
CHAPTER 8

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

8.1 Introduction

The Cook County Stormwater Management Plan (CCSMP) presents the mission, goals and framework of the countywide stormwater management program for Cook County. The implementation of the CCSMP and its program elements will be accomplished through a phased approach. This chapter describes the four implementation phases:

- Phase 1: Preparation of the WMO, Detailed Watershed Plans (DWPs), and a public information program and implementation of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and the Small Stream Maintenance Program (SSMP).
- Phase 2: Implementation of Watershed Management Ordinance (WMO), continued preparation of DWPs and administration of the CIP and SSMP, and development of maintenance program.
- Phase 3: Implementation of DWP recommendations, maintenance program and continued administration of the CIP and SSMP.
- Phase 4: Continued implementation of DWP recommendations and maintenance program, administration of CIP and SSMP, and implementation of public education programs.

8.2 Adoption of the Cook County Stormwater Management Plan

A draft version of the CCSMP was distributed to municipalities, townships and various agencies for review and comment on August 7, 2006. The public review period concluded on October 13, 2006. In addition, seven public hearings on the CCSMP were conducted during the public review period. The CCSMP was revised to incorporate comments provided during the public review process which were germane to the CCSMP.

On February 15, 2007 the District's Board of Commissioners adopted the CCSMP by ordinance.

8.3 Implementation Phasing

The implementation phases reflect the mission and goals of the CCSMP that are stated in Chapter 1. The phasing outlines the development of the countywide stormwater management program's functional areas, which are discussed in Chapter 5. The scheduling of the CCSMP implementation is dependent on several factors within the

District including: available funding, available staff, preparation of DWPs, and the development of the WMO.

Exhibit 8-1 shows a general estimate of the implementation phasing based on program elements discussed in Chapter 5. Given the multiple phases and interrelatedness of many of the elements, there is an intentional overlapping of all phases. The program elements are described below in terms of the phases in which they will be carried out. The elements that are multi-phase or ongoing are repeated under the relevant phases.

8.4 Implementation Phase 1

Phase 1 implementation will focus on the preparation of the WMO, the development of the DWPs, and the initiation of a public information program.

8.4.1 Coordination with Watershed Planning Councils

The District will coordinate with the Watershed Planning Councils (WPCs) on the development of the WMO and the preparation of the DWPs. Coordination will be facilitated through the assistance of the municipal conferences.

8.4.2 Assign and Train Staff

Appropriate staff will be assigned to the stormwater management program and will be provided with adequate training. As the CCSMP is implemented, the District will assess staff requirements. The assessment will include a review of workload and will determine the extent to which activities are performed by staff versus consultants. In addition, as the stormwater management program evolves, the District plans to conduct seminars for municipal engineers and developers, including their planners and engineers.

8.4.3 Prepare the Watershed Management Ordinance

To facilitate the preparation of rules and regulations, the District will draft the WMO and forward it to the WPCs for review. Public Act 93-1049 (Act) states that the WPCs may recommend rules and regulations to the District governing the location, width, course, and release rates of all stormwater runoff channels, streams, and basins in their respective watersheds.

The following steps will be included in the preparation of the WMO:

- Review comments received by the District during the public review period for the CCSMP which were relevant to the WMO.
- Review the municipal responses to the regulatory-related questions in the municipal questionnaire described in Chapter 3.
- Review existing municipal stormwater ordinances in Cook County and compile summary information.
- Review existing regulatory ordinances of neighboring counties along with model ordinances prepared by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning and agencies such as the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- Prepare a draft WMO based on the regulatory approach described in Chapter 7.

The preparation of an Advanced Identification of Wetlands (ADID) Study will be pursued to ensure that floodplain and wetland information needed to support the WMO is available when, or shortly after, the WMO is adopted.

8.4.4 Prepare Technical Guidance Manual

Preparation of the Technical Guidance Manual (TGM) shall begin once standards in the WMO have been established. The TGM should be available on or before the effective date of the WMO. Periodic revisions to the TGM may be required if new information becomes available which requires the WMO be modified.

8.4.5 Continue Current Maintenance Activities

As explained in Chapter 5, the District inspects and shares maintenance responsibilities for several flood control reservoirs serving Cook County. The District has historically maintained certain reaches of waterways and streams. These maintenance activities will continue as the stormwater management program evolves. In addition, the District has initiated a SSMP. Further information on the SSMP can be found in Section 5.4.

8.4.6 Watershed Planning and Coordination Activities

The District staff will continue to perform ongoing coordination activities. In particular, the District will coordinate planning activities with Cook County, state and federal agencies as well as with neighboring counties to ensure consistency between programs.

8.4.7 Prepare Detailed Watershed Plans

The District will determine the sequence for preparation of DWPs for the major watersheds within Cook County. Watershed planning will be initiated for a portion of the watersheds during this phase. Watershed planning for remaining watersheds will continue through subsequent phases. Watershed planning coordination activities will occur during the planning process.

8.4.8 Funding Mechanisms & Budgeting

Examination of funding mechanisms will begin in this phase, along with budgeting for preparing DWPs and capital improvement projects. Development of funding mechanisms focuses on alternatives (i.e., permit application and permit review fees) for the implementation of the WMO.

8.4.9 Implement Capital Program

Capital projects that meet the minimum criteria detailed in Chapter 1 may be funded as allowed by available funds.

8.4.10 Develop Public Information Program

A public information and education program will be developed to garner support for regulatory standards. Generating recognition and interest early in the program will develop a constituency and will provide a central repository for information on significant stormwater problems and issues.

In addition to informing the public on the importance of stormwater management issues, the public information program will also provide suggestions on measures that the general public can implement to reduce the adverse impacts of stormwater and/or improve water quality.

8.4.11 Prepare Annual Report

As required by the Act, the District will continue publishing an annual report listing its stormwater management activities and the steps taken to incorporate the concerns of the WPCs.

8.5 Implementation Phase 2

The Phase 2 activities center on adopting the WMO and the program elements that support it.

8.5.1 Coordination with Watershed Planning Councils

District coordination with WPCs shall continue.

8.5.2 Train Additional Staff

Appropriate staff will be assigned to the stormwater management program and provided with adequate training.

8.5.3 Provide Technical Support

As described in Chapter 5, the District will provide technical support to municipalities, townships, developers and the public in general on stormwater management topics.

8.5.4 Adopt the Watershed Management Ordinance

The following steps are taken towards adopting the WMO:

- Request advice and comments from the WPCs regarding rules and regulations in the WMO.
- Revise draft WMO in view of WPCs' advice and comments.
- Provide agencies, stakeholders and the general public an opportunity to comment on the Draft WMO.
- Submit the WMO to the Board of Commissioners for adoption.

Exhibit 8-1 - Summary of Countywide Stormwater Management Program Implementation Phases

Phase	Administration and Management	Regulation	Maintenance	Watershed Planning	CIP Implementation	Public Information
Phase 1	Ongoing District Stormwater Activities Coordination with WPCs (Ongoing) Staff Training Funding Mechanisms & Budgeting	Development of WMO Development of TGM	Current District Maintenance Activities (Ongoing) Initiation and Implementation of SSMP	Development of DWPs	Capital Program Implementation	Development of Public Information Program Publish Annual Report
Phase 2	Coordination with WPCs Staff Training Technical Support Professional Education Funding Mechanisms & Budgeting	WMO Implementation Development of TGM	Current District Maintenance Activities Continue SSMP Development of Maintenance Recommendations	Development of DWPs DWP Recommendation Implementation	Capital Program Implementation	Development of Public Information Materials Development of Education Programs Publish Annual Report
Phase 3	Coordination with WPCs Staff Training Technical Support Professional Education Funding Mechanisms & Budgeting	WMO Enforcement Delegation of Permit Reviews to Qualifying Municipalities	Current District Maintenance Activities Continue SSMP Implementation of Maintenance Program	Development of DWPs DWP Recommendation Implementation	Capital Program Implementation	Distribution of Public Information Materials Development of Education Programs Publish Annual Report
Phase 4	Coordination with WPCs Staff Training Technical Support Professional Education Funding Mechanisms & Budgeting	WMO Enforcement Delegation of Permit Reviews to Qualifying Municipalities	Current District Maintenance Activities Continue SSMP Implementation of Maintenance Program	DWP Recommendation Implementation Assess Need for DWP Updates	Capital Program Implementation	Distribution of Public Information Materials Development of Education Programs Publish Annual Report

8.5.5 Coordinate Professional Education

Training needs for both design and permit review professionals will be identified and training mechanisms will be developed. Efforts shall be coordinated so that these opportunities are available as the WMO implementation begins.

8.5.6 Develop Maintenance Recommendations for Stormwater Infrastructure

The District will examine appropriate maintenance and inspection recommendations for newly constructed stormwater infrastructure. Consistent standards for maintenance will ensure stormwater management features function as designed.

8.5.7 Develop Maintenance Recommendations for Natural Drainage Systems

In coordination with the WPCs, the District will consider maintenance recommendations for natural drainage systems. The program will emphasize educating property owners and responsible agencies on proper drainage system maintenance techniques.

8.5.8 Continue Current Maintenance Activities

The District's responsibilities for maintenance of flood control structures and certain waterways will continue in addition to administering the SSMP.

8.5.9 Prepare Detailed Watershed Plans

This activity will be continued from Phase 1. Watershed planning coordination activities will continue, including identification of coordination opportunities with other programs.

8.5.10 Funding Mechanisms & Budgeting

This activity will be continued from Phase 1.

8.5.11 Implement Capital Program

Capital projects that meet the minimum criteria detailed in Chapter 1 may be funded as allowed by available funds.

8.5.12 Prepare Public Information Materials

This activity will be continued from Phase 1. District will work with WPCs to identify specific public information needs for each watershed.

8.5.13 Prepare Annual Report

This activity will be continued from Phase 1.

8.6 Implementation Phase 3

Phase 3 will include development of a maintenance program for newly constructed and natural drainage systems.

8.6.1 Coordination with Watershed Planning Councils

This activity will be continued from Phases 1 and 2.

8.6.2 Train Staff

This activity will be continued from Phases 1 and 2.

8.6.3 Coordinate Professional Education

Coordinating professional education will continue from Phase 2.

8.6.4 Begin Watershed Management Ordinance Implementation and Enforcement Structure

Following adoption of the WMO, projects meeting certain minimum criteria will be required to obtain a permit from the District. Provisions of the WMO will need to be enforced by the District and potentially by qualifying municipalities, to ensure compliance.

8.6.5 Implement Maintenance Recommendations

The District will evaluate mechanisms for implementing maintenance recommendations, including provisions in the WMO, WPC activities, and public education efforts.

8.6.6 Continue Current Maintenance Activities

The District's current maintenance of flood control structures and certain waterways will continue.

8.6.7 Prepare and Implement Detailed Watershed Plans

Preparation of watershed plans will be ongoing through this phase. Implementation of watershed plans initiated in the previous phases will occur primarily through the construction of recommended facilities under the CIP. Coordination opportunities with state and/or federal programs will be considered during implementation of watershed plans.

8.6.8 Budgeting

Budgeting activities continue from Phase 2.

8.6.9 Implement Capital Program

Implementing this program is ongoing, initiated in Phase 2.

8.6.10 Implement Public Information Program

Public information activities continue, ongoing since their development in Phase 1. This program will include preparation of the annual report.

8.7 Implementation Phase 4

In this final phase, all program elements are underway and implemented throughout the county.

8.7.1 Administration and Management

All administrative and management functions continue, including coordination with the WPCs, staff training, technical support, professional education, and budgeting.

8.7.2 Watershed Management Ordinance Implementation and Enforcement

Started in Phase 3, implementation and enforcement continues.

8.7.3 Implement Detailed Watershed Plans

Implementing watershed plans continues from previous phase. From the beginning of the implementation process, watershed planning coordinates opportunities with other state and federal programs.

8.7.4 Assessment of Detailed Watershed Plans

DWPs are assessed to determine the need for updates or additional watershed analyses.

8.7.5 Implement Maintenance Recommendations

As started in the previous phase, implementation of the maintenance program will continue.

8.7.6 Continue Current Maintenance Activities

The District's current maintenance of flood control structures and certain waterways will continue.

8.7.7 Implement Capital Program

Initiated in Phase 2, capital improvement programs will be ongoing.

8.7.8 Public Information and Education

For this effort, the District will identify public information topics, prepare and distribute materials, and develop and deliver additional public education programs. Preparation of the annual report shall be included under this effort.

8.8 Plan Review and Amendment Process

The CCSMP may need to be amended. The amendment process outlined below generally parallels the steps taken to adopt the CCSMP:

8.8.1 Public Review Period

The District will prepare the draft amended plan and approve it for presentation to the WPCs and the public. A public review period will be initiated. At the beginning of this period, the draft will be sent to the WPCs and to other interested agencies, parties and stakeholders for review and comment. The District will hold at least one public hearing during this period. Relevant comments will be addressed in the final amended CCSMP at the District's discretion.

8.8.2 Adoption of Amended CCSMP by the District

The District will adopt the amended CCSMP by ordinance.

8.9 Summary

The mission and the goals of the CCSMP will be fostered through implementation of the countywide stormwater management program. The CCSMP implementation phases allow for the effective development of the countywide stormwater management program with a focus on watershed planning and effective regulations. The adoption of the CCSMP and the establishment of the stormwater management program allow the

District to begin funding consideration for capital improvement projects that will correct existing stormwater related problems and reduce the likelihood of future problems. With the development and implementation of the WMO, the DWPs, maintenance efforts, the capital improvement program and the public information program, the District and the communities will have the necessary tools for accomplishing countywide stormwater management. These efforts will bring about comprehensive watershed management in Cook County.