



Section 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and Purpose

The Clean Water Act (CWA) was passed in 1972 to help protect and restore the waters in our Nation's streams, rivers, and lakes. In the early 1990s, Phase I of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), under authority of the CWA, was passed to regulate stormwater management in large urban areas. Phase II regulations were developed and passed near the turn of the century requiring medium size cities meeting a certain population density and other criteria to develop stormwater initiatives to address pollution associated with urban runoff. In March of 2003, the City of Glasgow, and numerous other "Phase II Cities and Counties" submitted permit applications to the Kentucky Division of Water outlining a 5 year plan for addressing the Phase II requirements.

The thought behind the Phase II program is that urban runoff is a chief cause of stream impairment, and that urban runoff can be managed in large part by effectively addressing a few key areas; educating and involving the public on the impacts of urban runoff and how the public can help, managing the storm sewer infrastructure and addressing illicit discharges (discharge of pollution / polluted runoff), implementation of local regulatory authority, development of best management practices (BMPs) for construction and post-construction, and environmentally sensitive and responsible municipal operations. This BMP manual was developed to support Phase II efforts in addressing Construction Site Runoff as required by the Phase II permit for the City of Glasgow and numerous other Phase II communities. Additionally, a number of the BMPs address municipal operations, and residential issues and can be used for sharing information with the public.

The manual presents a brief introduction to stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs). The following types of BMPs are addressed: Site Planning and Design Practices (SPD); Erosion Prevention Practices (EPP); Sediment Management Practices (SMP); Good Housekeeping Practices (GHP); and BMPs for Residential and Homeowners (RHP). The manual describes how BMPs can be selected, and contains a series of fact sheets for each type of BMP to be used in the area.

The intent of the Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual is to provide guidance on BMP selection, design, and implementation to plan submitters, reviewers, construction site operators, and site inspectors. There is special emphasis on Erosion Prevention and Sedimentation Control (EPSC) during construction and recommendations to homeowners to help provide and extend benefits beyond construction. There are also guidance materials for activities at commercial and industrial facilities.



The fact sheets are categorized, focused, and concise so that they may be used as quick references for design, inspection, and maintenance guidance. In this way, the fact sheets are designed to be stand-alone documents that may be distributed to facilitate discussion about design and/or implementation of the management practice. Many of the practices are considered structural practices in that they involve construction. However, several of the BMPs cover non-structural practices where normal activities are performed in a different manner with stormwater quality in mind.