

# UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA

## Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System September 2010 Report

Permit Number 07-09-0-04

September 2010

Prepared by:

Environmental Health and Safety Office  
and  
Facilities Services Department

## Introduction

The following is the Stormwater Annual Report for the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) prepared in accordance with Part III of the Municipal Separate Stormwater System (MS4) Permit Number 07-09-0-04. This report summarizes stormwater compliance activities within the boundaries of the University of Northern Iowa as identified in the permit.

### **1.0 Status of Implementing the Components of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention and Management Program.**

The bullet points in 4.0 identify the required tasks for fiscal year 2010 that were completed as stated in Part II of the MS4 permit for the University of Northern Iowa. The tasks are based on six Best Management Practices (BMP's) listed in the MS4 permit. All required tasks for fiscal year 2010 were either completed or are in the process of being completed.

### **2.0 Status of compliance with any compliance schedule established by this Permit of any modifications to this permit.**

The University of Northern Iowa fulfilled all schedule requirements as stated in Part II of the MS4 permit for the period of 9/1/09 to 9/1/10. No modifications of the permit were made within the reporting period.

### **3.0 A summary of all revisions to the approved management program.**

No modifications of the permit were made within the reporting period.

### **4.0 A summary of the data, which is generated within the reporting period, includes narrative descriptions of storm water quality improvements or degradation.**

- A storm water drain-stenciling program for intakes has been developed and labeling is approximately 95% complete. The medallions are the same as those purchased by the City of Cedar Falls so contractors will readily recognize the storm water intakes. The locations of the intakes and outflows were mapped by an intern during the 2010 summer months and will be available for future reference. The intern is a member of the University's Storm Water Committee.
- A Spill Response and Prevention Plan is being updated by a consultant to comply with new amendments to be implemented by November 2010.
- A Dry Run Creek Stream Bank stabilization project was completed north of the Towers Parking Lot (between Hudson Road and Campus Street) which extended the prairie plantings installed between Campus St. and Merner Avenue in 2009.

- A rain garden was completed adjacent to the Multimodal Transportation Center located on W. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street.
- Wetland plants installed during 2009 at the Wetland Demonstration Park located north of the UNI Dome parking lot continue to be monitored and collaboration with the City of Cedar Falls regarding that project continues.
- Green roof installed on the new track building.
- Sabin Hall renovation – pervious pavers in the plaza surrounding the building at the S.E. and S.W.
- Plaza sweeper purchased to maintain pervious pavement in plazas and parking lots.
- 100 trees added to campus.
- New salt storage shed under construction.
- Solar compactors and recycling containers placed at strategic locations throughout the campus.
- Water quality power point developed by Landscape Architect/Planner.

Additionally, solar panels were installed on the multimodal transportation center that will create a net zero energy use facility and a Sustainability Coordinator was hired to provide the University with a point of coordination for all of the sustainability initiatives of the various campus departments, both academic and non academic.

Approximately 17 acres of farm ground on the University's south east side has been converted from crop land use and replaced by natural prairie plantings. This additional sustainability initiative is intended to visually reinforce UNI's commitment to improving the environmental quality of the campus and connected areas.

The costs of the projects completed this reporting year are enumerated below:

**5.0 An estimate of the previous fiscal year's expenditures for implementation of the management program and the budget for the current fiscal year.**

The storm water management budget for fiscal year 2010 was funded "as needed" by the Facilities Services department, the Environmental Health and Safety Office, applicable grants and the University's general education fund.. Environmental Health & Safety staff continues to expand the information on the web site and inform the campus community of the new information through the use of the UNI on-line notification vehicle. Grounds staff continues to be involved in post-event clean up of the turf and parking lots.

A total of approximately \$350,000 was expended during fiscal year 2010 for sustainability projects. Costs associated with staff activities are absorbed by the University and are not included in the estimate of expenditures, e.g. Sustainability Coordinator, educational program development, etc.



**6.0 A summary describing the number and nature of inspections, enforcement actions and public education programs conducted during the reporting period.**

Inspections were conducted by Owner Construction Representatives on all University of Northern Iowa' construction sites requiring an NPDES General Permit No. 2, to verify that contractors were following specified BMPs that had been approved in each construction site's pollution prevention plan. Areas of focus during inspections include proper placement and maintenance of silt collection fences, installation of gravel areas to collect soil from vehicle tires and proper sweeping of streets on which truck traffic traveled after leaving construction sites.

The Storm Water Committee continues to meet and UNI student members are active participants. Information updates are periodically completed to remind members of the University Community about the importance of storm water management and are placed on the Storm Water web site. The notification of the addition to the web site is placed on the UNI On-Line bi-weekly notification vehicle the University uses to announce new information to faculty, staff and students.

The Environmental Health and Safety staff provided storm water education at the University's Earth Day celebration event on April 22, 2010 as one of a number of organizations that provided sustainability information to the approximately 500 students, faculty, staff and community members who attended the event. Additionally, the University was able to join by means of technology a presentation about sustainability by Faramarz Vakilzadeh, Associate Director of Facilities Planning and Management, University of Wisconsin-Madison and a

member of the UW's Sustainability Task Force. The presentation was well attended by members of the University community and Mr. Vakilzadeh provided a perspective on the future of broad-based sustainability initiatives that would enhance the environment.

## **7.0 Summary**

This report summarizes required storm water compliance activities completed by the University of Northern Iowa for fiscal year 2010. The 2007 fiscal year was the first year of compliance activity associated with MS4 Permit number 07-09-0-04 issued to the University of Northern Iowa by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Three additional years of compliance activities will take place in subsequent years prior to the expected renewal of the permit.

All permit activities for the permit period September – September were completed on or before specified timelines. UNI expended a total of approximately \$350,000.00 during this reporting period on sustainability projects. The University of Northern Iowa will continue to evaluate opportunities to improve storm water quality during the remaining one year of the MS4 permit.

The following projects are planned for completion within the next reporting period:

- Campus-wide storm water plan development; two M.A. level biology students will be sponsored to collect information for assessment as part of the plan development
- Parking lot retrofits to add pervious pavement to three areas of campus – Towers parking lot; N. Dome parking lot; ROTH parking lot.
- New residence hall to include water quality features – bio-swales; pervious pavement; green roof
- Pervious pavers will be installed as part of the renovation of the N.E. pedestrian entrance to campus at 23<sup>rd</sup> and College Streets

Individuals with questions, comments or concerns about storm water quality issues at the University of Northern Iowa should contact Dean Shoars, Director of Physical Plant/University Safety Officer, 1801 W. 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614-0192.