

Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) Plan

Central Massachusetts Regional Stormwater Coalition

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1 Introduction

1.1 MS4 Program

This Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) Plan has been developed by Southbridge to address the requirements of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA's) 2016 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) in Massachusetts, hereafter referred to as the "2016 Massachusetts MS4 Permit" or "MS4 Permit."

The 2016 Massachusetts MS4 Permit requires that each permittee, or regulated community, address six Minimum Control Measures. These measures include the following:

1. Public Education and Outreach
2. Public Involvement and Participation
3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program
4. Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control
5. Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment (Post Construction Stormwater Management); and
6. Good Housekeeping and Pollution Prevention for Permittee Owned Operations.

Under Minimum Control Measure 3, the permittee is required to implement an IDDE program to systematically find and eliminate sources of non-stormwater discharges to its municipal separate storm sewer system and implement procedures to prevent such discharges. The IDDE program must also be recorded in a written (hardcopy or electronic) document. This IDDE Plan has been prepared to address this requirement.

1.2 Illicit Discharges

An "illicit discharge" is any discharge to a drainage system that is not composed entirely of stormwater, with the exception of discharges pursuant to a NPDES permit (other than the NPDES permit for discharges from the MS4) and discharges resulting from fire-fighting activities.

Illicit discharges may take a variety of forms. Illicit discharges may enter the drainage system through direct or indirect connections. Direct connections may be relatively obvious, such as cross-connections of sewer services to the storm drain system. Indirect illicit discharges may be more difficult to detect or address, such as failing septic systems that discharge untreated sewage to a ditch within the MS4, or a sump pump that discharges contaminated water on an intermittent basis.

Some illicit discharges are intentional, such as dumping used oil (or other pollutant) into catch basins, a resident or contractor illegally tapping a new sewer lateral into a storm drain pipe to avoid the costs of a sewer connection fee and service, and illegal dumping of yard wastes into surface waters.

Some illicit discharges are related to the unsuitability of original infrastructure to the modern regulatory environment. Examples of illicit discharges in this category include connected floor drains in old buildings, as well as sanitary sewer overflows that enter the drainage system. Sump pumps legally

connected to the storm drain system may be used inappropriately, such as for the disposal of floor washwater or old household products, in many cases due to a lack of understanding on the part of the homeowner.

Elimination of some discharges may require substantial costs and efforts, such as funding and designing a project to reconnect sanitary sewer laterals. Others, such as improving self-policing of dog waste management, can be accomplished by outreach in conjunction with the minimal additional cost of dog waste bins and the municipal commitment to disposal of collected materials on a regular basis.

Regardless of the intention, when not addressed, illicit discharges can contribute high levels of pollutants, such as heavy metals, toxics, oil, grease, solvents, nutrients, and pathogens to surface waters.

1.3 Allowable Non-Stormwater Discharges

The following categories of non-storm water discharges are allowed under the MS4 Permit unless the permittee, USEPA or Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) identifies any category or individual discharge of non-stormwater discharge as a significant contributor of pollutants to the MS4:

- Water line flushing
- Landscape irrigation
- Diverted stream flows
- Rising ground water
- Uncontaminated ground water infiltration (as defined at 40 CFR 35.2005(20))
- Uncontaminated pumped groundwater
- Discharge from potable water sources
- Foundation drains
- Air conditioning condensation
- Irrigation water, springs
- Water from crawl space pumps
- Footing drains
- Lawn watering
- Individual resident car washing
- De-chlorinated swimming pool discharges
- Street wash waters
- Residential building wash waters without detergents

If these discharges are identified as significant contributors to the MS4, they must be considered an “illicit discharge” and addressed in the IDDE Plan (i.e., control these sources so they are no longer significant contributors of pollutants, and/or eliminate them entirely).

1.4 Receiving Waters and Impairments

Table 1-1 lists the “impaired waters” within the boundaries of Southbridge regulated area based on the 2014 Massachusetts Integrated List of Waters produced by MassDEP every two years. Impaired waters are water bodies that do not meet water quality standards for one or more designated use(s) such as recreation or aquatic habitat.

**Table 1-1. Impaired Waters
Southbridge, Massachusetts**

Water Body Name	Segment ID	Category	Impairment(s)	Associated Approved TMDL
Quinebaug River	MA41-02	5	Debris/Floatables/Trash; Excess Algal Growth	
Quinebaug River	MA41-03	5	Debris/Floatables/Trash; Physical Substrate Habitat Alterations; Fecal Coliform; Oxygen – Dissolved; Taste & Odor; Other	
Cady Brook	MA41-06	5	Nutrient/Eutrophication Biological Indicators; Low Flow Alterations	
Quinebaug River	MA41-09	5	Debris/Floatables/Trash; Turbidity; Ambient Bioassays – Chronic Aquatic Toxicity; Aquatic Macroinvertebrate Bioassessments	
Cohasse Brook	MA41-12	5	Aquatic Macroinvertebrate Bioassessment; Sedimentation/Siltation; E. Coli	
McKinstry Brook	MA41-13	5	Debris/Floatables/Trash; E. Coli	
Hatchet Brook	MA41-14	5	E. Coli	

Category 4a Waters – impaired water bodies with a completed Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL).

Category 4c Waters – impaired water bodies where the impairment is not caused by a pollutant. No TMDL required.

Category 5 Waters – impaired water bodies that require a TMDL.

“Approved TMDLs” are those that have been approved by EPA as of the date of issuance of the 2016 MS4 Permit.

Based on impairments for Solids, Oil & Grease, or Metals (Appendix H, Section V) or Bacteria or Pathogens (Appendix H, Section III), **outfalls discharging to the following waterbodies will be ranked as “High Priority” for IDDE outfall screening:**

- Quinebaug River (MA41-02, MA41-03, MA41-09)
- Cohasse Brook (MA41-12)
- McKinstry Brook (MA41-13)
- Hatchet Brook (MA41-14)

1.5 IDDE Program Goals, Framework, and Timeline

The goals of the IDDE program are to find and eliminate illicit discharges to municipal separate storm sewer system and to prevent illicit discharges from happening in the future. The program consists of the following major components as outlined in the MS4 Permit:

- Legal authority and regulatory mechanism to prohibit illicit discharges and enforce this prohibition
- Storm system mapping
- Inventory and ranking of outfalls
- Dry weather outfall screening
- Catchment investigations
- Identification/confirmation of illicit sources
- Illicit discharge removal
- Followup screening
- Employee training.

The IDDE investigation procedure framework is shown in **Figure 1-1**. The required timeline for implementing the IDDE program is shown in **Table 1-2**.

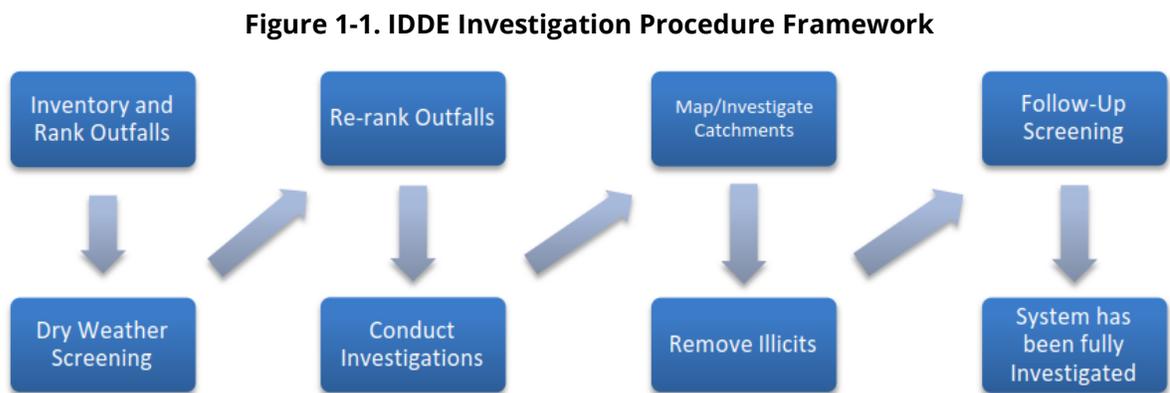


Table 1-2. IDDE Program Implementation Timeline

IDDE Program Requirement	Completion Date from Effective Date of Permit					
	1 Year	1.5 Years	2 Years	3 Years	7 Years	10 Years
Written IDDE Program Plan	X					
SSO Inventory	X					
Written Catchment Investigation Procedure		X				
Phase I Mapping			X			
Phase II Mapping						X
IDDE Regulatory Mechanism or By-law (if not already in place)				X		

IDDE Program Requirement	Completion Date from Effective Date of Permit					
	1 Year	1.5 Years	2 Years	3 Years	7 Years	10 Years
Dry Weather Outfall Screening				X		
Follow-up Ranking of Outfalls and Interconnections				X		
Catchment Investigations – Problem Outfalls					X	
Catchment Investigations – all Problem, High and Low Priority Outfalls						X

1.6 Work Completed to Date

The 2003 MS4 Permit required each MS4 community to develop a plan to detect illicit discharges using a combination of storm system mapping, adopting a regulatory mechanism to prohibit illicit discharges and enforce this prohibition, and identifying tools and methods to investigate suspected illicit discharges. Each MS4 community was also required to define how confirmed discharges would be eliminated and how the removal would be documented.

The Town of Southbridge has completed the following IDDE program activities consistent with the 2003 MS4 Permit requirements:

- Developed a map of outfalls and receiving waters

In addition to the 2003 MS4 Permit requirements, other IDDE-related activities that have been completed include:

- Additional storm system mapping, including the locations of catch basins, manholes and pipe connectivity

2 Authority and Statement of IDDE Responsibilities

2.1 Legal Authority

The Town of Southbridge will adopt a bylaw, ordinance, or other regulatory mechanism to provide the Town adequate legal authority to:

- Prohibit illicit discharges
- Investigate suspected illicit discharges
- Eliminate illicit discharges, including discharges from properties not owned by or controlled by the MS4 that discharge into the MS4 system
- Implement appropriate enforcement procedures and actions.

The bylaw, ordinance, or other regulatory mechanism will meet the requirements of the 2016 MS4 Permit and will be in place within 3 years of the permit effective date (July 1, 2021).

2.2 Statement of Responsibilities

The Department of Public Works is the lead municipal agency or department responsible for implementing the IDDE program. Other agencies or departments with responsibility for aspects of the program include:

- Department of Public Works – Develop IDDE program; continue mapping of stormwater system; coordinate activities of other departments; implement outfall screening and catchment investigation program with combination of own forces and contractors/consultants.
- Sewer Department – Assist with initial inventory of SSOs; report SSOs to the DPW; assist with detection and elimination of illicit discharges involving sewage.
- Town Planner & Conservation Agent – Assist with development and passage of stormwater by-law, including adequate legal authority to prohibit, investigate, and eliminate illicit discharges; report any possible illicit discharges encountered in the course of their other duties to the DPW; act as liaison to Conservation Commission.
- Conservation Commission – Report any possible illicit discharges encountered in the course of their other duties to the DPW; include conditions as required to prevent illicit discharges in Orders of Conditions issued within the MS4.
- Building Inspector & Plumbing Inspector – Check new construction for suspected illicit connections; report any possible illicit discharges encountered in the course of their other duties to the DPW.
- Health Department – Assist with detection and elimination of illicit discharges related to septic systems, hazardous wastes, trash, etc.; report any possible illicit discharges encountered in the course of their other duties to the DPW.
- Town Council – Approve by-laws and contracts related to IDDE program.
- Town Manager – Act as liaison to Town Council; sign contracts and other documents related to IDDE program; assist with interdepartmental coordination.

3 Stormwater System Mapping

The Town of Southbridge originally developed mapping of its stormwater system to meet the mapping requirements of the 2003 MS4 Permit. A copy of the existing storm system map is provided at <https://southbridgema.mapgeo.io/>. The 2016 MS4 Permit requires a more detailed storm system map than was required by the 2003 MS4 Permit. The revised mapping is intended to facilitate the identification of key infrastructure, factors influencing proper system operation, and the potential for illicit discharges.

The 2016 MS4 Permit requires the storm system map to be updated in two phases as outlined below. The Department of Public Works is responsible for updating the stormwater system mapping pursuant to the 2016 MS4 Permit. The Town will report on the progress towards completion of the storm system map in each annual report. Updates to the stormwater mapping will be included in **Appendix B**.

3.1 Phase I Mapping

Phase I mapping must be completed within two (2) years of the effective date of the permit (July 1, 2020) and include the following information:

- Outfalls and receiving waters (previously required by the MS4-2003 permit)
- Open channel conveyances (swales, ditches, etc.)
- Interconnections with other MS4s and other storm sewer systems
- Municipally owned stormwater treatment structures
- Water bodies identified by name and indication of all use impairments as identified on the most recent EPA approved Massachusetts Integrated List of Waters report
- Initial catchment delineations. Topographic contours and drainage system information may be used to produce initial catchment delineations.

The Town has completed the following updates to its stormwater mapping to meet the Phase I requirements:

- Outfalls and receiving waters (previously required by the MS4-2003 permit)

The Town will update its stormwater mapping by July 1, 2020 to include the remaining Phase I information.

3.2 Phase II Mapping

Phase II mapping must be completed within ten (10) years of the effective date of the permit (July 1, 2028) and include the following information:

- Outfall spatial location (latitude and longitude with a minimum accuracy of +/-30 feet)
- Pipes
- Manholes
- Catch basins

- Refined catchment delineations. Catchment delineations must be updated to reflect information collected during catchment investigations.
- Municipal Sanitary Sewer system

The Town has completed the following updates to its stormwater mapping to meet the Phase II requirements:

- Outfall spatial location (latitude and longitude with a minimum accuracy of +/-30 feet)
- Pipes
- Manholes
- Catch basins

The Town will update its stormwater mapping by July 1, 2028 to include the remaining following Phase II information.

3.3 Additional Recommended Mapping Elements

Although not a requirement of the 2016 MS4 Permit, the Town plans to include the following recommended elements in its storm system mapping:

- Storm sewer material, size (pipe diameter), age
- Sanitary sewer system material, size (pipe diameter), age
- Privately owned stormwater treatment structures
- Where a municipal sanitary sewer system exists, properties known or suspected to be served by a septic system, especially in high density urban areas
- Area where the permittee's MS4 has received or could receive flow from septic system discharges
- Seasonal high water table elevations impacting sanitary alignments
- Topography
- Orthophotography
- Alignments, dates and representation of work completed of past illicit discharge investigations
- Locations of suspected confirmed and corrected illicit discharges with dates and flow estimates.

4 Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs)

The 2016 MS4 Permit requires municipalities to prohibit illicit discharges, including sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs), to the separate storm sewer system. SSOs are discharges of untreated sanitary wastewater from a municipal sanitary sewer that can contaminate surface waters, cause serious water quality problems and property damage, and threaten public health. SSOs can be caused by blockages, line breaks, sewer defects that allow stormwater and groundwater to overload the system, power failures, improper sewer design, and vandalism.

The Town has completed an inventory of SSOs that have discharged to the MS4 within the five (5) years prior to the effective date of the 2016 MS4 Permit, based on review of available documentation pertaining to SSOs (**Table 4-1**). The inventory includes all SSOs that occurred during wet or dry weather resulting from inadequate conveyance capacities or where interconnectivity of the storm and sanitary sewer infrastructure allows for transfer of flow between systems.

Upon detection of an SSO, the Town will eliminate it as expeditiously as possible and take interim measures to minimize the discharge of pollutants to and from its MS4 until the SSO is eliminated. Upon becoming aware of an SSO to the MS4, the Town will provide oral notice to EPA within 24 hours and written notice to EPA and MassDEP within five (5) days of becoming aware of the SSO occurrence.

The inventory in **Table 4-1** will be updated by the Department of Public Works in coordination with the Wastewater Department when new SSOs are detected. The SSO inventory will be included in the annual report, including the status of mitigation and corrective measures to address each identified SSO.

Table 4-1. SSO Inventory
Southbridge, Massachusetts
Revision Date: 11/18/2020

SSO Location ¹	Discharge Statement ²	Date ³	Time Start ³	Time End ³	Estimated Volume ⁴	Description ⁵	Mitigation Completed ⁶	Mitigation Planned ⁷
River Ave.	Ground surface only	11/13/13	11:18 AM	11:50 AM	30 gal	Sewer blockage due to root intrusion caused SSO at sewer manhole	Blockage removed with vac truck. Location added to list for root treatment and monthly checklist	
86 Dennison Cross Road (Dennison Cross Road Pump Station)	Direct discharge to Hatchet Brook	1/30/14	9:10 AM	9:58 AM	1750 gal	Pump station controller failure caused discharge of backwash from water filter plant	Temporary pump controller re-configuration followed by controller replacement	
Windsor Court – SMH #222	Catch basin to receiving waters (Quinebaug River)	3/28/14	9:44 AM	10:15 AM	Unknown – not flowing on arrival	Blockage caused by broom handle and sticks dropped into pick hole of SMH causing raggy/greasy buildup	SMH vac'd out, sewer main flushed. SMH cover's pickhole sealed.	
Southbridge WWTP filter building	Catch basin to receiving waters (Quinebaug River)	4/11/14	8:14 AM	8:20 AM	1 CY of foam/soap suds	Foam/suds from a detergent came through bricks on the side of a sewer manhole	Bricks cemented in place and outside of manhole. Storm drain jetted and vac'd.	
Near 796 Charlton Street	Ground surface only	8/26/14	2:14 PM	2:44 PM	< 2000 gal	Gasket failure on air release valve caused SSO from force main carrying reclaim water to Millennium Power Plant	Air release valve was rebuilt, tested, and put back in service	
Near 291 Durfee Street	Ground surface only	4/18/15	12:30 PM	12:45 PM	< 25 gal	Cap came off end of E-one force main.	New cap installed. SMH and ground surface cleaned with vac truck.	
Intersection of Langlois Ave and Wall Street (SMH-CSI558)	Catch basin to receiving water (McKinstry Brook)	4/19/15	10:53 AM	11:10 AM	2400 gal	Sewer blockage caused manhole to surcharge and overflow.	Sewer main jetted from problem area through Mill St siphon to assure flow. Catch basin vac'd.	
Bridge at Elm St over Cohasse Brook	Direct discharge to Cohasse Brook	7/22/15	11:40 AM on 7/22	12:50 PM on 7/24	Leak from small crack in pipe, volume unknown	Sinkhole in roadway lead to discovery of sewage leak from bridge abutment/foundation by dye test.	Hydraulic cement used to fill voids and cracks. Sinkhole excavated and flow filled. Sewer main lined.	
Intersection of Cliff St and River St	Discharge to ground and catch basin. Sewage entered catch basin but did not exit to receiving waters.	8/3/15	3:15 PM	3:45 PM	30 gal	Blockage, presumably due to root intrusion. Surcharged SMH leaked onto roadway and into catch basin.	Last treated for roots on 7/29/15. Sewer and drain jetted and vac'd, road surface cleaned.	
Near intersection of Hamilton Street and Oliver Street	Ground surface only	9/7/15			Unknown	Root intrusion caused blockage in a shared lateral in a shared dirt driveway behind residences on Hamilton St.	Line rodded by private contractor to clear blockage. Homeowners notified of issue with private shared lateral.	
66 Union Street	Ground surface only	5/13/16			Unknown	Sewage flowing out of garage at 66 Union.	BOH contacted resident to order them to stop the	

							overflow. Condition was corrected by homeowner.	
Near 21 Wall Street	Catch basin to receiving waters (McKinstry Brook)	9/24/16	12:50 PM	1:15 PM	20 to 25 gal	Odor from catch basin lead to discovery of surcharged SMH. Camera showed void at manhole allowed sewage to seep into ground, following voids to catch basin.	Main was jetted to clear blockage. Storm drain was jetted and vac'd. Void at SMH sealed with hydraulic cement.	
43 Coombs Street, back driveway area	Ground surface only	11/22/16	1:34 PM	2:05 PM	Unknown, 500 to 1000 gal estimated	Root intrusion caused blockage in shared lateral	Jetted and vac'd to clear blockage. Hydrated lime spread on affected surface. Area previously treated for roots on 8/22/14. Added to list for retreatment. Board of Health notified owners of shared lateral to address problem and maintain.	
122 Charlton Street, Schott Lighting & Imaging, near building 20	Direct discharge to Quinebaug River	1/23/18	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	< 50 gal	Private force main to septic pit was frozen. Once thawed, FM was tested and found to be broken at elbow and discharging to river instead of septic pit.	FM shut down immediately. Private contractors hired to clean area and repair pipe before further use.	
122 Charlton Street, Schott Lighting & Imaging	Direct discharge to unnamed tributary to Quinebaug River	5/14/18	8:35 AM	8:45 AM	100 to 200 gal	Discovered, reported, and fixed by private entity (Schott). Separated pipe joint on septic system caused leak.	Septic system shut down & locked out. Outside contractor brought in to perform repairs.	
416-418 Worcester Street (Homestead Ave/Kim Drive easement)	Ground surface only	5/24/18	1:10 PM	1:30 PM	2250 gal	Greasy blockage caused overflow at manhole.	Line flushed to clear greasy buildup. Area vac'd and limed. Already on monthly checklist, added to monthly flush list.	Line replacement in capital plan.
121 Hamilton Street (private access manhole)	Ground surface only	6/16/18	6:30 PM	7:00 PM	20 to 25 gal	Raggy material caused blockage of private access manhole's discharge pipe	Private contractor called to rod line and clear blockage.	
Homestead Ave/Kim Drive easement line, suspended over Cady Brook	Direct discharge to Cady Brook	6/18/18	3:00 PM	4:30 PM	20 gal per hour, unknown duration	Camera showed hole in suspended cast iron/steel main.	Drums placed to catch dripping sewage. Pipe wrapped with rubberized tape to limit and direct flow to drums. MH to MH liner installed by Insituform on 6/29/18.	Line replacement in capital plan.
Driveway of Schott Fiber Optics (122 Charlton Street) behind Building 20	Ground surface only	6/27/18	9:35 AM	10:00 AM	100 gal	Air release valve failed causing overflow of vent manhole.	Ball valve to air vent closed to stop leak. Area hosed and vac'd. New air valve unit installed.	
86 Dennison Cross Road (Dennison Cross Road Pump Station)	Direct discharge to Hatchet Brook	6/29/18	6:15 PM	6:20 PM	400 to 600 gal	High outdoor temps caused VFD to shut down causing	Electrician installed fans and vents in VFD	

							pump station to overflow (water filter plant backwash)	enclosure to keep temps down	
31-33 Taft Street	Ground surface only	7/11/18				Unknown	Sewage leaking from retaining wall, caused by blockage/breakage in private lateral	Main checked and found to be clear. Lateral located in main, not flowing. Dye test produced dye out of retaining wall. Owner advised to hire contractor to clean/repair line. BOH contacted but would not issue stop order without witnessing leak.	
31-33 Taft Street	Ground surface only	8/15/18				10 to 20 gal estimated	Sewage leaking from retaining wall, caused by blockage/breakage in private lateral	Board of Health contacted owner to repair private lateral ASAP	
Oak Ridge Cemetery	Direct discharge to Cohasse Brook	10/29/18	1:41 PM	2:08 PM	50 GPM estimated, total duration unknown		Blockage caused by diaper and other raggy material	Blockage cleared by jetting. This area is on a weekly checklist and monthly flushing list.	
141 Main Street	Ground surface only	3/1/19	1:25 PM	1:45 PM	100 gal		Private sewer lateral blocked. Discharging from cleanout on private property.	Frozen sewage removed from area. Occupants called private contractor to clear blockage.	
Near 484 Worcester Street	Ground surface only	4/22/19	12:00 PM	1:10 PM	< 250 gal (3 GPM)		Sewer main blocked with bricks and greasy, raggy material causing manhole to surcharge and overflow.	SMH vac'd and line flushed. Bricks removed. Heavy cleaning to remove greasy buildup.	
Near 65 Morris Street	Catch basin to receiving waters (Quinebaug River)	6/4/19	8:00 AM	10:15 AM	150 gal		Sewage found to be leaking from patch in road. Line blocked by two large towels of unknown origin.	Removed blockage and overflow stopped. Line was videoed, clay line found to be crushed. Crushed clay line replaced with PVC.	
86 Dennison Cross Road (Dennison Cross Road Pump Station)	Direct discharge to Hatchet Brook	7/25/19	6:20 PM	7:30 PM	6750 gal estimated		Pump station controller "locked up" causing overflow of water filter plant backwash (all influent to this pump station is filter backwash from Water Treatment Facility).	Vac truck used to alleviate SSO while pump controller was power cycled. Resumed normal automatic operation after cycling. Electrician installed switch to cycle power if issue happens again.	Should consider modifications to allow high level float to send stop signal to Water Treatment Plant to cease flow of filter backwash.
74 Litchfield Ave	Ground surface only	4/27/20	1:49 PM	2:35 PM	700 gal estimated		Raggy material caused blockage, causing manhole to overflow	Sewer line flushed, raggy material removed, standing water vacuumed.	
128-1/2 Elm Street	Ground surface only	6/11/20	10:50 PM	11:20 PM	250 gal estimated		Blocked private shared lateral was in the process of	Sewer Department inspected area the following morning. No	Dwelling most impacted by overflow has since been disconnected from shared

						being rodded. SSO occurred when cleanout was opened.	active overflow, cleanout cap in place, no sewer smell.	lateral and connected separately.
468 Hamilton Street	Direct discharge to Quinebaug River	11/18/20	10:45 AM (time reported to DPW & Sewer Dept.)	12:25 PM	5280 gal estimated. 200 gal vacuumed from ground surface. (2 houses, 12 bedrooms, 110 GPD per BR)	Grease and wipe blockage caused SSO at manhole. Reported to DPW by resident. When Sewer Dept arrived, resident said it had been leaking for 4 days.	Vacuumed surface, flushed line with small and large nozzle. This SMH is already on monthly checklist for troublespots, last checked 11/12/20 with no issues noted.	Will attempt to seal manhole structure with silicone to prevent future SSO.
10 Crescent Street	Ground surface only	5/12/21	7:30 AM	4:00 PM	150 gal estimated	Pipe collapse and blockage of a shared lateral sewer service	Board of Health hired a private contractor to repair the shared lateral on 5/13. Contractor also cleaned surface area with vacuum truck.	
256 Hamilton Street	Some flow was infiltrated to or evaporated from the ground surface, with the remainder entering a catch basin and flowing to receiving waters (Quinebaug River)	6/22/21	8:23 AM	7/1/2021	1000 gal estimated	Broken pipe and blockage caused backup of private lateral. Repair was complicated due to lateral going between buildings and under foundation/retaining wall.	Repair was effected on 7/1/21 by private contractor with no further issues noted.	

¹ Location (approximate street crossing/address and receiving water, if any)

² A clear statement of whether the discharge entered a surface water directly or entered the MS4

³ Date(s) and time(s) of each known SSO occurrence (i.e., beginning and end of any known discharge)

⁴ Estimated volume(s) of the occurrence

⁵ Description of the occurrence indicating known or suspected cause(s)

⁶ Mitigation and corrective measures completed with dates implemented

⁷ Mitigation and corrective measures planned with implementation schedules

5 Assessment and Priority Ranking of Outfalls

The 2016 MS4 Permit requires an assessment and priority ranking of outfalls in terms of their potential to have illicit discharges and SSOs and the related public health significance. The ranking helps determine the priority order for performing IDDE investigations and meeting permit milestones.

5.1 Outfall Catchment Delineations

A catchment is the area that drains to an individual outfall¹ or interconnection.² The catchments for each of the MS4 outfalls will be delineated to define contributing areas for investigation of potential sources of illicit discharges. Catchments are typically delineated based on topographic contours and mapped drainage infrastructure, where available. As described in **Section 3**, initial catchment delineations will be completed as part of the Phase I mapping, and refined catchment delineations will be completed as part of the Phase II mapping to reflect information collected during catchment investigations

5.2 Outfall and Interconnection Inventory and Initial Ranking

The Department of Public Works will complete an initial outfall and interconnection inventory and priority ranking to assess illicit discharge potential based on existing information. The initial inventory and ranking will be completed within one (1) year from the effective date of the permit. An updated inventory and ranking will be provided in each annual report thereafter. The inventory will be updated annually to include data collected in connection with dry weather screening and other relevant inspections.

The outfall and interconnection inventory will identify each outfall and interconnection discharging from the MS4, record its location and condition, and provide a framework for tracking inspections, screenings and other IDDE program activities.

Outfalls and interconnections will be classified into one of the following categories:

1. **Problem Outfalls:** Outfalls/interconnections with known or suspected contributions of illicit discharges based on existing information shall be designated as Problem Outfalls. This shall include any outfalls/interconnections where previous screening indicates likely sewer input. Likely sewer input indicators are any of the following:

¹ **Outfall** means a point source as defined by 40 CFR § 122.2 as the point where the municipal separate storm sewer discharges to waters of the United States. An outfall does not include open conveyances connecting two municipal separate storm sewers or pipes, tunnels or other conveyances that connect segments of the same stream or other waters of the United States and that are used to convey waters of the United States. Culverts longer than a simple road crossing shall be included in the inventory unless the permittee can confirm that they are free of any connections and simply convey waters of the United States.

² **Interconnection** means the point (excluding sheet flow over impervious surfaces) where the permittee's MS4 discharges to another MS4 or other storm sewer system, through which the discharge is conveyed to waters of the United States or to another storm sewer system and eventually to a water of the United States.

- Olfactory or visual evidence of sewage,
- Ammonia ≥ 0.5 mg/L, surfactants ≥ 0.25 mg/L, and bacteria levels greater than the water quality criteria applicable to the receiving water, or
- Ammonia ≥ 0.5 mg/L, surfactants ≥ 0.25 mg/L, and detectable levels of chlorine.

Dry weather screening and sampling, as described in **Section 6** of this IDDE Plan and Part 2.3.4.7.b of the MS4 Permit, is not required for Problem Outfalls.

2. High Priority Outfalls: Outfalls/interconnections that have not been classified as Problem Outfalls and that are:

- Discharging to an area of concern to public health due to proximity of public beaches, recreational areas, drinking water supplies or shellfish beds
- Determined by the permittee as high priority based on the characteristics listed below or other available information.

3. Low Priority Outfalls: Outfalls/interconnections determined by the permittee as low priority based on the characteristics listed below or other available information.

4. Excluded outfalls: Outfalls/interconnections with no potential for illicit discharges may be excluded from the IDDE program. This category is limited to roadway drainage in undeveloped areas with no dwellings and no sanitary sewers; drainage for athletic fields, parks or undeveloped green space and associated parking without services; cross-country drainage alignments (that neither cross nor are in proximity to sanitary sewer alignments) through undeveloped land.

Outfalls will be ranked into the above priority categories (except for excluded outfalls, which may be excluded from the IDDE program) based on the following characteristics of the defined initial catchment areas, where information is available. Additional relevant characteristics, including location-specific characteristics, may be considered but must be documented in this IDDE Plan.

- **Previous screening results** – previous screening/sampling results indicate likely sewer input (see criteria above for Problem Outfalls).
- **Past discharge complaints and reports.**
- **Poor receiving water quality** – the following guidelines are recommended to identify waters as having a high illicit discharge potential:
 - Exceeding water quality standards for bacteria
 - Ammonia levels above 0.5 mg/l
 - Surfactants levels greater than or equal to 0.25 mg/l
- **Density of generating sites** – Generating sites are those places, including institutional, municipal, commercial, or industrial sites, with a potential to generate pollutants that could contribute to illicit discharges. Examples of these sites include, but are not limited to, car dealers; car washes; gas stations; garden centers; and industrial manufacturing areas.

- **Age of development and infrastructure** – Industrial areas greater than 40 years old and areas where the sanitary sewer system is more than 40 years old will probably have a high illicit discharge potential. Developments 20 years or younger will probably have a low illicit discharge potential.
- **Sewer conversion** – Contributing catchment areas that were once serviced by septic systems, but have been converted to sewer connections may have a high illicit discharge potential.
- **Surrounding density of aging septic systems** – Septic systems thirty years or older in residential land use areas are prone to have failures and may have a high illicit discharge potential.
- **Culverted streams** – Any river or stream that is culverted for distances greater than a simple roadway crossing may have a high illicit discharge potential.
- **Water quality limited waterbodies** that receive a discharge from the MS4 or waters with approved TMDLs applicable to the permittee, where illicit discharges have the potential to contain the pollutant identified as the cause of the water quality impairment.

Table 5-1 provides a sample format for an outfall inventory and priority ranking matrix.

Table 5-1. Outfall Inventory and Priority Ranking Matrix
Southbridge, Massachusetts
Revision Date: [Date of Last Update]

Outfall ID	Receiving Water	Previous Screening Results Indicate Likely Sewer Input? ¹	Discharging to Area of Concern to Public Health? ²	Frequency of Past Discharge Complaints	Receiving Water Quality ³	Density of Generating Sites ⁴	Age of Development/ Infrastructure ⁵	Historic Combined Sewers or Septic? ⁶	Aging Septic? ⁷	Culverted Streams? ⁸	Additional Characteristics	Score	Priority Ranking
Information Source		Outfall inspections and sample results	GIS Maps	Town Staff	Impaired Waters List	Land Use/GIS Maps, Aerial Photography	Land Use Information, Visual Observation	Town Staff, GIS Maps	Land Use, Town Staff	GIS and Storm System Maps	Other		
Scoring Criteria		Yes = 3 (Problem Outfall) No = 0	Yes = 3 No = 0	Frequent = 3 Occasional = 2 None = 0	Poor = 3 Fair = 2 Good = 0	High = 3 Medium = 2 Low = 1	High = 3 Medium = 2 Low = 1	Yes = 3 No = 0	Yes = 3 No = 0	Yes = 3 No = 0	TBD		
Sample 1	XYZ River	3	0	2	0	2	1	0	0	3	None	11	Problem
Sample 2	XYZ Lake	0	3	0	3	1	2	0	3	3	None	15	High Priority
Sample 3	XYZ Stream	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	None	4	Low Priority

Scoring Criteria:

¹ Previous screening results indicate likely sewer input if any of the following are true:

- Olfactory or visual evidence of sewage,
- Ammonia ≥ 0.5 mg/L, surfactants ≥ 0.25 mg/L, and bacteria levels greater than the water quality criteria applicable to the receiving water, or
- Ammonia ≥ 0.5 mg/L, surfactants ≥ 0.25 mg/L, and detectable levels of chlorine

² Outfalls/interconnections that discharge to or in the vicinity of any of the following areas: public beaches, recreational areas, drinking water supplies, or shellfish beds

³ Receiving water quality based on latest version of MassDEP Integrated List of Waters.

- Poor = Waters with approved TMDLs (Category 4a Waters) where illicit discharges have the potential to contain the pollutant identified as the cause of the impairment
- Fair = Water quality limited waterbodies that receive a discharge from the MS4 (Category 5 Waters)
- Good = No water quality impairments

⁴ Generating sites are institutional, municipal, commercial, or industrial sites with a potential to contribute to illicit discharges (e.g., car dealers, car washes, gas stations, garden centers, industrial manufacturing, etc.)

⁵ Age of development and infrastructure:

- High = Industrial areas greater than 40 years old and areas where the sanitary sewer system is more than 40 years old
- Medium = Developments 20-40 years old
- Low = Developments less than 20 years old

⁶ Areas once served by combined sewers and but have been separated, or areas once served by septic systems but have been converted to sanitary sewers.

⁷ Aging septic systems are septic systems 30 years or older in residential areas.

⁸ Any river or stream that is culverted for distance greater than a simple roadway crossing.

6 Dry Weather Outfall Screening and Sampling

Dry weather flow is a common indicator of potential illicit connections. The MS4 Permit requires all outfalls/interconnections (excluding Problem and excluded Outfalls) to be inspected for the presence of dry weather flow. The Department of Public Works is responsible for conducting dry weather outfall screening, starting with High Priority outfalls, followed by Low Priority outfalls, based on the initial priority rankings described in the previous section.

6.1 Weather Conditions

Dry weather outfall screening and sampling may occur when no more than 0.1 inches of rainfall has occurred in the previous 24-hour period and no significant snow melt is occurring. For purposes of determining dry weather conditions, program staff will use precipitation data from SOUTHBRIDGE 3 SW, MA US (GHCND:USC00197627). If SOUTHBRIDGE 3 SW, MA US is not available or not reporting current weather data, then BUFFUMVILLE LAKE, MA US (GHCND:USC00190998) will be used as a back-up.

6.2 Dry Weather Screening/Sampling Procedure

6.2.1 General Procedure

The dry weather outfall inspection and sampling procedure consists of the following general steps:

1. Identify outfall(s) to be screened/sampled based on initial outfall inventory and priority ranking
2. Acquire the necessary staff, mapping, and field equipment (see **Table 6-1** for list of potential field equipment)
3. Conduct the outfall inspection during dry weather:
 - a. Mark and photograph the outfall
 - b. Record the inspection information and outfall characteristics (using paper forms or digital form using a tablet or similar device) (see form in **Appendix C**)
 - c. Look for and record visual/olfactory evidence of pollutants in flowing outfalls including odor, color, turbidity, and floatable matter (suds, bubbles, excrement, toilet paper or sanitary products). Also observe outfalls for deposits and stains, vegetation, and damage to outfall structures.
4. If flow is observed, sample and test the flow following the procedures described in the following sections.
5. If no flow is observed, but evidence of illicit flow exists (illicit discharges are often intermittent or transitory), revisit the outfall during dry weather within one week of the initial observation, if practicable, to perform a second dry weather screening and sample any observed flow. Other techniques can be used to detect intermittent or transitory flows including conducting inspections during evenings or weekends and using optical brighteners.
6. Input results from screening and sampling into spreadsheet/database. Include pertinent information in the outfall/interconnection inventory and priority ranking.

7. Include all screening data in the annual report.

Previous outfall screening/sampling conducted under the 2013 MS4 Permit may be used to satisfy the dry weather outfall/screening requirements of the 2016 MS4 Permit only if the previous screening and sampling was substantially equivalent to that required by the 2016 MS4 Permit, including the list of analytes outlined in Section 2.3.4.7.b.iii.4 of the 2016 permit.

6.2.2 Field Equipment

Table 6-1 lists field equipment commonly used for dry weather outfall screening and sampling.

Table 6-1. Field Equipment – Dry Weather Outfall Screening and Sampling

Equipment	Use/Notes
Clipboard	For organization of field sheets and writing surface
Field Sheets	Field sheets for both dry weather inspection and Dry weather sampling should be available with extras
Chain of Custody Forms	To ensure proper handling of all samples
Pens/Pencils/Permanent Markers	For proper labeling
Nitrile Gloves	To protect the sampler as well as the sample from contamination
Flashlight/headlamp w/batteries	For looking in outfalls or manholes, helpful in early mornings as well
Cooler with Ice	For transporting samples to the laboratory
Digital Camera	For documenting field conditions at time of inspection
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	Reflective vest, Safety glasses and boots at a minimum
GPS Receiver	For taking spatial location data
Water Quality Sonde	If needed, for sampling conductivity, temperature, pH
Water Quality Meter	Hand held meter, if available, for testing for various water quality parameters such as ammonia, surfactants and chlorine
Test Kits	Have extra kits on hand to sample more outfalls than are anticipated to be screened in a single day
Label Tape	For labeling sample containers
Sample Containers	Make sure all sample containers are clean. Keep extra sample containers on hand at all times. Make sure there are proper sample containers for what is being sampled for (i.e., bacteria requires sterile containers).
Pry Bar or Pick	For opening catch basins and manholes when necessary
Sandbags	For damming low flows in order to take samples
Small Mallet or Hammer	Helping to free stuck manhole and catch basin covers
Utility Knife	Multiple uses
Measuring Tape	Measuring distances and depth of flow
Safety Cones	Safety
Hand Sanitizer	Disinfectant/decontaminant
Zip Ties/Duct Tape	For making field repairs

Equipment	Use/Notes
Rubber Boots/Waders	For accessing shallow streams/areas
Sampling Pole/Dipper/Sampling Cage	For accessing hard to reach outfalls and manholes

6.2.3 Sample Collection and Analysis

If flow is present during a dry weather outfall inspection, a sample will be collected and analyzed for the required permit parameters³ listed in **Table 6-2**. The general procedure for collection of outfall samples is as follows:

1. Fill out all sample information on sample bottles and field sheets (see **Appendix C** for Sample Labels and Field Sheets)
2. Put on protective gloves (nitrile/latex/other) before sampling
3. Collect sample with dipper or directly in sample containers. If possible, collect water from the flow directly in the sample bottle. Be careful not to disturb sediments.
4. If using a dipper or other device, triple rinse the device with distilled water and then in water to be sampled (not for bacteria sampling)
5. Use test strips, test kits, and field meters (rinse similar to dipper) for most parameters (see **Table 6-2**)
6. Place laboratory samples on ice for analysis of bacteria and pollutants of concern
7. Fill out chain-of-custody form (**Appendix C**) for laboratory samples
8. Deliver samples to laboratory (to be selected at a later date)
9. Dispose of used test strips and test kit ampules properly
10. Decontaminate all testing personnel and equipment

In the event that an outfall is submerged, either partially or completely, or inaccessible, field staff will proceed to the first accessible upstream manhole or structure for the observation and sampling and report the location with the screening results. Field staff will continue to the next upstream structure until there is no longer an influence from the receiving water on the visual inspection or sampling.

Field test kits or field instrumentation are permitted for all parameters except indicator bacteria and any pollutants of concern. Field kits need to have appropriate detection limits and ranges. **Table 6-2** lists various field test kits and field instruments that can be used for outfall sampling associated with the 2016 MS4 Permit parameters, other than indicator bacteria and any pollutants of concern. Analytic procedures and user's manuals for field test kits and field instrumentation are provided in **Appendix D**.

³ Other potentially useful parameters, although not required by the MS4 Permit, include **fluoride** (indicator of potable water sources in areas where water supplies are fluoridated), **potassium** (high levels may indicate the presence of sanitary wastewater), and **optical brighteners** (indicative of laundry detergents).

Table 6-2. Sampling Parameters and Analysis Methods

Analyte or Parameter	Instrumentation (Portable Meter)	Field Test Kit
Ammonia	CHEMetrics™ V-2000 Colorimeter Hach™ DR/890 Colorimeter Hach™ Pocket Colorimeter™ II	CHEMetrics™ K-1410 CHEMetrics™ K-1510 (series) Hach™ NI-SA Hach™ Ammonia Test Strips
Surfactants (Detergents)	CHEMetrics™ I-2017	CHEMetrics™ K-9400 and K-9404 Hach™ DE-2
Chlorine	CHEMetrics™ V-2000, K-2513 Hach™ Pocket Colorimeter™ II	NA
Conductivity	CHEMetrics™ I-1200 YSI Pro30 YSI EC300A Oakton 450	NA
Temperature	YSI Pro30 YSI EC300A Oakton 450	NA
Salinity	YSI Pro30 YSI EC300A Oakton 450	NA
Temperature	YSI Pro30 YSI EC300A Oakton 450	NA
Indicator Bacteria: <i>E. coli</i> (freshwater) or Enterococcus (saline water)	EPA certified laboratory procedure (40 CFR § 136)	NA
Pollutants of Concern ¹	EPA certified laboratory procedure (40 CFR § 136)	NA

¹ Where the discharge is directly into a water quality limited water or a water subject to an approved TMDL, the sample must be analyzed for the pollutant(s) of concern identified as the cause of the water quality impairment.

Testing for indicator bacteria and any pollutants of concern must be conducted using analytical methods and procedures found in 40 CFR § 136.⁴ Samples for laboratory analysis must also be stored and preserved in accordance with procedures found in 40 CFR § 136. **Table 6-3** lists analytical methods, detection limits, hold times, and preservatives for laboratory analysis of dry weather sampling parameters.

⁴ 40 CFR § 136: <http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=b3b41fdea0b7b0b8cd6c4304d86271b7&mc=true&node=pt40.25.136&rgn=div5>

Table 6-3. Required Analytical Methods, Detection Limits, Hold Times, and Preservatives⁴

Analyte or Parameter	Analytical Method	Detection Limit	Max. Hold Time	Preservative
Ammonia	EPA: 350.2, SM: 4500-NH3C	0.05 mg/L	28 days	Cool ≤6°C, H ₂ SO ₄ to pH <2, No preservative required if analyzed immediately
Surfactants	SM: 5540-C	0.01 mg/L	48 hours	Cool ≤6°C
Chlorine	SM: 4500-Cl G	0.02 mg/L	Analyze within 15 minutes	None Required
Temperature	SM: 2550B	NA	Immediate	None Required
Specific Conductance	EPA: 120.1, SM: 2510B	0.2 μs/cm	28 days	Cool ≤6°C
Salinity	SM: 2520	-	28 days	Cool ≤6°C
Indicator Bacteria: <i>E. coli</i> Enterococcus	<i>E. coli</i> EPA: 1603 SM: 9221B, 9221F, 9223 B Other: Colilert®, Colilert-18® <i>Enterococcus</i> EPA: 1600 SM: 9230 C Other: Enterolert®	<i>E. coli</i> EPA: 1 cfu/100mL SM: 2 MPN/100mL Other: 1 MPN/100mL <i>Enterococcus</i> EPA: 1 cfu/100mL SM: 1 MPN/100mL Other: 1 MPN/100mL	8 hours	Cool ≤10°C, 0.0008% Na ₂ S ₂ O ₃
Total Phosphorus	EPA: Manual-365.3, Automated Ascorbic acid digestion-365.1 Rev. 2, ICP/AES4-200.7 Rev. 4.4 SM: 4500-P E-F	EPA: 0.01 mg/L SM : 0.01 mg/L	28 days	Cool ≤6°C, H ₂ SO ₄ to pH <2
Total Nitrogen (Ammonia + Nitrate/Nitrite, methods are for Nitrate-Nitrite and need to be combined with Ammonia listed above.)	EPA: Cadmium reduction (automated)-353.2 Rev. 2.0, SM: 4500-NO ₃ E-F	EPA: 0.05 mg/L SM : 0.05 mg/L	28 days	Cool ≤6°C, H ₂ SO ₄ to pH <2

SM = Standard Methods

6.3 Interpreting Outfall Sampling Results

Outfall analytical data from dry weather sampling can be used to help identify the major type or source of discharge. **Table 6-4** shows values identified by the U.S. EPA and the Center for Watershed Protection as typical screening values for select parameters. These represent the typical concentration (or value) of each parameter expected to be found in stormwater. Screening values that exceed these benchmarks may be indicative of pollution and/or illicit discharges.

Table 6-4. Benchmark Field Measurements for Select Parameters

Analyte or Parameter	Benchmark
Ammonia	>0.5 mg/L
Conductivity	>2,000 μ S/cm
Surfactants	>0.25 mg/L
Chlorine	>0.02 mg/L (detectable levels per the 2016 MS4 Permit)
Indicator Bacteria ⁵ : <i>E.coli</i> <i>Enterococcus</i>	<p><i>E.coli</i>: the geometric mean of the five most recent samples taken during the same bathing season shall not exceed 126 colonies per 100 ml and no single sample taken during the bathing season shall exceed 235 colonies per 100 ml</p> <p><i>Enterococcus</i>: the geometric mean of the five most recent samples taken during the same bathing season shall not exceed 33 colonies per 100 ml and no single sample taken during the bathing season shall exceed 61 colonies per 100 ml</p>

6.4 Follow-up Ranking of Outfalls and Interconnections

The Town will update and re-prioritize the initial outfall and interconnection rankings based on information gathered during dry weather screening. The rankings will be updated periodically as dry weather screening information becomes available, but will be completed within three (3) years of the effective date of the permit (July 1, 2021).

Outfalls/interconnections where relevant information was found indicating sewer input to the MS4 or sampling results indicating sewer input are highly likely to contain illicit discharges from sanitary sources. Such outfalls/interconnections will be ranked at the top of the High Priority Outfalls category for investigation. Other outfalls and interconnections may be re-ranked based on any new information from the dry weather screening.

⁵ Massachusetts Water Quality Standards: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/service/regulations/314cmr04.pdf>

7 Catchment Investigations

Once stormwater outfalls with evidence of illicit discharges have been identified, various methods can be used to trace the source of the potential discharge within the outfall catchment area. Catchment investigation techniques include but are not limited to review of maps, historic plans, and records; manhole observation; dry and wet weather sampling; video inspection; smoke testing; and dye testing. This section outlines a systematic procedure to investigate outfall catchments to trace the source of potential illicit discharges. All data collected as part of the catchment investigations will be recorded and reported in each annual report.

7.1 System Vulnerability Factors

The Department of Public Works will review relevant mapping and historic plans and records to identify areas within the catchment with higher potential for illicit connections. The following information will be reviewed:

- Plans related to the construction of the drainage network
- Plans related to the construction of the sewer drainage network
- Prior work on storm drains or sewer lines
- Board of Health or other municipal data on septic systems
- Complaint records related to SSOs
- Septic system breakouts.

Based on the review of this information, the presence of any of the following **System Vulnerability Factors (SVFs)** will be identified for each catchment:

- History of SSOs, including, but not limited to, those resulting from wet weather, high water table, or fat/oil/grease blockages
- Common or twin-invert manholes serving storm and sanitary sewer alignments
- Common trench construction serving both storm and sanitary sewer alignments
- Crossings of storm and sanitary sewer alignments where the sanitary system is shallower than the storm drain system
- Sanitary sewer alignments known or suspected to have been constructed with an underdrain system
- Inadequate sanitary sewer level of service (LOS) resulting in regular surcharging, customer back-ups, or frequent customer complaints
- Areas formerly served by combined sewer systems
- Sanitary sewer infrastructure defects such as leaking service laterals, cracked, broken, or offset sanitary infrastructure, directly piped connections between storm drain and sanitary sewer infrastructure, or other vulnerability factors identified through Inflow/Infiltration Analyses, Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Surveys, or other infrastructure investigations
- Sewer pump/lift stations, siphons, or known sanitary sewer restrictions where power/equipment failures or blockages could readily result in SSOs
- Any sanitary sewer and storm drain infrastructure greater than 40 years old

- Widespread code-required septic system upgrades required at property transfers (indicative of inadequate soils, water table separation, or other physical constraints of the area rather than poor owner maintenance)
- History of multiple Board of Health actions addressing widespread septic system failures (indicative of inadequate soils, water table separation, or other physical constraints of the area rather than poor owner maintenance).

An SVF inventory will be documented for each catchment (see **Table 7-1**), retained as part of this IDDE Plan, and included in the annual report.

Table 7-1. Outfall Catchment System Vulnerability Factor (SVF) Inventory

Southbridge, Massachusetts
Revision Date: [Date of last update]

Outfall ID	Receiving Water	1 History of SSOs	2 Common or Twin Invert Manholes	3 Common Trench Construction	4 Storm/Sanitary Crossings (Sanitary Above)	5 Sanitary Lines with Underdrains	6 Inadequate Sanitary Level of Service	7 Areas Formerly Served by Combined Sewers	8 Sanitary Infrastructure Defects	9 SSO Potential In Event of System Failures	10 Sanitary and Storm Drain Infrastructure >40 years Old	11 Septic with Poor Soils or Water Table Separation	12 History of BOH Actions Addressing Septic Failure
Sample 1	XYZ River	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No

Presence/Absence Evaluation Criteria:

1. History of SSOs, including, but not limited to, those resulting from wet weather, high water table, or fat/oil/grease blockages
2. Common or twin-invert manholes serving storm and sanitary sewer alignments
3. Common trench construction serving both storm and sanitary sewer alignments
4. Crossings of storm and sanitary sewer alignments where the sanitary system is shallower than the storm drain system
5. Sanitary sewer alignments known or suspected to have been constructed with an underdrain system
6. Inadequate sanitary sewer level of service (LOS) resulting in regular surcharging, customer back-ups, or frequent customer complaints
7. Areas formerly served by combined sewer systems
8. Sanitary sewer infrastructure defects such as leaking service laterals, cracked, broken, or offset sanitary infrastructure, directly piped connections between storm drain and sanitary sewer infrastructure, or other vulnerability factors identified through Inflow/Infiltration Analyses, Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Surveys, or other infrastructure investigations
9. Sewer pump/lift stations, siphons, or known sanitary sewer restrictions where power/equipment failures or blockages could readily result in SSOs
10. Any sanitary sewer and storm drain infrastructure greater than 40 years old
11. Widespread code-required septic system upgrades required at property transfers (indicative of inadequate soils, water table separation, or other physical constraints of the area rather than poor owner maintenance)
12. History of multiple Board of Health actions addressing widespread septic system failures (indicative of inadequate soils, water table separation, or other physical constraints of the area rather than poor owner maintenance)

7.2 Dry Weather Manhole Inspections

The Town will implement a dry weather storm drain network investigation that involves systematically and progressively observing, sampling and evaluating key junction manholes in the MS4 to determine the approximate location of suspected illicit discharges or SSOs.

The Department of Public Works will be responsible for implementing the dry weather manhole inspection program and making updates as necessary. Infrastructure information will be incorporated into the storm system map, and catchment delineations will be refined based on the field investigation, where necessary. The SVF inventory will also be updated based on information obtained during the field investigations, where necessary.

Several important terms related to the dry weather manhole inspection program are defined by the MS4 Permit as follows:

- **Junction Manhole** is a manhole or structure with two or more inlets accepting flow from two or more MS4 alignments. Manholes with inlets solely from private storm drains, individual catch basins, or both are not considered junction manholes for these purposes.
- **Key Junction Manholes** are those junction manholes that can represent one or more junction manholes without compromising adequate implementation of the illicit discharge program. Adequate implementation of the illicit discharge program would not be compromised if the exclusion of a particular junction manhole as a key junction manhole would not affect the permittee's ability to determine the possible presence of an upstream illicit discharge. A permittee may exclude a junction manhole located upstream from another located in the immediate vicinity or that is serving a drainage alignment with no potential for illicit connections.

For all catchments identified for investigation, during dry weather, field crews will systematically inspect **key junction manholes** for evidence of illicit discharges. This program involves progressive inspection and sampling at manholes in the storm drain network to isolate and eliminate illicit discharges.

The manhole inspection methodology will be conducted in one of two ways (or a combination of both):

- By working progressively up from the outfall and inspecting key junction manholes along the way, or
- By working progressively down from the upper parts of the catchment toward the outfall.

For most catchments, manhole inspections will proceed from the outfall moving up into the system. However, the decision to move up or down the system depends on the nature of the drainage system and the surrounding land use and the availability of information on the catchment and drainage system. Moving up the system can begin immediately when an illicit discharge is detected at an outfall, and only a map of the storm drain system is required. Moving down the system requires more advance preparation and reliable drainage system information on the upstream segments of the storm drain system, but may be more efficient if the sources of illicit discharges are believed to be located in the

upstream portions of the catchment area. Once a manhole inspection methodology has been selected, investigations will continue systematically through the catchment.

Inspection of key junction manholes will proceed as follows:

1. Manholes will be opened and inspected for visual and olfactory evidence of illicit connections. A sample field inspection form is provided in **Appendix C**.
2. If flow is observed, a sample will be collected and analyzed at a minimum for ammonia, chlorine, and surfactants. Field kits can be used for these analyses. Sampling and analysis will be in accordance with procedures outlined in **Section 6**. Additional indicator sampling may assist in determining potential sources (e.g., bacteria for sanitary flows, conductivity to detect tidal backwater, etc.).
3. Where sampling results or visual or olfactory evidence indicate potential illicit discharges or SSOs, the area draining to the junction manhole will be flagged for further upstream manhole investigation and/or isolation and confirmation of sources.
4. Subsequent key junction manhole inspections will proceed until the location of suspected illicit discharges or SSOs can be isolated to a pipe segment between two manholes.
5. If no evidence of an illicit discharge is found, catchment investigations will be considered complete upon completion of key junction manhole sampling.

7.3 Wet Weather Outfall Sampling

Where a minimum of one (1) System Vulnerability Factor (SVF) is identified based on previous information or the catchment investigation, a wet weather investigation must also be conducted at the associated outfall. The Department of Public Works will be responsible for implementing the wet weather outfall sampling program and making updates as necessary.

Outfalls will be inspected and sampled under wet weather conditions, to the extent necessary, to determine whether wet weather-induced high flows in sanitary sewers or high groundwater in areas served by septic systems result in discharges of sanitary flow to the MS4.

Wet weather outfall sampling will proceed as follows:

1. At least one wet weather sample will be collected at the outfall for the same parameters required during dry weather screening.
2. Wet weather sampling will occur during or after a storm event of sufficient depth or intensity to produce a stormwater discharge at the outfall. There is no specific rainfall amount that will trigger sampling, although minimum storm event intensities that are likely to trigger sanitary sewer interconnections are preferred. To the extent feasible, sampling should occur during the spring (March through June) when groundwater levels are relatively high.

3. If wet weather outfall sampling indicates a potential illicit discharge, then additional wet weather source sampling will be performed, as warranted, or source isolation and confirmation procedures will be followed as described in **Section 7.4**.
4. If wet weather outfall sampling does not identify evidence of illicit discharges, and no evidence of an illicit discharge is found during dry weather manhole inspections, catchment investigations will be considered complete.

7.4 Source Isolation and Confirmation

Once the source of an illicit discharge is approximated between two manholes, more detailed investigation techniques will be used to isolate and confirm the source of the illicit discharge. The following methods may be used in isolating and confirming the source of illicit discharges

- Sandbagging
- Smoke Testing
- Dye Testing
- CCTV/Video Inspections
- Optical Brightener Monitoring

These methods are described in the sections below. Instructions and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for these and other IDDE methods are provided in **Appendix F**.

Public notification is an important aspect of a detailed source investigation program. Prior to smoke testing, dye testing, or TV inspections, the Department of Public Works will notify property owners in the affected area. Smoke testing notification will include notification via the Southbridge Alert System for single family homes, businesses and building lobbies for multi-family dwellings.

7.4.1 Sandbagging

This technique can be particularly useful when attempting to isolate intermittent illicit discharges or those with very little perceptible flow. The technique involves placing sandbags or similar barriers (e.g., caulking, weirs/plates, or other temporary barriers) within outlets to manholes to form a temporary dam that collects any intermittent flows that may occur. Sandbags are typically left in place for 48 hours, and should only be installed when dry weather is forecast. If flow has collected behind the sandbags/barriers after 48 hours it can be assessed using visual observations or by sampling. If no flow collects behind the sandbag, the upstream pipe network can be ruled out as a source of the intermittent discharge. Finding appropriate durations of dry weather and the need for multiple trips to each manhole makes this method both time-consuming and somewhat limiting.

7.4.2 Smoke Testing

Smoke testing involves injecting non-toxic smoke into drain lines and noting the emergence of smoke from sanitary sewer vents in illegally connected buildings or from cracks and leaks in the system itself.

Typically a smoke bomb or smoke generator is used to inject the smoke into the system at a catch basin or manhole and air is then forced through the system. Test personnel are placed in areas where there are suspected illegal connections or cracks/leaks, noting any escape of smoke (indicating an illicit connection or damaged storm drain infrastructure). It is important when using this technique to make proper notifications to area residents and business owners as well as local police and fire departments.

If the initial test of the storm drain system is unsuccessful then a more thorough smoke-test of the sanitary sewer lines can also be performed. Unlike storm drain smoke tests, buildings that do not emit smoke during sanitary sewer smoke tests may have problem connections and may also have sewer gas venting inside, which is hazardous.

It should be noted that smoke may cause minor irritation of respiratory passages. Residents with respiratory conditions may need to be monitored or evacuated from the area of testing altogether to ensure safety during testing.

7.4.3 Dye Testing

Dye testing involves flushing non-toxic dye into plumbing fixtures such as toilets, showers, and sinks and observing nearby storm drains and sewer manholes as well as stormwater outfalls for the presence of the dye. Similar to smoke testing, it is important to inform local residents and business owners. Police, fire, and local public health staff should also be notified prior to testing in preparation of responding to citizen phone calls concerning the dye and their presence in local surface waters.

A team of two or more people is needed to perform dye testing (ideally, all with two-way radios). One person is inside the building, while the others are stationed at the appropriate storm sewer and sanitary sewer manholes (which should be opened) and/or outfalls. The person inside the building adds dye into a plumbing fixture (i.e., toilet or sink) and runs a sufficient amount of water to move the dye through the plumbing system. The person inside the building then radios to the outside crew that the dye has been dropped, and the outside crew watches for the dye in the storm sewer and sanitary sewer, recording the presence or absence of the dye.

The test can be relatively quick (about 30 minutes per test), effective (results are usually definitive), and inexpensive. Dye testing is best used when the likely source of an illicit discharge has been narrowed down to a few specific houses or businesses.

7.4.4 CCTV/Video Inspection

Another method of source isolation involves the use of mobile video cameras that are guided remotely through stormwater drain lines to observe possible illicit discharges. IDDE program staff can review the videos and note any visible illicit discharges. While this tool is both effective and usually definitive, it can be costly and time consuming when compared to other source isolation techniques.

7.4.5 Optical Brightener Monitoring

Optical brighteners are fluorescent dyes that are used in detergents and paper products to enhance their appearance. The presence of optical brighteners in surface waters or dry weather discharges suggests there is a possible illicit discharge or insufficient removal through adsorption in nearby septic systems or wastewater treatment. Optical brightener monitoring can be done in two ways. The most common, and least expensive, methodology involves placing a cotton pad in a wire cage and securing it in a pipe, manhole, catch basin, or inlet to capture intermittent dry weather flows. The pad is retrieved at a later date and placed under UV light to determine the presence/absence of brighteners during the monitoring period. A second methodology uses handheld fluorimeters to detect optical brighteners in water sample collected from outfalls or ambient surface waters. Use of a fluorometer, while more quantitative, is typically more costly and is not as effective at isolating intermittent discharges as other source isolation techniques.

7.5 Illicit Discharge Removal

When the specific source of an illicit discharge is identified, the Town will exercise its authority as necessary to require its removal. The annual report will include the status of IDDE investigation and removal activities including the following information for each confirmed source:

- The location of the discharge and its source(s)
- A description of the discharge
- The method of discovery
- Date of discovery
- Date of elimination, mitigation or enforcement action OR planned corrective measures and a schedule for completing the illicit discharge removal
- Estimate of the volume of flow removed.

7.5.1 Confirmatory Outfall Screening

Within one (1) year of removal of all identified illicit discharges within a catchment area, confirmatory outfall or interconnection screening will be conducted. The confirmatory screening will be conducted in dry weather unless System Vulnerability Factors have been identified, in which case both dry weather and wet weather confirmatory screening will be conducted. If confirmatory screening indicates evidence of additional illicit discharges, the catchment will be scheduled for additional investigation.

7.6 Ongoing Screening

Upon completion of all catchment investigations and illicit discharge removal and confirmation (if necessary), each outfall or interconnection will be re-prioritized for screening and scheduled for ongoing screening once every five (5) years. Ongoing screening will consist of dry weather screening and sampling consistent with the procedures described in **Section 6** of this plan. Ongoing wet weather screening and sampling will also be conducted at outfalls where wet weather screening was required due to System Vulnerability Factors and will be conducted in accordance with the procedures described in **Section 7.3**. All sampling results will be reported in the annual report.

8 Training

Annual IDDE training will be made available to all employees involved in the IDDE program. This training will at a minimum include information on how to identify illicit discharges and SSOs and may also include additional training specific to the functions of particular personnel and their function within the framework of the IDDE program. Training records will be maintained in **Appendix E**. The frequency and type of training will be included in the annual report.

9 Progress Reporting

The progress and success of the IDDE program will be evaluated on an annual basis. The evaluation will be documented in the annual report and will include the following indicators of program progress:

- Number of SSOs and illicit discharges identified and removed
- Number and percent of total outfall catchments served by the MS4 evaluated using the catchment investigation procedure
- Number of dry weather outfall inspections/screenings
- Number of wet weather outfall inspections/sampling events
- Number of enforcement notices issued
- All dry weather and wet weather screening and sampling results
- Estimate of the volume of sewage removed, as applicable
- Number of employees trained annually.

The success of the IDDE program will be measured by the IDDE activities completed within the required permit timelines.

Appendix A

Legal Authority (IDDE Bylaw or Ordinance)

[Note: to be appended once passed.]

Appendix B

Storm System Mapping

Interactive Mapping available at <https://southbridgema.mapgeo.io/>

Appendix C

Field Forms, Sample Bottle Labels, and Chain of Custody Forms

[Note: Bottle labels and Chain of Custody forms will be appended here when a laboratory has been selected.]

Appendix D

Water Quality Analysis Instructions, User's Manuals and Standard Operating Procedures

Appendix E

IDDE Employee Training Record

Appendix F

Source Isolation and Confirmation Methods: Instructions, Manuals, and SOPs