



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality
Western Region Eugene Office
165 East 7th Avenue, Suite 100
Eugene, OR 97401
(541) 686-7838
FAX (541) 686-7551
TTY 711

August 4, 2017

Kevin Fear
1515 Willow St.
Philomath, OR 97370

Re: Review and Approval of the 2016-2017 TMDL Implementation Plan Annual Report for the City of Philomath

Dear Kevin Fear,

Thank you for submitting the City of Philomath 2016-2017 TMDL Implementation Plan Annual Report. I have reviewed your report and find that the city's Annual Report complies with the annual reporting requirement. The city has met its obligation in implementing year one of the third Willamette TMDL cycle.

I would like to reaffirm that I am available as a resource to assist you as you move forward with TMDL implementation. Please feel free to contact me at woolverton.priscilla@deq.state.or.us or (541)687-7347 for assistance.

Best regards,

Priscilla Woolverton
TMDL Basin Coordinator

cc: Zach Loboy, Watershed Manager, DEQ

CITY OF PHILOMATH
Water Quality TMDL Implementation Plan
2016-2017
Cycle 3 Year 1

Introduction

This Water Quality Implementation Plan describes the actions Philomath will undertake to address total maximum daily pollution load allocations in the Marys River, which is the receiving stream of stormwater from the City of Philomath. Philomath has an approved Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) (Appendix A). A NPDES Phase II MS4 Stormwater Discharge Permit was issued to the city May 8, 2007. The current Discharge Permit expired on April 30th, 2012 and Philomath has turned in all relevant applications and documentation on time for renewal. The City has also met with Benjamin Benninghoff of DEQ in 2012 regarding the renewal of the permit and confirmed that DEQ has received the proper renewal documents. Philomath has followed Mr. Benninghoff's recommendations made during our meeting and have continued to follow the BMP's set forth in the previous permit.

This plan has duplications of the City's S.W.M.P. and is not completely limited to T.M.D. L. issues. Several items in this plan are not addressed in The City's S.W.M.P. This Plan is compatible with relevant State land use planning goals as identified in the City's 2003 Comprehensive Plan. Specific Comprehensive Plan Policies that further this Plan's objectives are identified under Goal 5, policies # 1,4&5.

Current Condition of Marys River

The overall goal of the W.Q.I.P. and the City's S.W.M.P. is to reduce or eliminate sources of pollution entering Marys River via stormwater runoff from the City of Philomath. Marys River exceeds water quality standards for Temperature, Mercury, Dissolved Oxygen, Iron Manganese, and fecal coliform bacteria. Although fecal coliform bacteria has been de-listed, the City of Philomath will continue to address this issue. The primary cause of elevated temperatures is solar radiation due to loss of mature riparian vegetation. Increased populations of fecal coliform bacteria are usually the result of failing septic systems or discharge of pet waste into streams.

Status of Philomath

Philomath has very little jurisdiction over Marys River Frontage (approximately one half mile) all of which is city owned or designated as parkland, and is protected from development. This parkland is only one side of the Marys River as the river runs by, not through, the City of Philomath in this area. The City owns and maintains the park, but it is an Oregon State Lands listed Wetland. The city owned and parkland river frontage vegetation is either undisturbed or has been restored. The City's development code requires a fifty-foot riparian set back area from Newton Creek, the only small tributary within the City's jurisdiction. Philomath is served with sanitary sewer within its jurisdictional boundaries and has no combined sanitary/storm drains. Treated sewage effluent is discharged only during winter months. Recent upgrades to the sewer lagoon system enables the City to land apply some of its treated wastewater to farm fields reducing discharges to the Marys River. We are currently working with Cascade Earth Sciences to update our Water Reuse Plan to add approximately 120 acres of farm field to further reduce discharges to the Marys River. Sewer overflows occur rarely and only during extreme winter flooding conditions. Philomath sewage treatment facility discharges are permitted under N.P.D.E.S. permit #102060. Philomath ordinances require picking up and disposing of pet excrement and pens or shelters to be kept clean and sanitary.

Conclusions

Upon review of typical causes of high stream temperatures and increased populations of fecal coliform bacteria in the Marys River compared to current city conditions, policies and regulation addressing these issues, the City believes that with only approximately one-half mile of river frontage, two stormwater outfalls to the Marys River and Newton Creek which is a small (1.5 mile long) tributary that runs through mostly undeveloped or park land, that we are not a significant contributor of T.M.D.L. pollution in the Marys River. DEQ and the City of Philomath, in partnership, will make ongoing evaluations to determine the extent of Philomath's contribution of T.M.D.L. pollutants and which actions may be necessary to address any contributions of pollutants that may exist.

Actions

The City remains committed to reduce or eliminate pollutant loads in Marys River and Newton Creek and will implement the following actions. The importance of riparian vegetation, stream flow volumes, wetland habitat and erosion prevention and their relationship to river temperatures as well as the importance of properly functioning septic systems, and appropriate agricultural practices to reduce or eliminate

bacteria will be included as a portion of the education and outreach portion of the City's S.W.M.P. There are 16 known septic systems in use within the city limits. Septic systems within the UGB, but outside the city limits are under Benton County's S.W.M.P. and/or T.M.D.L. plan. Philomath relies on the Benton County Environmental Health Division for assistance with septic systems by implementing actions taken by Benton County. The City's existing ordinances regarding riparian setbacks and sanitary conditions for pets will be rigorously enforced. Pet waste stations have been installed in all city parks. The City will continue providing a weeklong "Spring Cleanup" program with dumpsters that will be available in a central location for residents to bring yard debris, scrap wood and metal, electronics and cardboard to be recycled and/or disposed of.

Monitoring, evaluation, reporting and adaptive management.

Philomath will conduct monitoring to track its efforts to protect and improve water quality in Marys River. An effectiveness monitoring program will indicate whether activities performed in accordance with this plan are effective in achieving plan goals. Monitoring activities conducted by Marys River Watershed Council and information collected at Philomath's Water Treatment Plant should be adequate to provide effective baseline water quality data. The City of Philomath has been monitoring at least 10 sites monthly for temperature, Dissolved Oxygen, pH and turbidity for several years. While grab samples have been the method for sampling, in the future Philomath would like to deploy some composite type sampling devices and/or temperature loggers. As most locations that are sampled during the year are either stagnant or dry nearly half the time, the cost for monitoring equipment seems costly for what little data may be retrieved and useful. Monthly grab sampling may provide some useful data, but it also allows a monthly check of the outfall location that is being sampled. Marys River Watershed Council data may be suitable to provide for future monitoring needs. Philomath will also track permits issued, specifically those that require riparian setbacks, and Philomath Ordinance Enforcement in regards to pets and pet enclosure activities. This information will be evaluated to determine the impact on Stormwater pollution. Progress will be noted in the annual report presented to the DEQ. This plan will also be evaluated on a more extensive basis every five years to determine if the plan adequately addresses the City's water quality concerns. Depending on evaluation results, this plan and/or the City's S.W.M. P. may be altered to improve water quality in Marys River.

Funding

The City will use funding from its storm water fee. This fee is a flat rate fee that is assessed to home owners and a total square footage of non-pervious surface for commercial properties.

Respectfully submitted,

**Kevin Fear
Public Works Director
City of Philomath**