

# UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA

## Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System 2013 Report

Permit Number 07-09-0-04

August 2013

Prepared by:

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## 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 2013 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 2013 were 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 9/1/12 to 08/31/13. 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 involves checking each of the storm water intakes to ensure the medallion remains in place and the stenciling information continues to be readable. As a reminder, the medallions are the same as those purchased by the City of Cedar Falls so contractors will readily recognize the storm water intakes. All storm water intakes were inventoried and medallions replaced where missing.
- The locations of the intakes and outflows have been mapped and new intakes were documented during the summer months.

- A Spill Response and Prevention Plan was updated by Brown Engineering Company in April 2011.
- 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.
- Installation of pervious pavers in the west plaza of the UNI-Dome was completed during the summer months.
- Additional trees and shrubs added to campus.
- Installation of two bio-retention cells in the University Apartments Panther Village II has been completed.
- Completed a grassed waterway in the agriculture field west of campus.
- Campus Sustainability Forum held on April 22, 2013 to support Earth Day event that week.
- The Princeton Review Guide to 286 Green Colleges listed UNI as one of the most environmentally responsible colleges.
- UNI achieved Gold rating from the Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS).
- Citation received – 2013 Governor’s Environmental Excellence Award in wildlife habitat. Follows the 2011 Governor’s Environmental Excellence Award in Water Quality.
- Turf Management (formerly IPM) information added to Facilities Services web page.
- Signage providing information about naturalized areas of campus have been installed.
- Recycling and composting information has been added to the Facilities Services website.
- Limited composting initiative between Dining Services and Grounds Services continues to grow.

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

- Bio-retention cells at Panther Village: \$ 40,000
- Grassed waterway in agriculture field: 20,000
- UNI-Dome pervious paving : 120,000

**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 2013 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. The campus' Sustainability Coordinator initiated student activities for recycling during outdoor events to reduce the amount of clean-up post event. The Sustainability Action Committee is active on campus with planning for educational events and encourages involvement of student groups with "green" activities.

A total of approximately \$180,000 was expended during fiscal year 2013 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 and/or Environmental Health and Safety staff on all University of Northern Iowa's 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 Environmental Health and Safety web site under the Storm Water Program heading. The notification of the addition to the web site is placed on the UNI 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, 2013 as one of a number of organizations that provided sustainability information to students, faculty, staff and community members who attended the event. Sustainability and environmental related information was also provided by members of the Facilities Services Department including the Grounds unit, Utilities and Power Plant and Custodial Services.

**7.0 Summary**

This report summarizes required storm water compliance activities completed by the University of Northern Iowa for fiscal year 2013. 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

All permit activities for the fiscal year 2013 permit period were completed on or before specified timelines. UNI expended a total of approximately \$180,000 during this reporting period on sustainability projects. The University of Northern Iowa will continue to evaluate opportunities to improve storm water quality.

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

- Baker Hall parking lot reconstruction will include water quality features including a parking lot bio-retention cell. Construction is scheduled for fiscal year 2014.
- South Arts parking lot reconstruction will include water quality features including a parking lot bio-retentions cell. This is a two year project that will begin in fiscal year 2014.

Individuals with questions, comments or concerns about storm water quality issues at the University of Northern Iowa should contact Dean Shoars, Director of Environmental Health and Safety, 122 Lang Hall, 2401 Wisconsin Street, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614-0003, phone (319)273-3189 or email to [dean.shoars@uni.edu](mailto:dean.shoars@uni.edu).