

Montana Department of
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

REC'D BY MT DEPT
OF TRANSPORTATION
GREAT FALLS

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Brian Schweitzer, Governor
Richard H. Opper, Director

P.O. Box 200901 • Helena, MT 59620-0901 • (406) 444-2544 • www.deq.mt.gov

January 14, 2010

City of Great Falls
Attn: Gregory T. Doyon, City Manager c/o Jim Young, Senior Civil Engineer
P.O. Box 5021
Great Falls, MT 59403

Cascade County
Attn: Joe Briggs, Board of County Commissioners Chairman c/o David L. Sutton, Road
& Bridge Department Director
279 S. Vaughn Frontage Road
Great Falls, MT 59404

Montana Department of Transportation
Attn: Dwane Kailey, Chief Operations Officer c/o Michael P. Johnson, Great Falls
District Administrator
200 Smelter Avenue NE, P.O. Box 1359
Great Falls, MT 59403-1359

RE: Authorization Letter: City of Great Falls Small MS4; Cascade County Small MS4;
and, Montana Department of Transportation Small MS4
Authorization Number MTR040004

Dear Mr. Doyon, Mr. Briggs, and Mr. Kailey:

The Department has reviewed your application to discharge storm water from the above referenced municipal separate storm sewer systems and has determined that these qualify for coverage under the Department's January 1, 2010 *General Permit for Storm Water Discharge Associated with Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)*, MTR040000 (General Permit). The complete application was received on November 30, 2009, with a resubmitted clarification on December 29, 2009. In accordance with the provisions of the General Permit, the Department authorizes the City of Great Falls (City), Cascade County (County), and the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) to discharge storm water from the above referenced Small MS4s into the following receiving surface waters:

Missouri River (for City, County, and MDT);
Sun River (for City, County, and MDT); and,
Sand Coulee Creek (for City, County, and MDT).

The General Permit is valid only when accompanied by this authorization letter. A copy of the General Permit is enclosed. Please take special note of the effluent limitations, self-monitoring and reporting requirements and any special conditions in the General Permit.

Any violation of these requirements or any other provision of the General Permit is subject to enforcement action by the Department pursuant to the Montana Water Quality Act.

The co-permittee's Small MS4 under this permit authorization will be those within the urbanized area and permitted area as identified in the permittee's application.

Part IV.I. of the General Permit provides requirements for annual reports. Each co-permittee must submit an annual report pertaining to their permitted Small MS4(s) unless formal shared responsibilities allow another entity to complete your annual report obligations for you. The annual reports must completely address all Small MS4 discharges regulated under this permit authorization. For each co-permittee's Small MS4(s), ensure you address all required items for the annual reports as stated in the General Permit and the standard annual reporting form, including appropriate certifications and signatures. A new annual report submittal date of March 1st will initiate with the report to be submitted for the 2010 calendar year.

Permittees are subject to the self-monitoring and reporting requirements stated in Part IV of the General Permit. For the City, these requirements include monitoring two storm water discharge sampling locations as specified in the General Permit. Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) forms will be sent to the contact person identified in your application. These forms must be completed and submitted at the frequency specified in the General Permit even if no discharge occurs during the period. All information or reports, including DMRs that are required by the General Permit must be signed and certified as specified in the General Permit and submitted to the Department at the address given in the General Permit. Failure to submit DMR forms, as identified in the General Permit, is a violation of the General Permit.

In accordance with Part III.A. of the General Permit, the City's, County's, and MDT's SWMP must address the pollutants of concern for which the receiving water bodies are listed on the State's 303(d) list. This discussion must specifically address Best Management Practices that will address the pollutants of concern.

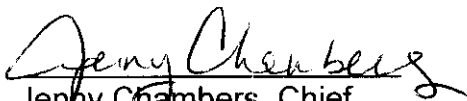
Annual fees are based on ARM 17.30.201. Annual fees are assessed for each calendar year in which the authorization remains active.

Issuance of a permit authorization under this General Permit does not waive obligations to obtain other permits that may be required.

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This authorization is issued pursuant to the Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) program under the authority of 75-5-402, MCA, of the Montana Water Quality Act and Section 402 and 303 of the federal Clean Water Act.

Please include your permit authorization number on any correspondence or communication with the Department. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Water Protection Bureau at (406) 444-3080.


Jenny Chambers, Chief
Water Protection Bureau
Permitting & Compliance Division

Enclosure: General Permit MTR040000