

Public Involvement and Participation



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INTRODUCTION

The Phase II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit requires the city of Thornton to develop a process for Public Involvement and Participation. The purpose of this process is to effectively strategize and implementation of the Public Involvement and Participation process requirements as described in Part I.D of the permit. This process describes the objectives of the public involvement program include providing opportunities for the public to participate in program development and implementation and to assure compliance with applicable state and local public notice requirements.

SECTION 1: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

A volunteer programs that involve community volunteers and serve to protect the environment and educate our citizens about stormwater and pollution prevention. The Public Involvement and Participation measure is designed to promote public involvement in the stormwater program implementation, including encouraging citizens to take part in activities to protect stormwater quality.

SECTION 2: PUBLIC NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

Notice or advertisement is required to be published by the city, providing adequate public notice and opportunities for public review, input, and feedback. At a minimum, provide a statement on the city's stormwater quality webpage that the Program Description Document is available for review and comment.

In addition to providing public notice, the city will accept and respond to information submitted by the public, including information on illicit discharges or failure to implement or meet control measure requirements associated with applicable construction activities, applicable development sites, or municipal operations.

SECTION 3: Activities/Public Participation

The following are opportunities for the public to participate in the program development and implementation including serving as citizen representatives on a local storm water management panel, attending public hearings, working as citizen volunteers to educate other individuals about the program, assisting in program coordination with other pre-existing programs, or participating in volunteer monitoring efforts.

Storm Drain Marking Program:

The Storm Drain Marking Program is designed to raise public awareness of the connection from the storm drains to local waters. These markers are small plastic disks with information such as, "No Dumping – Drains to River" printed on them and are placed on storm drain inlets by volunteer organizations and city staff. The city also distributes door hangers with material that explains the program and provides information on alternatives to dumping.

Adopt a Street Program:

This program allows groups or organizations to pick up litter along a designated street. The litter is picked up by the groups or organizations once a month. The litter is placed in trash bags and left along the street for the city to pick up and dispose of at the landfill.

Electronic Recycling:

The recycling program allow an opportunity for Thornton and Adams County residences to dispose of unwanted electronic. For a small fee, residences can take their electronic waste to designated locations at certain times of the year.

Tree Branch/Limb Recycle:

The city provides a centralized location for city residence to drop off tree branches and limb. The drop-off area is open to residence several time during the year.

Landfill Days:

Landfill days allow residents to dispose of items that they are not able to dispose of through their regular trash service. The service if offered at a designated landfill on specific dates throughout the year.

Paint Drop-off:

This event is open to Thornton and Adams County residents. During special events residents are able to bring their unwanted paint to a specific designated location.

Oil and Automotive Fluids:

The city provide locations where citizens can bring automotive fluids and cooking oil for recycling.

Stormwater Quality Website:

The city maintains a web site dedicated to water quality and stormwater management. The site serves as a forum to provide a means of making documents accessible to the public for review and comment. This process allows the public to provide input on control measures and the program description document.

The website also provides a means for residents to report information on illicit discharges or construction operations failing to comply with control measures to control pollutants from being discharged.

SECTION 4: RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS

Recordkeeping:

1. Copies of the documents used to provide public notice and any public comment received as part of the public notice process.
2. Documentation describing the information made available to the public to provide input and the mechanism used for acquiring this information.
3. Records of information submitted by the public and any actions taken to address the information.
4. Track the number of hits or visits to the stormwater quality webpage.

