

Charleston County's Cooperative Stormwater Management Program

Charleston County, South Carolina, is designated as a MS4 community and required to obtain coverage under Phase II of the NPDES rules. The County has been actively working on the development of their program since the 1998.

The County Council authorized the creation of a Stormwater Division within the Public Works Department to administer this program in 2006 and created a stormwater utility to fund the program.

In 2007 four of the smaller MS4 designated communities (City of Isle of Palms, City of Folly Beach, Town of Lincolnton and Town of Sullivan's Island) approached the County requesting assistance with their programs.

The County entered into intergovernmental agreements with the four communities. The agreements are for the County to administer their Stormwater Management Program for NPDES compliance and in turn the Communities would establish ordinances of a utility. The program is to be administered by the County and the funds collected will be used to administer the program.

November 11, 2007 the County and the four communities received NPDES permit coverage for the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. Actions needed to ensure compliance included:

Four (4) intergovernmental agreements were executed;

Ten (10) ordinances related to the creation of a utility were passed;

Five (5) stormwater management ordinance were passed; and

A Technical Manual (design standards) were developed and approved for use.

For more information on Charleston County's program, contact Chuck Jarman at 843/202-7630 or cjarman@charlestoncounty.org.