area.

It is important to note that Outagamie County does not have its own school district. Instead, the County relies on outreach and education efforts directed at school districts within the MS4 Urbanized Area.

In 2025, NEWSC continued its active outreach and education programming through various initiatives, including school presentations, exhibiting, community presentations, and the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance Annual Conference. NEWSC has also expanded its outreach through virtual programming and social media engagement, ensuring its messages reach a broad audience, including Outagamie County residents.

Outagamie County supplements NEWSC's efforts with additional public outreach and education activities. Various County departments have reported their educational initiatives for 2025:

- **Land Conservation Department:** Provided numerous educational opportunities, including engaging with the public through Facebook posts and direct interactions with landowners during watershed restoration projects. A list of the 2025 Facebook posts is included in the attachments.

- **Development and Land Services:** Maintained and updated County website featuring monthly infographics on stormwater pollution prevention. The Department is also exploring additional outreach methods to better inform the public.
- **Recycling and Solid Waste Department:** Created brochures, guides, and social media content to promote their facility and programs. These materials help protect the tri-county area's waterways and improve processing efficiency within the facility.

These collective efforts demonstrate Outagamie County's commitment to public education and outreach in stormwater management, aligning with NEWSC's mission and ensuring compliance with MS4 permit requirements.

4. Public Involvement and Participation

NEWSC also provides Public Involvement and Participation opportunities for its MS4-permitted members. These opportunities include engagement in various activities such as the chloride monitoring program, the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance Annual Cleanup, as well as other clean up initiatives. Events hosted within MS4-permitted communities in Outagamie County contribute to the County's MS4 permitting requirements.

One significant event, the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance Annual Cleanup, took place on May 3rd, 2025. Volunteers actively participated in cleaning up multiple sites within Outagamie County's MS4 Urbanized Area. This large-scale effort engaged approximately 1,745 volunteers across 75+ public sites within the watershed, demonstrating a strong commitment to environmental stewardship and stormwater pollution prevention.

Outagamie County also provides public involvement opportunities beyond those offered by NEWSC. The following departments have submitted reports detailing their 2025 initiatives. Please refer to each department's supplemental items for specific details:

- **Recycling and Solid Waste Department:** Hosted twelve Household Hazardous Waste Collection events throughout 2025.
- **Highway Department:** Facilitated participation in the Adopt-a-Highway and Roundabout programs.
- **Land Conservation Department:** Organized the Annual Conservation Field Days, held in September of 2025. This event engaged approximately 400 fifth and sixth-grade students from the Appleton area, educating them on conservation topics, including stations dedicated to stormwater runoff from agricultural and urban areas. This Department also hosted the Annual Fox Wolf Farmer Roundtable, which attracted attendees such as farmers, agency representatives, and crop consultants.

Additionally, the Outagamie County Agriculture, Extension Education, Zoning, and the Land Conservation Committee provided public engagement opportunities through public hearings on MS4-related topics during scheduled committee meetings in 2025. The committee not only acts on ordinance changes and modifications but also oversees permit approvals tied to MS4 requirements. This includes

Special Exception Permits, as well as review of Construction Site Pollutant Control and Post-Construction Stormwater Management as part of the subdivision and platting process.

Finally, due to multiple MS4-permitted communities existing within Outagamie County, any public involvement and participation events held by these entities also benefit the residents of Outagamie County.

5. Illicit Discharge and Detection

In 2025, Outagamie County contracted with Westwood Professional Services to conduct annual outfall screenings to ensure compliance with the County’s Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) Program and Screening Plan. The ongoing screening summary report is dated January 8, 2026.

Outagamie County has identified a total of 296 outfalls within the MS4 Urbanized Area that fall under the County’s MS4 Permit authority. These outfalls are located within County road right-of-way in the Urbanized Area or adjacent to the Urbanized Area but drain to it.

In 2025 Westwood inspected 51 outfalls of the 296 identified under Outagamie County’s IDDE Screening Program and Plan, representing (17%) of the total.

Screening Results:

- 46 outfalls were characterized as unlikely to have an illicit discharge
- 5 outfalls were characterized as a potential illicit discharge.
- No outfalls were characterized as an obvious/confirmed illicit discharge.
- No confirmed illicit discharges were eliminated.

Outfall ID	2024 Screening Results Conductivity	2024 Actions	2025 Screening Results Conductivity	2026 Actions
CE-45	3,020 µS/cm	Priority Outfall; Rescreen	2,640 µS/cm	Priority Outfall; Rescreen
CE-32	1,965 µS/cm	Priority Outfall; Rescreen	2,150 µS/cm	Priority Outfall; Rescreen
OO-50	775 µS/cm	Priority Outfall; Rescreen	913 µS/cm	Priority Outfall; Rescreen
A-16			1,357 µS/cm	Priority Outfall; Rescreen
A-20			2,260 µS/cm	Priority Outfall; Rescreen

Outagamie County did not receive or respond to any illicit discharges incidents within the MS4 Urbanized Area in 2025.

6. Construction Site Pollutant Control

Outagamie County continues to administer and enforce its Construction Site Erosion Ordinance which includes a Construction Site Erosion Reference Guide as part of the ordinance adoption. While this ordinance applies County-wide to all unincorporated areas, some MS4-permitted towns within the County such as the Town of Grand Chute and the Town of Buchanan, have adopted and enforce their own regulations. Outagamie County issues Construction Site Erosion Control Permits only within the Town of Vandebroek, which is the only township within the MS4 Urbanized Area under County jurisdiction for Construction Site Erosion Control permitting.

In addition to the Construction Site Erosion Ordinance, the County issues various other permits that incorporate erosion control measures, including Shoreland Zoning, Special Exception Permits, Airport Zoning, and Stormwater Permits.

2025 Permit Summary

Outagamie County issued 272 Zoning Permits (Airport, Erosion Control, Shoreland, and Stormwater) in 2025. These numbers were determined through a report generated from the County's online permit portal, CityView.

Permit Breakdown by MS4 Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Erosion Control	Stormwater	Shoreland	Airport
Town of Buchanan	N/A	N/A	19	N/A
Town of Grand Chute	N/A	N/A	39	16
Village of Greenville	N/A	N/A	N/A	7
Town of Vandebroek	8	8	3	N/A
Town of Kaukauna	13	18	8	N/A

It is important to note that permits are not required for all filling/grading projects within the County's jurisdiction in the MS4 Urbanized Area. Therefore, the County cannot determine the total number of active construction sites in any given year.

Inspections and Compliance

- County Staff conducted 1,052 County-wide Erosion Control Inspections in 2025.
 - 89 Erosion Control inspections were completed within the Town of Vandebroek
- Additional Shoreland, Floodplain, and Wetland inspections were completed throughout the year.
- One Erosion Control Permit was issued within the MS4 Urbanized Area of the Town of Vandebroek. This permitted project did not exceed 1 acre in size of disturbed area.

- The Outagamie County Highway Department did not conduct any work requiring DNR Permitting within the MS4 area in 2025.

7. Post-Construction Stormwater Management

Outagamie County continues to administer and enforce its Post-Construction Stormwater Management Ordinance, which includes a Post-Construction Stormwater Management Reference Guide as part of the ordinance adoption. While this ordinance was adopted County-wide to all unincorporated areas, some MS4-permitted towns within the County such as the Town of Grand Chute and Town of Buchanan, have adopted and enforce their own regulations. Outagamie County issues Stormwater Permits only within the Town of Vandebroek, which is the only township within the MS4 Urbanized Area under County jurisdiction for Post-Construction Stormwater permitting.

In addition to the Post-Construction Stormwater Management Ordinance, the County issues various other permits that incorporate Post-Construction Stormwater Management measures including Shoreland Zoning, Special Exception Permits, Airport Zoning, and Stormwater Permits.

2025 Stormwater Permit and Inspection Summary

- County Staff conducted 725 County-wide Stormwater Inspections in 2025.
 - 68 Stormwater Inspections were completed in the Town of Vandebroek.
- Two Stormwater Permits were issued within the MS4 Urbanized Area in the Town of Vandebroek. One permitted project exceeded 20,000 ft² of new impervious surface. The permit number was PRDC202501026.

Future Compliance Efforts

Outagamie County is working to meet the requirements outlined in the 2019 MS4 permit by:

- Developing a comprehensive list of public and private stormwater facilities within the MS4 Urbanized Area.
- Coordinating with other MS4 communities within the County Urbanized Area to ensure that all stormwater facilities are accurately documented and managed.

Enforcement Measures

To uphold compliance with the Post-Construction Stormwater Management Ordinance, Outagamie County has the authority to take enforcement actions, including:

- Verbal warnings
- Written warnings
- Notice of Violations
- Stop-work Orders
- Completion of maintenance activities through use of financial assurance

These measures ensure that stormwater management regulations are properly followed, helping to mitigate stormwater pollution and runoff in the County.

8. Pollution Prevention

Outagamie County has identified and manages several facilities within the MS4 Urbanized Area that fall under its jurisdiction. These facilities operate under WPDES Permits and are part of the County’s stormwater management efforts.

County-Owned Facilities and Permit Information

Property/Facility	Permit & Reporting Information
Outagamie County Regional Airport	WPDES Industrial Permit #S067857
Outagamie County Landfill	WPDES Industrial Permit #S067857
Outagamie County Highway Department Various BMP’s	WPDES Stormwater Permit #WI-S050075-3
Stormwater Facilities	
Bluemound Pond (CTH AA)	WPDES Stormwater Permit #WI-S050075-3
Bluemound Detention System	WPDES Stormwater Permit #WI-S050075-3
Lynndale Pond	WPDES Stormwater Permit #WI-S050075-3
County Road CA East Detention	WPDES Stormwater Permit #WI-S050075-3
County Road CA West Detention	WPDES Stormwater Permit #WI-S050075-3
McCarthy Pond	WPDES Stormwater Permit #WI-S050075-3
Atlantis Detention	WPDES Stormwater Permit #WI-S050075-3
Other County Facilities	
Brewster Street Complex	Pays stormwater fees to Town of Grand Chute
Outagamie County Courthouse Complex	Pays stormwater fees to the City of Appleton

Stormwater Facility Inspections and Maintenance

- No formal inspections program exists for County-owned BMPs.
- The County is developing a program to meet MS4 permit requirements.
- A list of stormwater facilities has been compiled for tracking.

ID	Facility Name	Type	Year Built	As-Built Plans	O&M Plans
A1	Lynndale Pond	SW Pond	2011	A-29	No
AA1	Bluemound Pond (CTH AA)	SW Pond	2013	AA-8	No
AA2	Bluemound Detention System	Underground Detention	2013	AA-8	No
CA1	CA East Detention	Underground Detention	2020	CA-11	No
CA2	CA West Detention	Underground Detention	2020	CA-11	No
CA3	McCarthy Pond	SW Pond	2020	CA-11	No
CB1	Atlantis Detention	Underground Detention	2019	CB-23	No
HS	Highway Shop	Various	1988	1988 Plans	No

County Roadway and Stormwater Infrastructure Management

- Outagamie County owns 604 lane miles with 165.8 lane miles (27.4%) within the MS4 Urbanized Area.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) exists with the City of Appleton outlining routine maintenance responsibilities.
- Additional agreements with other municipalities are being pursued, meaning responsibilities may change.

Pollution Prevention Programs

Street Sweeping

- 2025 Street Sweeping Results
 - 232 tons of debris collected countywide, including state highways and town roads both inside and outside the MS4 area.
 - Staff are working on methods to track only the MS4 Urbanized Area for future reports.
 - Debris disposal follows the 2020 Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

Catch Basin Maintenance

- No formal catch basin cleaning program exists.
- The County is identifying catch basins needing periodic cleaning to determine if a program is necessary.
- Currently reported as “not applicable”.

Winter Road Maintenance

- The County continues to implement its Winter Road Maintenance Program.
- Brine and salt usage data for MS4 Urbanized Area lane miles is included in an attached summary report.

Other Maintenance Programs

- No leaf collection program exists.
- Highway Facility SWPPP was adopted in 2020, and inspections were conducted in 2025.
 - Inspection reports are included in the attached 2025 Highway SWPPP Inspections Reports document.

Outagamie County will continue to work with the City of Appleton under an agreement which outlines many Pollution Prevention programs and responsibilities. Additional information regarding these programs and activities will be provided in future annual reports.

9. Storm Sewer Mapping

The updated Outagamie County Stormwater map provides a comprehensive overview of outfalls, municipalities, and stream classifications, ensuring accurate tracking and compliance with MS4 permits requirements. The County will continue to use this resource for effective stormwater management and future planning efforts.

10. Stormwater Quality Management and TMDL Report

Outagamie remains dedicated to maintaining its stormwater infrastructure while complying with MS4 permit requirements. The County will continue to integrate project data into future stormwater modeling and collaborate with local municipalities to enhance stormwater quality management efforts.

Management in 2025:

Project Name	Status	Comments
CTH N (CTH CE to CTH KK)	Active	Utility relocations are scheduled throughout 2024 and 2025 with roadway reconstruction rescheduled for 2026.

11. Agreements & Memorandum's of Understanding (MOU)

Outagamie County remains committed to its 2019 agreement with the City of Appleton, which defines responsibilities for County-owned rights-of-way within the Urbanized Area under MS4 Permit requirements. No additional agreements or MOU's were signed in 2025, however, conversations have continued with both the Town of Grand Chute and City of Kaukauna.

12. Municipal Employee Trainings

The Outagamie County Department of Development and Land Services actively participated in various training opportunities and meetings throughout 2025, including NEWSC committee meetings, the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance Annual Conference, and NEWSC Full Consortium Meetings.

The County Highway Department conducted internal trainings on Salt and Brine Use, Plow Expectations, Force Controls, and Changing Blades for Winter Maintenance. The Department also provided seasonal training for staff on mowing and roadside right-of-way maintenance.

13. Fiscal Analysis

The fiscal analysis of Outagamie County's 2025 MS4 program highlights budget allocations, actual expenditures, and revenue projects, while also identifying tracking deficiencies. Currently, MS4-related expenses are not fully separated within the County's budget, leading to challenges in accurately accounting for funds spent within the MS4 Urbanized Area. Moving forward, the County aims to refine its tracking methods to better allocated and report MS4-specific expenditures.

Element	Allocated 2025	Actual 2025	Notes	2026 Budget
Expenditures				
Public Ed. & Outreach Public Inv. & Part.	\$3,000.00	\$2,650.00	NEWSOC Membership Dues	\$4,000.00
IDDE Program	\$10,000.00	\$10,800.00	Contracted Services	\$11,500.00
Pollution Prevention	\$5,000.00	1	SWPPP-HWY Shop(Maintenance & Inspections)	\$5,000.00
SW Quality Modeling & Storm Sewer Mapping	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	Contracted Services (Westwood Engineering)	\$10,000.00
Revenue				
Construction Site E/C	\$2,000.00	\$350.00	Based on permit projections in MS4 UA	\$2,000.00
Post-Construction SW Management	\$2,000.00	\$700.00	Based on permit projections in MS4 UA	\$2,000.00

Note¹: Actual expenditures (2025) were not tracked at this level of granularity. Per communication with the Highway Department, the 'Pollution Prevention' expenditures derive from the drainage portion of Highway's General Maintenance Budget.

14. Annual Report Summary

Outagamie County remains committed to fulfilling the requirements of WDNR WPDES Permit #S050075-3, by actively implementing and enforcing its MS4 program. The past year was a busy construction season and is expected to continue through 2026. County Staff is continually pursuing measures to minimize impacts to the environment while properly permitting development. Once the new MS4 Annual Permit is issued, staff is eager to review the compliance plan to refocus and continue efforts in a positive manner.

15. Outagamie County Contacts

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