

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION PLAN (PIPP)



EVANS CITY BOROUGH Stormwater Management Program Breakneck Creek and Local Tributaries (#35024, 35025, 35026, 35029, and 35030)

Introduction

In March 2018, Evans City Borough joined Pennsylvania's statewide PAG-13 NPDES General Permit covering municipal stormwater discharges. As required, the Borough now operates a Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) to comply with the regulatory requirements established in our NPDES Permit #PAG138337 for over fifty Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) outfalls to Breakneck Creek and its local tributaries. In the eyes of the Commonwealth, Breakneck Creek is considered a 'Category 5' receiving water – i.e., impaired for aquatic life use due to sediment load (i.e., soil erosion and other solids). *To date, Pennsylvania DEP has not established a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) of solids for Breakneck Creek.* The five (5) unnamed tributaries to Breakneck Creek that meander through and along the edges of the Borough are considered 'Category 2', meaning available data indicates the water quality is supportive of aquatic life.

Enhancing environmental stewardship and improving surface water quality through implementation of the SWMP are primary goals of the Evans City Borough Council. This will be accomplished using six (6) Minimum Control Measures (MCM), and their associated Best Management Practices (BMPs), established in the Borough's NPDES Permit.

MCM #2 involves advertising (using multiple available distribution and outreach methods) to the public and encouraging public input on stormwater-related ordinances and the Pollutant Reduction Plan (PRP) supporting our NPDES Permit #PAG138337. This Public Involvement and Participation Plan (PIPP) has been developed to comply with Special Condition I-B-2(a) of the NPDES Permit. It is to be reviewed and revised annually by the Stormwater Management Committee.

The goals of the PIPP are:

- Afford Evans City Borough residents the opportunity to participate in the decision-making processes associated with the development, implementation, and update of the various plans that make up our Stormwater Management Program.
- Identify and document contacts with local environmental watershed associations, environmental advisory committees, and other environmental organizations that operate in proximity to Evans City Borough's stormwater outfalls.
- Make NPDES Permit #PAG138337 compliance information (e.g. annual reports to PADEP) readily available to residents, via the website and/or via written request.
- Document known organizational (businesses, churches, schools, clubs) and resident activity geared toward compliance with NPDES Permit #PAG138337, including educational activities and organized implementation efforts (such as Breakneck Creek clean-ups.)

Public Involvement Path #1 – Public Awareness Meetings

A Public Awareness Meeting will be held once a year in conjunction with a Borough Council Meeting. This meeting will educate the Council and the public through a presentation detailing the MS4 program, the minimum control measures, and Borough initiatives to maintain permit compliance. The dates of the Public Awareness meeting with the meeting agenda will be advertised on the Borough website.

The Public Awareness Meeting will describe the program and solicit input from the public. The public shall be included in developing, implementing, and reviewing the stormwater management program. The public participation process will make every effort to reach out and engage all economic and ethnic groups.

Public Involvement Path #2 – Public Participation

The Borough will provide opportunities for members of the public to participate in program development and implementation through various avenues.

- Work as citizen volunteers to educate other individuals about the program;
- Form a future, potential Breakneck Creek watershed group;
- Participate in volunteer monitoring where possible;
- Attend public meetings.

Public Involvement Path #3 – Complaint Monitoring System

The Borough will encourage public participation by creating a tracking system for complaints received by the public pertaining to stormwater management. Illicit discharges and polluted construction runoff concerns and complaints will be logged and tracked.

The tracking system will be a spreadsheet with the time, date, location, and nature of the complaint. The name and address of the complainant will be logged but kept anonymous from the offending party. The municipal employee that follows the complaint will be logged, as well.

Public Involvement Path #4 – Public Input on Ordinance and PRP Updates

Prior to the adoption of any ordinance required by the MS4 permit, adequate public notice will be given, as well as opportunities for public review, input, and feedback.