Ulster County Department of the Environment
Summary of 2017 Stormwater Annual Report
(Reporting Year: March 10, 2016- March 9, 2017)

Under the federal regulations commonly known as Stormwater Phase II, Ulster County is regulated as a traditional, non-land use control Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). The Departments of the Environment, Public Works, Information Services, and Planning worked together to achieve this year's stormwater program objectives. Ulster County Soil and Water Conservation (UCSWCD), Ulster County Cornell Cooperative Extension-Ulster County (CCE-UC), Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency (UCRRA), and Ulster County Environmental Management Council (EMC) significantly contributed to meeting the County's stormwater goals particularly in the areas of Public Education and Outreach (MCM1) and Public Involvement/Participation (MCM2).

The County's MS4 Annual Report is prepared to comply with MS4 regulations and is submitted to the NYS DEC. The full annual report is available for review at http://ulstercountyny.gov/public-works/stormwater-management, and any comments may be submitted via email to stormwater@co.ulster.ny.us or in writing to the **UC Department of the Environment, PO Box 1800, Kingston NY 12402**.

The Ulster County Stormwater Management Program plan (SWMP), which was revised in 2013, is available for review at http://ulstercountyny.gov/public-works/stormwater-management.

The MS4 program mandates are divided into six minimum control measures (MCM): public education and outreach, public involvement/participation, illicit discharge detection and elimination (IDDE), construction site runoff control, post-construction stormwater management, and pollution prevention/good housekeeping. The County's activities in each of these areas are detailed below.

MCM 1: Public Education and Outreach

The County's education efforts focus on internal staff development, educating the public on pollution prevention, providing educational opportunities for municipal stormwater and code enforcement officers, as well as educating local contractors. This year, no training was provided.

The County is committed to providing technical, mapping, and GIS support of our municipal MS4 communities (sixteen municipalities within Ulster County are independently regulated under the MS4 Stormwater program). The County assisted several MS4 towns with mapping and training on MS4. The County also continues to offer a lending library of water testing and training materials in support of watershed groups and municipalities.

Stormwater information brochures are available to the public in the tourism kiosk in the County Office Building's lobby. The Department of the Environment also provided literature for the County table at the Ulster County Fair as well as town environmental events. In addition, the Ulster County Department of Health distributed 700 pamphlets on the *Food Service Waste Reduction Act* and 700 *Stormwater Pollution Prevention Guide for the Food Service Industry* brochures to Ulster County restaurants with their permit renewals. These new brochures were created by the Department of the Environment.

The Kingston Center of SUNY Ulster (KCSU) along with the green infrastructure(GI) practices at the main County Office Building complex continue to serve as practical public demonstrations of using GI to handle stormwater volume and pollutants.

MCM 2: Public Involvement/Participation

As a traditional non-land use MS4 under the regulations, the County is not required to provide participation opportunities to the general public. However, our County agencies have continued to involve the public and reduce

potential pollutants through various efforts. These efforts not only strengthen the County's stormwater program but help the local MS4 municipalities which do have an explicit requirement to involve and educate the general public.

Ulster County again partnered with the Ulster County EMC to provide Creek Week, consisting of a variety of participatory and educational events centered around water and watersheds. This year, 17 events involving 188 participants took place in watersheds throughout Ulster County.

Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency (UCRRA) continues to offer household hazardous waste (HHW) collection events. At the April, July, and October 2016 collection events 824 Ulster County households disposed of over 5000 gallons of liquid and almost 18,000 lbs of solid HHW, and 610 lbs of pharmaceutical waste. Non-perishable food and textiles were also collected at these events for redistribution or recycling. UCCRA facilities also collected electronic waste for recycling. These events provide for the safe removal and disposal of potential pollutants.

MCM 3: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

All of our outfalls have been inspected at least once in the last five years. The purpose of these inspections is to detect and eliminate any illicit connections or discharges to our County storm drainage system. The County also maintains a stormwater hotline for the public to report suspected illicit discharges or other stormwater concerns. There were no illicit discharges to the County MS4 system identified this year.

MCM 4: Construction Site Runoff Control

The County's Stormwater Management Specialist (SWMS) reviewed two Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (*SWPPPs*) for projects that discharge stormwater into the county drainage system. One of these projects was approved. The County had one active construction site at the Sawkill Bridge that required SPDES coverage during this permit year.

MCM 5: Post-construction Stormwater Management Practices

Ulster County's post construction stormwater management practices include a dry pond at Golden Hill, a retention pond at the Ulster County Law Enforcement Center, a Vortechs unit at the DPW main yard, and a pond at the county highway substation in New Paltz. In addition, we have rain garden and bioretention areas at the Ulster County Office Building complex and pervious pavement at Kingston Center of SUNY Ulster. These practices were inventoried, inspected, and cleaned as needed during this reporting period.

MCM 6: Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping

In 2009, the Ulster County Legislature enacted Local Law No.4 adopting a non-toxic pest management (NPM) policy on all land owned or leased by the County. This policy mandates the use of natural, non-toxic, or, as a last resort with advisory committee approval, least toxic cultural practices that promote healthy soil and plant life as a preventative measure against the onset of turf and landscape pest problems. This will ensure that the safest and most sound (in terms of human health and the environment) methods will be used in County landscape management practices. The advisory committee did not meet this year.

In the field, drainage inspections and maintenance are conducted at all 21 county owned properties (19 in the MS4 urbanized area). These inspections ensure that any problems are addressed timely. No catch basins were cleaned in this reporting period. All county parking lots and all 50 miles of county road in the MS4 area were swept this permit year.

All road salt is kept in covered salt storage sheds at County highway garages. Ulster County continues to try to minimize salt usage and its negative environmental impact without sacrificing safe winter travel on our roads.

All relevant County departments conduct an annual inventory and inspection of chemical storage.

All DPW employees receive training on pollution prevention/good housekeeping at municipal facilities at least every three years. No training was required during this permit year.