2026 Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) Plan



City of Burien
Department of Public Works
400 SW 152nd St., Suite 300
Burien, WA 98166
Revised: March 17, 2026

Table of Contents

Introduction 3
Discussion 4
Permit Coordination Efforts 5
Stormwater Planning (S5.C.1) 7
Public Education and Outreach (S5.C.2) 8
Public Involvement and Participation (S5.C.3) 133
MS4 Mapping and Documentation (S5.C.4) 14
Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (S5.C.5) 166
Controlling Runoff From Development and Construction (S5.C.6) 188
Stormwater Management for Existing Development (S5.C.7) 20
Source Control Program for Existing Development (S5.C.8) 221
Operations and Maintenance (S5.C.9) 222
Monitoring and Assessment (S8) 255
Appendix A 266

Introduction

This Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) Plan is required by the Western Washington Phase II NPDES Municipal Stormwater Permit (Permit). The current Permit was issued by the State Department of Ecology (Ecology) to the City of Burien (City) and became effective on August 1, 2024. It provides general guidelines, procedures, and regulations to support an effort to preserve, protect, and improve the State's water resources. This Permit is intended to reduce adverse impacts to water quality and aquatic habitat by instituting the use of controls on the unregulated sources of stormwater discharges that have the greatest likelihood of causing continued environmental degradation. Permit and SWMP related components are intended to support these goals and are required to be implemented by the specific dates provided in the permit. The current permit expires on July 31, 2029.

This document will be updated annually to reflect those items that have been implemented during the previous year in response to permit target dates. The SWMP should be viewed as a "working draft" as it appears here and in later annual updates. As required, by May 31st of each year, the updated document will be available for review and comment on the City of Burien Stormwater website. This SWMP is available on the City's website at http://www.burienwa.gov/swmp.

Questions, suggestions, and comments on the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit or SWMP development can be directed to Stormwater Engineer Dan O'Brien at (206) 248-5521 or stormwater@burienwa.gov.

Discussion

The new 2024-2029 Permit now identifies ten major components of the SWMP:

1. Comprehensive Stormwater Planning (S5.C.1)
2. Public Education and Outreach (S5.C.2)
3. Public Involvement and Participation. (S5.C.3)
4. MS4 Mapping and Documentation (S5.C.4)
5. Illicit Discharge Detection/Elimination. (S5.C.5)
6. Controlling Runoff from New Development, Redevelopment and Construction Sites. (S5.C.6)
7. Stormwater Management for Existing Development (S5.C.7)
8. Source Control Program for Existing Development. (S5.C.8)
9. Operations and Maintenance. (S5.C.9)
10. Monitoring and Assessment (S8)

A general description of these components followed by a detailed listing of related requirements and current City activities are provided on the following pages. The City of Burien is responsible for implementing Permit requirements by the specified target dates and updating the SWMP to reflect this implementation. Current component and item statuses are briefly addressed with notes generally following the appropriate requirement listings. This document constitutes the City of Burien's SWMP and will be revised and formalized as Plan implementation progresses.

Permit Coordination Efforts

Internal Coordination:

Internally, the Public Works department coordinates the implementation of Burien's SWMP Plan each year. We also coordinate with other City departments throughout the year on an informal basis for Permit related issues. Members of the internal coordination team include staff from the following departments (with related Permit sections in parentheses):

- Community Development Dept – Long-Range Planner (S5.C.1 and S5.C.6)
- Community Development Dept – Urban Forest Planner (S5.C.1 and S5.C.6)
- Community Development Dept – Building Inspectors (S5.C.5 and S5.C.6)
- Legal Dept – Code Enforcement Officer (S5.C.5, S5.C.6, S5.C.8 and S5.C.9)
- IT Dept – GIS Analyst (S5.C.4)
- Parks Dept – various staff (S5.C.1, S5.C.2 and S5.C.3)
- Public Works Dept – Inspection Supervisor (S5.C.4, S5.C.5, S5.C.6, S5.C.8 and S5.C.9)
- Public Works Dept – Sustainability Manager and Sustainability Coordinator (S5.C.1, S5.C.2 and S5.C.3)
- Public Works Dept – Development Review Engineer (SWM) (S5.C.6)
- Public Works Dept – Stormwater Engineer / NPDES Permit Coordinator (all Permit Sections)

Since Burien is such a small jurisdiction with a small-sized City staff, official meetings are not held for the internal coordination team. Informal interactions are done frequently throughout the year related to Permit coordination.

In 2026, the NPDES Permit Coordinator will work with several Burien staffmembers on a variety of upcoming Permit requirements. These requirements and staff include:

- Community Based Social Marketing Behavior Change Campaign: Sustainability Manager and Sustainability Coordinator
- Stormwater Outfall Basin area GIS documentation: GIS Analyst
- Tree Canopy mapping: Urban Forest Planner and GIS Analyst
- Updated Design Manual adoption: PW Development Review Engineer and Long Range Planner

External Coordination:

The City of Burien also coordinates efforts with regional groups to control pollutants between interconnected MS4's and meet permit requirements.

Among permittees:

- Regional Permit Coordinators (Phase I and Phase II jurisdictions)
- Stormwater Outreach for Regional Municipalities (STORM)
- Business Inspection Group (BIG)

- StormFest Planning Committee (King County, Highline School District, Cities of Burien, Normandy Park, Seatac, and Des Moines)
- Regional Operations and Maintenance Program (ROADMAP)
- Miller/Walker Creeks Stewardship Program (King County, City of Burien, City of Normandy Park, City of SeaTac, Port of Seattle)
- WRIA 9 (Water Resource Inventory Area) Stakeholder Watershed Planning (17 different participating jurisdictions
- APWA (WA chapter) Stormwater group

Stormwater Planning (S5.C.1)

This section describes the permit requirements, current City activities, and planned actions regarding the Stormwater Planning section of the 2024-2029 Permit (Section S5.C.1). This section will outline upcoming implementation deadlines required by the current Permit.

Permit Requirements

- Continue to convene an inter-disciplinary team to inform and assist in the development, progress, and influence of this program. (S5.C.1.a)
- Describe how stormwater management needs and protection/improvement of receiving water health are (or are not) informing the long-range or comprehensive planning update processes and influencing policies and implementation strategies in their jurisdiction, in the **March 31, 2027**, Annual Report. (S5.C.1.b)
- Annually, assess and document any newly identified administrative or regulatory barriers to implementation of LID principles or LID BMPs since the 2013 LID code updates. (S5.C.1.c)
- By **December 31, 2028**, adopt and implement tree canopy goals and policies to support stormwater management. (S5.C.1.c)
- By **March 31, 2027**, Permittees shall complete and submit a SMAP for at least one new high priority catchment area, or additional actions for an existing SMAP. (S5.C.1.d)

Current and Planned Activities for 2026

Annual Review of LID Regulatory Barriers

Since Burien is a small jurisdiction with a condensed City staff (both in number and physical proximity of employees), it isn't necessary to do formal annual reviews of LID barriers to remain current on regulatory and code changes. Our staff's proximity and ongoing communication between departments allows for informal coordination regarding any newly identified barriers to LID implementation. When issues are discovered, they are either corrected immediately if needed or documented and held for our next full review of Permit-related development code. In 2025, no administrative or regulatory barriers to LID implementation were identified. In 2026, staff will begin the process of adopting the newest stormwater design manual, and this process will include a full review of potential LID regulatory barriers.

Additional SMAP development

In Q2 of 2026, staff will begin working on the additional SMAP requirement for the current Permit term, with the expectation to be complete prior to the Permit deadline on March 31, 2027.

Public Education and Outreach (S5.C.2)

The City of Burien has a long-standing Public Education and Outreach program that is uniquely designed for our community. The City uses a variety of approaches to inform residents and businesses about stormwater pollution prevention and considers public education and outreach an important part of protecting our local water resources.

Permit Requirements

- Provide an education and outreach program for the area served by the MS4.
- Build general awareness about methods to address and reduce impacts from stormwater runoff. Permittees shall select at least one Priority Audience and on subject area and provide information on an ongoing or strategic schedule.
- Effect behavior change to reduce or eliminate behaviors and practices that cause or contribute to adverse stormwater impacts. Permittees shall select at least on priority audience and one BMP for a social marketing campaign. Begin implementation of this campaign no later than **September 1, 2025**.
- By **March 31, 2029**, evaluate and submit report on the implemented Behavior Change Campaign.
- Create stewardship opportunities that encourages community engagement in addressing the impacts from stormwater runoff.

Current and Planned Activities for 2026

The City has several programs in place to help residents and businesses understand and help mitigate stormwater pollution. Table 1 (below) lists both current and planned education and outreach programs for 2026.

Burien is an active participant in regional groups surrounding behavior change and general awareness programs, including:

- **Stormwater Outreach Group for Regional Municipalities (STORM)**: Burien has been a member of STORM for many years and will continue participating in educational and outreach events.
- **Adopt-a-Drain (AAD):** Burien joined the AAD program in 2022 and has since increased resident and organization participation. We will continue to expand our outreach efforts in 2026.
- **Puget Sound Starts Here (PSSH):** PSSH is a collaborative impact campaign raising awareness of how everyday actions impact waterways in the Puget Sound. Burien has been a member of PSSH for several years, participating in digital and in person awareness campaigns and will continue to support utilizing newsletters, social media, and in-person events to gain awareness and participation in 2026.

Table 1: General Awareness Efforts

Item	Target Audience	Subject Area(s)	Description
StormFest	General public (including overburdened communities, or school aged children)	General impacts of stormwater on surface waters, including impacts from impervious surfaces; Low impacts development (LID) principles and LID BMP's.	StormFest is an annual field-based stormwater learning event that engages all 6th grade students in Highline School District (HSD) using best practices for environmental education and equity. At StormFest, students learn about their local watershed, sources of pollution, and engineering solutions to prevent stormwater pollution.
City Website	General public; Businesses	General impacts of stormwater on surface waters, including impacts from impervious surfaces	Provided information on stormwater related issues, including how to prevent stormwater pollution as a resident or business, development of regulations, what is allowed in the stormwater system, and how to report illegal spills or dumping.
City Social Media	General public; Businesses	General impacts of stormwater on surface waters, including impacts from impervious surfaces	Provided information about how residents and businesses can protect water quality through the City's Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram accounts. Community and Regional events and information were also shared via social media.
Recycling Events	General public; Businesses	General impacts of stormwater on surface waters, including impacts from impervious surfaces	The City hosted two recycling events in 2025. Recycled content rain barrels and compost/worm bins were sold at each event. Educational materials for stormwater management, natural yard care, and green-clean literature were distributed at the events. The city plans to continue these practices in 2026.
Car Wash Program	General public	General impacts of surfactants and other soapy materials on surface waters and the impacts of using these materials on or near impervious surfaces	Residents in Burien took advantage of the Burien Car Wash program, which includes information and provides car wash kits to residents or groups, free of charge.
Farmers Market	General public	General impacts of stormwater on surface waters, including impacts from impervious surfaces	Tabling at the Burien Farmers Market: In 2025, staff spoke with residents about stormwater management, directing them to sign up for more information on the City's website, and passing out informational flyers about StormFest, Adopt-a-Drain

			programming, Natural Yard Care, and Earth Day events.
Puget Sound Starts Here (PSSH) Month	General public; Businesses	impacts of stormwater on surface waters, including impacts from impervious surfaces and pollutants generated by improper vehicle maintenance and normal wear and tear.	PSSH month raises awareness of how our everyday actions impact waterways in the Puget Sound region and what we can do to prevent pollution. In 2025, the campaign focused on car care actions, specifically tire care (Don't Wait to Inflate), that help reduce water pollution. The campaign was run in four languages (English, Korean, Spanish, and Vietnamese). Burien supported the campaign by sharing PSSH information on our City's social media channels and via email newsletters.
Tide Pools for Tots	General public	Promote stewardship actions to protect watershed habitats, learn about water quality and stormwater issues and action steps, and provide positive outdoor experiences to youth and adults.	Tide Pools for Tots is an event held in partnership with the Environmental Science Center to teach children and adults more about watersheds and safe beach explorations. Family-oriented kits are given out to attendees, and each kit incorporates behavior change practices to promote stewardship. In 2025, 43 children, 55 adults participated over the course of five events held at Seahurst Park.
Public Beach Walks	General public	Promote watershed stewardship actions involving water quality, stormwater management and safely exploring marine habitats through positive outdoor experiences.	Ten, two-hour public beach walks were held in 2025. All participants learn more about watersheds and stormwater management during a low tide beach walk. Each program includes a lesson on better understanding stormwater issues and watershed habitats and a low tide beach walk. Every lesson incorporates behavior change practices to promote stewardship actions. 3,119 community members participated in the beach walks. This shows a massive increase in participation and interest in these walks over last year!
Moonlight Beach Walk	General Public	Promote watershed stewardship actions involving water quality, stormwater management and safely exploring	In 2025 naturalists led small groups of community members on a facilitated beach walk to introduce animals, guide exploration, and answer questions along the way.

		marine habitats through positive outdoor experiences.	During the winter months Puget Sound experiences extreme low tides at night and animals are more active and easier to observe due to lower disturbances and because they are not hiding from the sun. This program reached 25 youth and 42 adults.
Bird and Plant Walks	General public	General impacts of stormwater on surface waters, including impacts from impervious surfaces	In 2025, the City in partnership with the Environmental Science Center hosted 2 Bird & Plant walks reaching 7 youth and 32 adults. Community members were guided on walk to identify birds and plants. Discussions revolved around stormwater management, healthy watersheds, and the benefits of native plants.

Behavior Change

Burien is a core team member of StormFest. StormFest is a field-based stormwater education event for Highline Public Schools 6th grade students. At the outdoor event, students learn about their local watershed, sources of pollution, and engineering solutions to prevent stormwater pollution. Developed to serve a highly diverse school district, StormFest was intentionally designed as an equitable education opportunity for all students, regardless of race, ethnicity, or English language learning status.

Stewardship opportunities

The City will continue to offer stewardship opportunities for community members through a variety of programs. Table 2 lists opportunities provided in 2025 and planned for 2026.

Table 2: Stewardship Opportunities

Item	Target Audience	Description
Adopt a Drain	General Public	The City joined the Adopt a Drain program in 2022. The Adopt a Drain program encourages residents in Burien and across the Puget Sound to volunteer to keep their local storm drains clear of debris and trash. In 2025, the City promoted the program through social media, tabling at the farmers market, and our bi-monthly environmental newsletters. The program showed continued success in 2025, adding 41 drain adoptions to the program. The City of Burien now has 127 total drains enrolled in the Adopt a Drain monitoring program.
StormFest	General Public	During the StormFest event, volunteers are crucial to the events success in managing the flow of the students throughout the day, but also in delivering the education materials. The program covers watershed science, sources of pollution and best practices for pollution prevention.
Community Salmon Investigation (CSI)	General Public	CSI is a community driven salmon monitoring program that provides annual data on the number of adult salmon that return to Miller and Walker creeks each year. The program also highlights how many Coho salmon are dying from polluted water before they have a chance to spawn. The CSI has collected salmon data since 2010 to help us learn

		more about the water quality in Miller creek. This program uses community volunteers to monitors the Miller and Walker creeks for salmon in the fall. The program will continue in 2026.
Miller-Walker Creek Basin Stewardship and Monitoring Coordination	General Public	The City continued to involve the public through the Basin Stewardship program, including volunteer event coordination and providing a public liaison for stormwater questions and concerns with the Miller-Walker Basin Steward. The City worked with the Basin Steward and Miller-Walker Committee on creek and watershed restoration and education. This included community outreach, restoration parties, responding to resident requests and complaints, and long-term watershed planning. The program will continue in 2026 and will utilize the experience of a local environmental group (Mid Sound Fisheries) to broaden the scope of volunteer outreach.
BirdFest	General Public	The City and the Environmental Science Center host an annual event called BirdFest. The three-hour event typically happens at the Burien Community Center and a local park to encourage community science participation and best practices to protect local wildlife in our watershed. BirdFest raises awareness of the bird biodiversity in Burien backyards and participants learn how to keep harmful pollutants out of our shared waterways. This event was started in 2009. Since then, it has grown in participation each year. The event includes bird counts, presentations and discussions, and bird-related science and art activities from local partners. Conversations and materials revolve around incorporating native plant species in people's homes and neighborhoods, and other stormwater improvement actions they can take regularly to help land and water birds in the Puget Sound Watershed.
Beach cleanups	General Public	In September 2025, the City in partnership with the Environmental Science Center hosted a beach cleanup at Seahurst Park. 48 adult and 35 youth participants joined the effort this year. The cleanup project included debris collection on the shoreline and trails of Seahurst Park. ESC staff include a discussion on the impact of marine debris both locally and internationally in the cleanup program.

Public Involvement and Participation (S5.C.3)

This section describes the permit requirements, current City activities, and planned actions for providing opportunities for public involvement and participation in Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) planning. All cities shall create opportunities for the public to participate in the decision-making processes involving the development, implementation and updating of the Permittee's SWMP. Each city shall develop and implement a process for consideration of public comments on their SWMP. The community is an important part of Burien's stormwater pollution prevention program.

Permit Requirements

- Create opportunities for the public, including overburdened communities, to participate in the decision-making processes involving the development, implementation, and update of the Permittee's SMAP and SWMP.
- No later than **December 31, 2026**, document methods used to identify overburdened communities.
- Post on City website the City's SWMP Plan and the annual report, required under S9.A, no later than May 31 each year. All other submittals shall be available to the public upon request.

Current and Planned Activities for 2026

The City of Burien is committed to providing ongoing opportunities for public input into the development of the SWMP Plan to improve local water quality.

In 2026, the City plans to invite public input through:

- Social media advertisement
- City newsletter updates
- Burien magazine advertisements
- City website announcements
- Farmers market outreach
- Stewardship and volunteer events
- Open houses at City Council events
- Community Hub. The community hub is a city platform for residents to provide input on the SWMP and SMAP, along with other city projects. Community members who sign up on the Community Hub would receive regular updates on projects they subscribe to.

The City will post the 2025 SWMP Plan on the City's website by May 31, 2026.

MS4 Mapping and Documentation (S5.C.4)

The Permittee's SWMP shall include an ongoing program for mapping and documenting the MS4.

Permit Requirements

- Maintain mapping data for the features listed in Section S5.C.4.a.
- By **March 31, 2026**, submit locations of all known MS4 outfalls according to the standard templates and format provided in the Annual Report. Include the size and material of the outfalls, where known.
- By **December 31, 2026**, map tree canopy designated to support stormwater management on Permittee-owned or operated properties.
- By **March 31, 2028**, implement a methodology to map and assess acreage of MS4 tributary basins to outfalls with a 24-inch nominal diameter or larger, or an equivalent cross-section area for non-pipe systems that have stormwater treatment and flow control BMPs/facilities owned or operated by the Permittee.
- Continue to maintain all mapping data electronically.
- Make available to Ecology, upon request, available maps depicting the information required in S5.C.4.a through c.
- Permittees shall provide mapping information to federally recognized Indian Tribes, municipalities, and other Permittees as needed or requested.

Current and Planned Activities for 2026

Mapping MS4 outfall attributes

In 2019, City staff began researching missing mapping data, including size and material for all known MS4 outfalls, and began adding outstanding data to the City's database as it is obtained, generally through IDDE field screening efforts and routing stormwater system inspections. This continued throughout 2024. In 2025 and early 2026, staff completed researching and tracking any additional data required for submittal in the standard format provided in the Annual Report, and is on track to meet the March 31, 2026, deadline.

Mapping tree canopy on Permittee-owned properties

In 2025 staff began planning for this task, working to identify technical resources and relevant City staff. In early 2026, NPDES staff will begin working with relevant staff in Community Development, including Planners and the Urban Forestry Planner, to assess current data and plan for obtaining new data required for this permit section. This work will be completed prior to the December 31, 2026, deadline.

Map and Assess MS4 tributary basins to outfalls

As of the end of 2025, work on this task has not begun. It has not been determined whether work on this Permit requirement will begin in 2026 or later, since the Permit deadline for this work isn't until 2028. Further updates to this document will readdress this task as appropriate.

Maintaining all mapping data electronically

The City of Burien has been utilizing ESRI ArcGIS software to store and maintain our Stormwater mapping electronically for many years. All new stormwater data is periodically added to the GIS database, as well as routine and nonroutine edits and revisions when discovered or needed.

Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (S5.C.5)

This section describes the permit requirements, current City activities, and planned actions related to Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE). The City shall continue to provide an ongoing program designed to prevent, detect, characterize, track and eliminate illicit connections and illicit discharges into the MS4.

Permit Requirements

- Implement an ordinance or other regulatory mechanism to effectively prohibit non-stormwater, illicit discharges into the Permittee's MS4 to the maximum extent allowable under state and federal law.
- Implement procedures for reporting and correcting or removing illicit connections, spill and other illicit discharges when they are suspected or identified.
- Inform public employees, businesses, and the general public of hazards associated with illicit discharges and improper disposal of waste.
- Implement an ongoing program designed to detect and identify non-stormwater discharges and illicit connections into the Permittee's MS4. This program shall include field screening of an average of 12% of the MS4 each year.
- Document IDDE Field Screening Methodology in the Annual Report.
- Train staff that are responsible for identification, investigation, termination, cleanup, and reporting of illicit discharges, including spills, and illicit connections (IC), to conduct these activities. Follow-up training shall be provided as needed to address changes in procedures, techniques, requirements or staffing. Permittees shall document and maintain records of the training provided and the staff trained.
- Track and maintain records of the activities conducted to meet the requirements of this section.

Current and Planned Activities for 2026

IDDE program Regulatory and Operational details

- The City has adopted a SWM ordinance to address Illicit Connection (IC) and Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE). The ordinance includes a list of allowable and prohibited discharges to the City's drainage system or streams. This information can be found in Burien Municipal Code BMC 13.10.240.
- The City performs field inspections when necessary and keeps records for all reported illicit discharges and connections, with technical assistance from King County and DOE when requested. In 2021, Burien began utilizing the online IDDE submission form in the Secure Access Washington (SAW) WQWebPortal and will continue to use that method of recordkeeping in the future.

IDDE Field Screening Program

Utilizing Ecology's 2020 Illicit Connection and Illicit Discharge Field Screening and Source Tracing Guidance Manual (IDDE Manual) as a procedural guide, the City has begun to implement a combination of Catch Basin/Manhole and Outfall inspections as its IDDE Field Screening Methodology. Inspections

will begin at an outfall, and when signs of any current or past potential illicit discharge are present, inspections will progress upstream, following a "monitoring node approach", as described in Section 3 of the IDDE Manual, in which the inspection of a small drainage area is begun at an outfall, and each outfall or catch basin inspected will include up to 20 upstream catch basins, or an entire conveyance network, whichever is smaller. Each grouping of catch basins is considered a "node." Standard field screening techniques, based on the IDDE Manual, will be applied to these inspections. An electronic inspection form has been developed for the City's Cityworks Asset Management system and has been used for Field Screening inspections beginning in 2015. See Appendix A for more information on the City's efforts in this area for previous years, and planned actions for 2026.

Public outreach regarding illicit discharges and proper waste disposal

To inform the general public about illicit discharges, the City publicizes a hotline number for spills and illicit discharges on the City's website. This number is 206-248-5521. Also on the City's website is information on Allowable and Prohibited discharges, access to GIS maps of the City's stormwater system (MS4), as well as external resources for additional information.

IDDE-Related Staff Training

The City provides Certified Erosion and Sediment Control Lead (CESCL) training to all relevant City staff, on a three-year cycle to maintain current certification status.

- In 2025, one City staff member attended CESCL recertification training. For 2026, approximately 8 staff are expected to be certified or recertified this year.
- In October 2025, 3 Public Works Maintenance staff attended an in-person IDDE and spill response training at the WSU-Puyallup campus.
- Additional formal and informal IDDE and spill related trainings are researched and provided throughout the year as opportunities arise.

No further training was completed in 2025, but in 2026 an in-house IDDE training is planned, which will be provided for all relevant City staff.

Controlling Runoff From Development and Construction (S5.C.6)

This section describes the permit requirements, current activities, and planned actions related to controlling runoff from new development, redevelopment, and construction sites. As required by the Phase II Permit, the City must have adopted an ordinance or other enforceable mechanism. The program shall apply to private or public development, including roads.

Permit Requirements

- Implement and enforce a program to reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff to a regulated small MS4 from new development, redevelopment and construction site activities. The program shall apply to private and public development, including transportation projects. This program shall be effective no later than June 30, 2027.

The local program outlined above shall include:

- A permitting process with site plan review, inspection and enforcement capability to meet the standards listed in S5.C.6.c (i) through (iv), for both private and public projects, using qualified personnel. At a minimum, this program shall be applied to all sites that meet the minimum thresholds adopted pursuant to S5.C.6.b.i.
- The program shall make available, as applicable, a link to the electronic "Construction Stormwater General Permit Notice of Intent (NOI)" form for construction activity, and a link to the electronic "Industrial Stormwater General Permit NOI" form for industrial activity to representatives of proposed new development and redevelopment.
- Each Permittee shall ensure that all staff whose primary job duties fall within this section are trained to conduct these activities. Follow-up training shall be provided as needed to address changes in procedures, techniques or staffing. Permittees shall document and maintain records of the training provided and the staff trained.

Current and Planned Activities for 2026

Development related Regulatory activities
On May 16, 2022, Burien City Council approved Ordinance 792, which adopted the 2021 King County Surface Water Design Manual (KCSWDM) and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Manual (SPPM), along with several additional code changes, to gain equivalency with Ecology's updated 2019 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington (SWMMWW). This change maintains Burien's equivalency with Ecology's updated SWMMWW.

It is expected that once King County adopts their next KCSWDM update, Burien will then begin the process of adopting that version for Burien's use. This is expected to occur in Q2 or Q3 2026 for King County and Q2 2027 for Burien, in order to meet the Phase II June 30, 2027, deadline.

Development-Related Staff Training

The City provides Certified Erosion and Sediment Control Lead (CESCL) training to all relevant City staff, on a three-year cycle to maintain current certification status. In 2025, one City staff member attended CESCL recertification training. For 2026, approximately 8 staff are expected to be certified or recertified this year. Additionally, one staff member attended a WSDOT construction inspection training in 2025.

The City provides routine training to City staff responsible for implementing the program to control runoff from new development, redevelopment, and construction sites, including permitting, plan review, construction site inspection, and enforcement. For 2026, staff will continue to identify relevant trainings for staff to attend in the above topics.

Engineering Plan review activities

Burien Public Works Engineering staff reviews all submitted Site Plans for compliance with Burien's adopted Surface Water Design Manual (SWDM). These reviews include determination of whether a Drainage Review is required, verification of compliance with the SWDM, and review of construction procedures such as Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) plans. The City provides an ESC brochure for small project sites and a Small Project Drainage Requirements brochure, both of which are available when requested.

Construction inspection activities

The City conducts site inspections for new development and redevelopment projects that include land disturbing activities for proper installation and operation of ESC Best Management Practices (BMPs). Sites are inspected prior to construction starting to verify proper ESC BMP installation. Periodic inspections occur during construction and during or after major rain events to verify BMPs remain functional and are sufficient for site conditions. A final BMP inspection occurs prior to final project sign-off, to verify that the site has been sufficiently stabilized and BMPs can be removed. The City also inspects all new stormwater treatment and flow control facilities prior to project completion, both for facilities that will remain under private control and facilities that will be transferred to City ownership or management.

Stormwater Management for Existing Development (S5.C.7)

This section describes the permit requirements and current City activities related to improving runoff water quality and quantity from existing City infrastructure. Per the current Permit, each City shall implement a Program to control or reduce stormwater discharges to waters of the State from areas of existing development. The Program shall aim to focus on strategic stormwater investments over longer planning timeframes.

Permit Requirements

- Permittees shall implement stormwater facility retrofits or tailored SWMP actions that meet the criteria in Appendix 12. These may include strategic stormwater investments identified in the SMAP or opportunistic stormwater investments identified outside of SMAP areas.
- With each Annual Report, each Permittee shall provide a list of planned, individual projects scheduled for funding or implementation during the current Permit term for the purpose of meeting the requirements listed in Appendix 12.
- By March 31, 2028, Permittees shall fully fund, start construction, or completely implement projects that meet these requirements and submit documentation with the Annual Report.
- By March 31, 2028, Permittees shall report the amount of estimated or projected acres managed by stormwater facility retrofits for the 2029-2034 Permit term.

Current and Planned Activities for 2026

Planned Actions for SMED Implementation

For the March 31, 2025, Annual Report, Burien staff completed the required list of planned project actions, as described in Appendix 12. The City is expected to pursue a stormwater facility retrofit project identified in our SMAP, which will satisfy all required criteria for equivalent treatment area acreage. In fall of 2025, Burien staff applied for an Ecology SFAP grant for this work, but was not successful and will apply again in 2026. If the grant is awarded, this project is expected to begin in 2027, with construction expected in 2029 or 2030. See Annual Report for more details on the project.

Source Control Program for Existing Development (S5.C.8)

Each Permittee shall implement a program to prevent and reduce pollutants in runoff from areas that discharge to MS4s. The program shall include application of source control BMPs, inspections, and enforcement.

Permit Requirements

- Permittees shall enforce ordinances requiring the application of source control BMPs for pollutant generating sources associated with existing land uses and activities. By August 1, 2027, ordinances shall be updated as necessary to meet the requirements of this Section.
- Implement a program to identify publicly and privately owned sites which have the potential to generate pollutants to the MS4. Inventories shall be updated at least once every 5 years.
- Implement an inspection program for sites identified above, inspecting 20% of listed sites annually, and 100% of sites identified through legitimate complaints.
- Implement a progressive enforcement policy that requires sites to comply with stormwater requirements within a reasonable time period.
- Train staff who are responsible for implementing the source control program to conduct these activities.

Current and Planned Activities for 2026

Source Control Program Implementation
Food and beverage stores, automotive repair, automotive sales, and city parks were selected for the 2025 inspection program. A total of 85 businesses were selected for 2025. 78 businesses were inspected. Six of those sites failed but passed after reinspection, with seven sites no longer in business. No outstanding fails for 2025.

Seventy-nine businesses were selected for inspection in 2026, no follow up inspections for 2025 sites. 2026 inspections will continue with food and beverage stores and add large commercial parking lots, construction/landscaping, drycleaning, gas stations, and residential facilities.

Looking beyond 2026, the business inventory was established in 2022 for inspections beginning in 2023, so the inventory is expected to be updated in 2027 for inspections beginning in 2028.

Operations and Maintenance (S5.C.9)

This section describes the permit requirements and current City activities related to pollution prevention and operations and maintenance for municipal operations. Per the current Permit, each City shall implement an Operations and Maintenance (O&M) program that includes a training component and has the ultimate goal of preventing or reducing pollutant runoff from municipal operations.

Permit Requirements

- Implement maintenance standards that are as protective, or more protective, of facility function than those specified in the Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington (SWMMWW).
- No later than June 30, 2027, update maintenance standards as necessary to meet the requirements of this section.
- Continue to implement a program to verify adequate long-term O&M of stormwater treatment and flow control BMPs/facilities regulated by the Permittee. This shall include annual inspections and verification of required maintenance, along with necessary recordkeeping.
- Perform annual inspections of all municipally owned or operated permanent stormwater treatment and flow control BMPs/facilities, and take appropriate maintenance actions in accordance with the adopted maintenance standards.
- Conduct spot checks of potentially damaged permanent treatment and flow control BMPs/facilities (other than catch basins) after major storm events (greater than 10-year, 24-hour recurrence interval).
- Inspect all catch basins and inlets owned or operated by the City every two years. Clean catch basins if the inspection indicates cleaning is needed to comply with maintenance standards established in the (SWMMWW).
- Implement practices, policies and procedures to reduce stormwater impacts associated with runoff from all lands owned or maintained by the City, and road maintenance activities under the functional control of the City. Document these no later than December 31, 2027.
- No later than July 1, 2027, develop and implement a municipal street sweeping program, including all elements included in S5.C.9.e.
- Implement an ongoing training program for employees of the City whose construction, operations or maintenance job functions may impact stormwater quality. Follow-up training shall be provided as needed to address changes in procedures, techniques, requirements, or staffing.
- Implement a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for all heavy equipment maintenance or storage yards, and material storage facilities owned or operated by the City in areas subject to this Permit that are not required to have coverage under the Industrial Stormwater General Permit, or another NPDES permit that authorizes stormwater discharges associated with the activity.
- Maintain records of inspections and maintenance or repair activities conducted by the City.

Current and Planned Activities for 2025

Regulatory and Enforcement Activities
On May 16, 2022, the City adopted the 2021 King County Surface Water Design Manual (KCSWDM) and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Manual (SPPM), which includes maintenance standards and requirements of drainage structures such as flow control, conveyance, and water quality, as well as Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Commercial, Multi-Family and Residential Properties.

It is expected that once King County adopts their next KCSWDM update, Burien will then begin the process of adopting that version for Burien's use. This is expected to occur in 2026 for King County and 2027 for Burien.

Stormwater Facility Inspection Program
Inspection of both City and privately owned drainage facilities occurs annually by City staff. Inspection and maintenance records for both City-owned and private drainage facilities are tracked and documented utilizing the City's asset management system, Azteca Cityworks.

Private Stormwater Facility Inspections
The City has implemented a long-term Operations and Maintenance (O&M) program for post-construction private stormwater facilities and BMPs. City staff inspects and maintains the records of post-construction stormwater controls, including structural BMPs, at new development and redevelopment projects. These sites have been catalogued as Burien "Commercial Stormwater Facilities" (listed as CSF###). Records of installed infrastructure and all inspection and maintenance activities are kept. In 2025, City staff inspected 297 private facilities, with 255 sites passing initial or follow-up inspections. 27 sites failed to comply with required maintenance timelines as of December 31, 2025, due to inability or unwillingness to respond to repeated written notifications from City staff to remind them of these maintenance requirements. These sites will be referred to Code Enforcement for follow-up action, and will be contacted again during the 2026 inspection effort to attempt to bring them into compliance (in addition to Burien's code enforcement process).

City-Owned Stormwater Facility Inspections
In 2025, City staff reviewed the Facility list and determined that the City-Owned facility inventory includes 124 sites, with 122 sites active and requiring a 2025 annual inspection. Staff inspected all 122 active City-owned facilities, with 24 sites requiring maintenance. For 2026, the number of active facilities may increase, dependent on construction project timing. All are expected to be inspected this year.

The City also conducts spot checks of all City-owned detention/retention ponds after major storms and documents these inspections as required by the Permit. No storms meeting the criteria described in S5.C.9.c.ii occurred in 2025, so this task was not required.

Catch Basin Inspections
Beginning in 2013, the City implemented a 2-year catch basin inspection cycle. Publicly owned catch basins south of 140th St are inspected in ODD years, and CBs north of 140th St are inspected in EVEN years. This North-South split on alternating years will continue into the future. In 2025, City staff inspected CBs in the Southern half of the City. For 2026, the City is current on its inspection schedule, and will inspect all basins in the Northern half as planned.

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for City-operated facilities
The City will continue to implement a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for all heavy equipment maintenance or storage yards, and material storage facilities owned or operated in the areas subject to this permit. The City's SWPPP was updated in 2022 to satisfy the requirement described in S5.C.7.f (of the 2019-2024 Phase II Permit) and will continue to be revised and updated as conditions change.

Policies and Procedures to reduce stormwater impacts (BMP plan for City Operations)
In 2018, prior to the current NPDES Permit becoming effective, the City developed a Standard Operating Procedures document for City operations. This document will be reviewed and revised as necessary; to be sure it satisfies the requirements described in S5.C.9.d, required to be completed by December 31, 2027.

Operations and Maintenance Related Staff Training

- The Public Works Maintenance division is routinely looking for O&M related training opportunities for its staff. Several informal trainings were done for Public Works staff on our Asset Management and inspection software Azteca Cityworks.
- Burien will continue to research and provide additional formal and informal trainings to staff as appropriate.

Monitoring and Assessment (S8)

This section describes the permit requirements, current activities, and planned actions related to monitoring and assessment of stormwater related issues.

Permit Requirements

- Notify Ecology by December 1, 2024, which of the options for Status and Trends Monitoring the City chooses to carry out during this permit cycle. These choices are either to pay into a collective fund for monitoring in the Stormwater Action Monitoring (SAM) program, or to conduct status and trends monitoring themselves, according to section S8.A.2 of the Permit.
- Notify Ecology by December 1, 2024, which of the options for Stormwater Management Program Effectiveness Studies Monitoring the City chooses to carry out during this permit cycle. These choices are either to pay into a collective fund for monitoring in the Stormwater Action Monitoring (SAM) program, or to conduct effectiveness study monitoring themselves, according to section S8.B.2 of the Permit.

Current and Planned Activities for 2026

Stormwater Monitoring Program activities

The City has taken the "pay-in" option for regional monitoring for both monitoring tasks required under S8.A and S8.B.

Appendix A

City of Burien

2019 - 2025 IDDE Program Field Screening Efforts

In 2019, in addition to required Field Screening inspections, City staff performed validation inspections of mapped outfalls that were suspected of being incorrectly documented. Field screening inspections were performed for 6% of the MS4, all of which occurred after 8/1/19 (the beginning of the current Permit term). Validation inspections occurred for 19% of the MS4, with 6% of the 19% occurring after 8/1/19, for a total of 19% of the MS4 inspected in the calendar year with 12% after 8/1/19. The validation inspections resulted in these assets being reclassified or removed from the City's GIS mapping outright. For 2020, City staff was significantly limited by COVID restrictions and was only able to inspect an additional 4% of the City's system (based on percentage of identified outfalls). In 2021, City staff worked towards inspecting remaining outfalls (and subsequent nodes) and was able to inspect 14% of the City's MS4. In 2022, staff assessed whether it was feasible to inspect the remaining outstanding outfalls, and inspected several of the remaining sites, as well as beginning to inspect previously inspected nodes, for a total of 20% inspected in the calendar year. In 2023, staff were not able to inspect any of the remaining outfalls that have not been inspected previously but were able to inspect 17% of the City's MS4. In 2024, staff inspected 16% of the MS4, focusing on outfall basins that had already been inspected in the previous Permit term. As of end of the Permit term on 8/31/24, staff has inspected 94% of the MS4. In 2025, staff inspected 19% of the MS4, focusing on sites that have been inspected previously. Inspecting outstanding sites that haven't been inspected yet will be planned as the opportunity arises.

For 2026, staff will continue inspecting sites that have been inspected previously and will attempt to inspect the remaining sites that have not been inspected through this program previously.