Municipality/Organization: **Acushnet**

EPA NPDES Permit Number: **MAR 041085**

MaDEP Transmittal Number: **W-035516**

Annual Report Number & Reporting Period: **No. 5 -April 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008**

NPDES PII Small MS4 General Permit Annual Report (Due: May 1, 2008)

Part I. General Information

Contact Person: Merilee K. Woodworth Title: Conservation Agent

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Certification:

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Signature: Merilee K Woodworth

Printed Name: Merilee K. Woodworth

Title: Conservation Agent

Date: April 30, 2008

Part II. Self-Assessment

Acushnet is meeting the requirements of its MS4 permit. We have completed annual reports updating our progress every year. We have met or exceeded each of the required minimum control measures. Public education and outreach has been accomplished through the production and distribution of an educational flyer on stormwater runoff. We have had annual public hearings involving the Board of Selectmen, the Town Administrator, the Board of Health, the Conservation Commission, Highway Department, and the Planning Commission which are broadcast on cable television to Acushnet residents.

With the help of the Buzzards Bay Project NEP, we have mapped our stormwater system, including collection points, discharges and flow directions. These maps are displayed prominently in a number of places in Town Hall and are available to residents. Information has been developed for dissemination via the Town's website.

The public has been actively involved in meeting the requirements of the permit in many ways. The educational flyer encourages residents to review the stormwater maps and report illicit connections to the stormwater system, which many have done. The annual report presented to the town's Board of Selectmen in a public meeting is televised on the local cable station and played for about a week after the meeting. ACTION, a citizens' group of Acushnet residents, in concert with the local Boy Scouts troop, spent many hours stenciling storm drains all over town. These same groups also do an annual roadside clean-up to keep trash and debris out of the stormwater collection system. This year it was completed on April 26.

Illicit discharges have been identified, mapped, and corrected, by the Board of Health and the Highway Department. Highway and other DPW staff have been trained by the Board of Health in how to spot illicit discharge connections, and illegal tie-ins have been eliminated.

Pollution prevention and good housekeeping BMPs have included the development of a DPW policy guide with details of strategies related to vehicle maintenance, washing, fueling, etc. Annual training on these practices is conducted for appropriate staff members. The DPW and the Conservation Commission continue to work closely to ensure that public works projects comply with environmental requirements. The Town has purchased its own street sweeper and continues to use it three or four times per year; catch basins are cleaned out once per year with rented equipment.

Construction site stormwater runoff is addressed by the Conservation Commission, through the application of the Wetlands Protection Act regulations, recently revised to include the Massachusetts Stormwater Policy. Erosion control and stormwater runoff on construction sites is also addressed in the site plan review process, involving the Building Department, Board of Health, and the Planning Commission.

In May of 2007, Town Meeting passed Acushnet's Stormwater Management Bylaw, and the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office subsequently approved it as well. This bylaw addresses the issue of post-construction stormwater management in new development and redevelopment projects begun after January 1, 2008. Any project that will disturb 5000 square feet or more requires a stormwater management plan. The bylaw names the Planning Commission as the Stormwater Management Authority, and the Conservation Agent as their Stormwater Agent. Review is triggered by the application for a building permit, and encourages the use of best management practices such as vegetated swales, infiltration structures, the use of dry wells, rain barrels, and site

design techniques. Minimization of impermeable surfaces and the retention of vegetation on site are encouraged. The Planning Commission is currently working to adopt the necessary specifications, rules, and regulations that will simplify the design and review process for home builders and engineers, and a general stormwater management permit for single-family homes with standard amounts of land clearing and impermeable surfaces.

Part III. Summary of Minimum Control Measures

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 5 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – ongoing
1-1	Educational flyer on stormwater runoff	Conservation Town Administrator	Produce flyer and make available to residents	Flyer produced and distributed in year 2 is available in Town Hall, public library, and at the public meeting	Update and distribute additional flyers as needed
1-2	Annual Public Hearing	Conservation Town Administrator Highway Board of Health	Hold annual public hearing each spring to inform public on progress	The annual public hearing to be held on May 12 before the Board of Selectmen and will be televised on cable television for Acushnet residents who did not attend	The annual public hearing will be held as needed in spring
1-3	Posting of Maps	Conservation Highway	BPW will post a map of stormwater infrastructure	The map created and updated by the Buzzards Bay Project has been posted in the Conservation office and the Board of Public Works meeting room	The map will remain posted for the public to view – additional copies will be produced as the map is updated
1-4	Web Page	Town Administrator	Amend web page to include stormwater management page	Information for web page has been developed	Stormwater management information will be uploaded onto Town website

2. Public Involvement and Participation

BMP ID #	BMP Description	Responsible Dept./Person Name	Measurable Goal(s)	Progress on Goal(s) – Permit Year 5 (Reliance on non-municipal partners indicated, if any)	Planned Activities – ongoing
2-1	Encourage participation and citizen actions	Board of Health Highway Conservation	Flyer encourages residents to review maps, attend hearing and report illicit connections	The flyer contains contact information to report illicit connections as well as information on public hearings	Continue to encourage public participation through the ACTION committee which organizes clean-ups, etc.
2-2	Stormwater Management Committee	Selectmen	Establishment of Stormwater Committee	The Committee was established in Year 1 and continues to meet on a regular basis	The Committee will continue to meet to update and implement the Stormwater Management Plan as needed
2-3	Annual Selectmen's Meeting Review	Selectmen	Selectmen will hear annual report from Stormwater Committee	Selectmen will be present for annual report on the Stormwater Management Plan on May 12	Committee will present annual report as needed in Spring
2-4	Storm Drain Stenciling	Conservation Highway		The ACTION committee, in conjunction with the local Boy Scouts troop, stenciled approximately half of stormdrains in Year 3	We will continue to work with the ACTION committee and look for additional community partners to complete storm drain stenciling
Revised	Street Cleanup	Highway	ACTION committee cleanup	The ACTION committee conducted its annual cleanup in April and focused efforts on roads that abut waterbodies	ACTION will continue to conduct its annual cleanups with support from Highway Department and other Town Boards

Part IV. Summary of Information Collected and Analyzed

Records of illicit discharges, educational materials and information on the municipal storm drain system were all collected within the last year.
Municipal storm drainage patterns within the MS4 area have been mapped and updated.
Review of existing local regulations and of model by-laws has also been conducted. Draft bylaws and regulations have been considered; the committee concluded by drafting its own. Committee is now drafting new specifications, rules and regulations to streamline processes and design criteria for engineers, designers and builders; and collecting examples from other communities.