



# Protecting State Waters: The NPDES MS4 Program



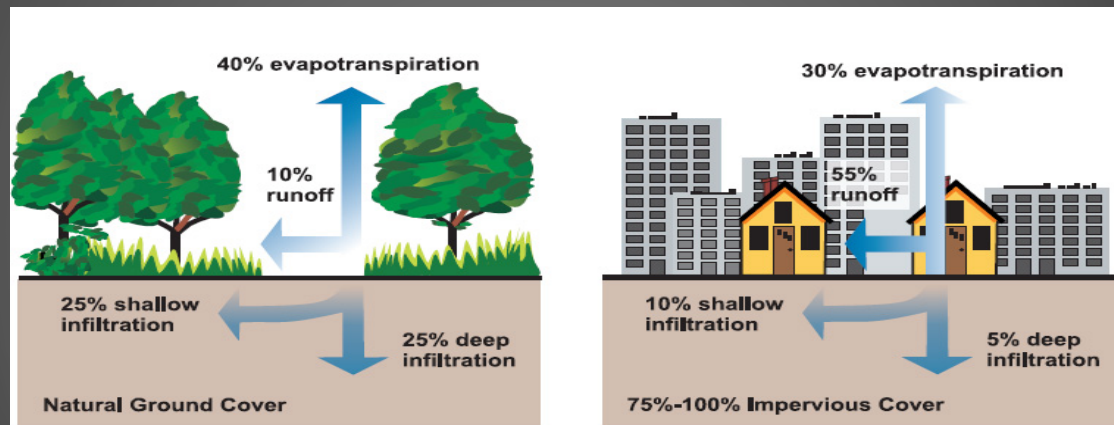
# What is a MS4?

- MS4 stands for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System.
  - Any structure designed or used to collect or convey stormwater (e.g drain inlets, catch basins, pipes, gutters, channels, ditches, road side swales, and culverts).
  - Owned by federal, state, county, or any public entity. Includes State Department of Transportation, universities, and military bases.
  - Discharges to State surface waters (e.g. ocean, stream, gulches, and wetlands).



# Why Stormwater Matters:

- When it rains, stormwater picks up debris, chemicals, sediment, and other pollutants.
- Stormwater flows into MS4s, where it is discharged untreated into streams and coastal waters.
- Pollutants in streams and coastal waters affect water quality. They destroy aquatic habitats; cloud the water; cause algal blooms; contribute bacteria and other pathogens; and deposit debris, solvents, motor oil, pesticides, and other hazardous substances.
- Urban impervious surfaces speed up and direct the flow of stormwater into the MS4, which prevents it from being absorbed and filtered by the ground.



# MS4 Regulation (cont'd.)

- Phase 1 (issued in 1990).
  - Required large MS4s servicing populations of 100,000 or more to obtain NPDES permit coverage for their stormwater discharges.
  - Two large MS4s in Hawaii – City and County of Honolulu and State of Hawaii Department of Transportation, Highways Division, Oahu District.
- Phase 2 (issued in 1999)
  - Required small MS4s in urbanized areas as defined by the latest decennial census to obtain NPDES permit coverage.
  - Universe of regulated small MS4 programs will expand every 10 years based on the decennial census definition of urbanized areas.
    - In December 2012 the U.S. Census Bureau completed maps of the 2010 urbanized areas.
    - Kahului and portions of Wailuku, Maui were designated as urbanized areas.

# MS4 Regulation (contd.)

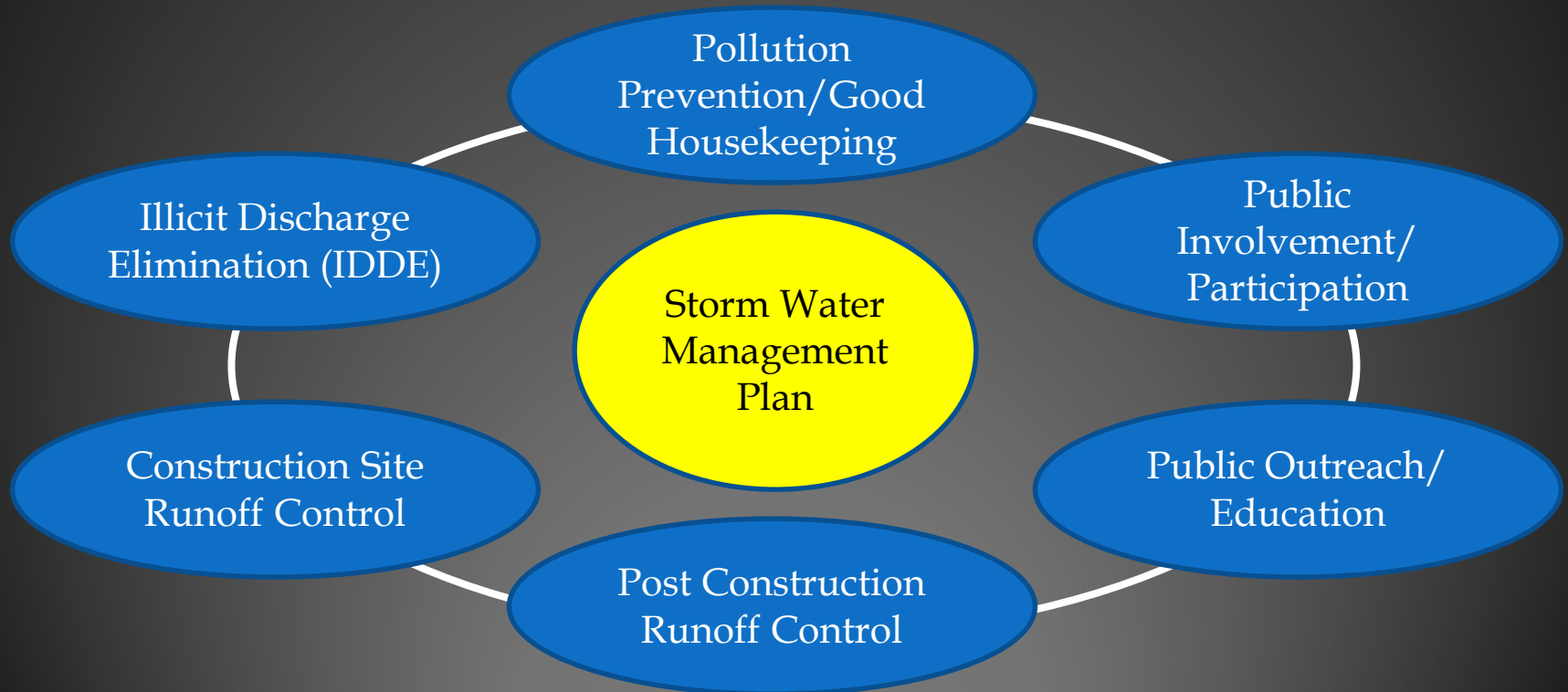
- Department of Health (DOH), Clean Water Branch (CWB) administers the NPDES permit program in Hawaii.
- Two types of NPDES permits in Hawaii:
  - NPDES general permit
    - NPDES permit issued in the Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR).
    - One permit issued in the rules for a specific discharge and meant to cover many people.
    - All conditions and requirements are set. Anyone that can comply with all of the conditions and requirements can request coverage.
    - 12 NPDES general permits in Hawaii.
      - HAR, Chapter 11-55, Appendix K is the Small MS4 NPDES general permit.
  - NPDES individual permit.
    - Customized NPDES permit issued to a discharger authorizing the discharge of specific pollutants to specific locations.
    - Covers point source discharges that cannot be covered under an NPDES general permit.

# Hawaii's MS4 NPDES Permittees

- City and County of Honolulu (Police Stations; Fire Stations; Bus Facilities; Baseyards; Refuse Transfer Stations, Collection Yards, and Convenience Centers; Landfills; and WWTPs).
- Dept. of Transportation (highways, Honolulu Harbor, Kalaeloa Harbor, Honolulu International Airport, Kahului Airport).
- Dept. of the Navy (JBPHH, PHNSY).
- Hawaii Army National Guard.
- Hawaii Community Development Authority (Kewalo Basin, Kakaako Community Development District).
- U.S. Air Force (Kaena Point Station).
- U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii.
- Marine Corps Base Hawaii.
- Dept. of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (Villages of Kapolei).
- Dept. of Education (Oahu Schools).
- Dept. of Land and Natural Resources (Harbors).
- Dept. of Agriculture.
- University of Hawaii (Manoa Campus, Leeward CC, Windward CC, Honolulu CC, Kapiolani CC, Maui College, Pearl City Garden Center, John Burns School of Medicine, West Oahu Campus).
- County of Maui (Kahului/Wailuku).
- Dept. of Health (State Hospital).

# MS4 Minimum Program Elements

Also known as Minimum Control Measures



# Potential Changes to Hawaii's Small MS4 NPDES General Permit

- Current Small MS4 NPDES General Permit expires in December 2016.
- DOH-CWB is currently working on revisions.
- Revisions will affect all MS4s covered under this general permit.
- DOH-CWB is following EPA's lead in attempting to harmonize Phase 1 and 2 MS4 permit requirements to create a seamless MS4 permit program.
- Proposed small MS4 general permit will continue to be structured around the six minimum measures of the Phase 2 regulations, but will contain more detailed requirements similar to the CCH and DOT-HWYS MS4 permits.
- The goal is to enhance clarity and enforceability of small MS4 permits.

# DOH-CWB Contact Information

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