

Watershed Management Ordinance (WMO)



American Society of Civil Engineers
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WMO Objective

Establish uniform, minimum, and comprehensive countywide stormwater management regulations

Enabling Legislation

Watershed Management Ordinance

“Stormwater management in Cook County shall be under the general supervision of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago.”

“The District may prescribe by ordinance reasonable rules and regulations for floodplain and stormwater management . . . in Cook County.”

Public Act 093-1049



WMO Timeline

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1972 | Sewer Permit Ordinance detention |
| 2004 | Public Act 093-1049 |
| 2007 | WMO development |
| 2009 | Public review |
| 2010 | Public comments |
| 2012 | Economic Impact Study |
| 2013 | WMO redraft |
| Oct. 2013 | WMO adoption |
| May 1, 2014 | WMO effective date |



Sewer Permit Ordinance

- Sanitary Sewers
- Stormwater Detention
 - TP-40 Rainfall Data
 - Modified Rational Method

Watershed Management Ordinance

- Sanitary Sewers
- Stormwater Detention
 - Bulletin-70 Rainfall Data
 - Flat Release Rate
 - Hydrograph Method
- Volume Control
- Erosion & Sediment
- Flood Protection Areas
 - Floodplain
 - Floodway
 - Isolated Wetlands
 - Riparian Areas



Technical Guidance Manual

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Article 2 | Applicability and General Provisions |
| Article 3 | Watershed Management Permit Requirements and Submittals |
| Article 4 | Requirements for Erosion and Sediment Control |
| Article 5 | Requirements for Stormwater Management |
| Article 6 | Requirements for Flood Protection Areas |
| Article 7 | Requirements for Sewer Construction |
| Article 9 | Maintenance |
| Article 10 | Inspection |
| Article 14 | Administration |



Permit Forms

- **Current Permit Schedules**

- Schedule A – Project Summary
- Schedule B – Sewer Summary
- Schedule C – Sewer Connections
- Schedule D – Detention
- Schedule E – Lift Station / Force Main
- Schedule F – Characteristics of Waste Discharge
- Schedule G – Treatment / Pretreatment Facilities
- Schedule K – Affidavit of Disclosure of Property Interests
- Exhibit A – Current Survey of Property Interests

- **New Permit Schedules**

- Schedule H – Hazard Areas (Floodplain/Floodway/Riparian)
- Schedule O – Outfalls, Direct Connections, District Property
- Schedule P – Erosion Control
- Schedule R – Recording and Maintenance
- Schedule W – Wetlands and Buffer Areas

New WMO Permit Cover

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PERMIT DISTRICT Permit No.
METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT
OF GREATER CHICAGO
 100 EAST ERIE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, 60611 <http://www.mwrdd.org>

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING PERMIT FORM: Submit ____ typed copies of permit application (eight pages) and any required WMO schedules listed below; do not leave any blank spaces; use "X" for checking applicable information. Also submit ____ copies of location map and plans. Submit two copies of specifications, if specifications are not part of the plan sheets. Address all correspondence to the Local Sewer Systems Section; for any inquiries or assistance, telephone (312) 751-3255.

NAME AND LOCATION:

Name of project (as shown on plans): _____

Location of Project (street address or with respect to two major streets): _____

Municipality (Township, if unincorporated) _____

Section _____, Township _____ N, Range _____ E

- | | | |
|--|---|---------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Project Information (Required in all cases) | WMO Schedule A ¹ | (Page 4 of 8) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sewer Summary (Required in all cases) | WMO Schedule B ¹ | (Page 5 of 8) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sewer Connections (Required in all cases) | WMO Schedule C ¹ | (Page 6 of 8) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Detention & Stormwater Management Facilities (WMO) | WMO Schedule D ² | (_ Pages) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Detention & Stormwater Management Facilities (Legacy) | WMO Schedule D _(Legacy) ¹ | (_ Pages) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lift Station and/or Force Main | WMO Schedule E ¹ | (_ Pages) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Characteristics of Waste Discharge | WMO Schedule F ¹ | (2 Page) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Treatment or Pretreatment Facilities | WMO Schedule G ¹ | (2 pages) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hazard Areas (Floodplain / Floodway /Riparian Areas) | WMO Schedule H ² | (_ Pages) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit Relative to Compliance with Art. _____ | WMO Schedule J ¹ | (1 Page) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit of Disclosure of Property Interest | WMO Schedule K ^{1,2} | (2 Pages) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Requirements for Storm Water Detention | WMO Schedule L ² | (2 Pages) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Current Survey of Property Interests | Exhibit A ¹ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outfall, Direct Connection, District Owned or Leased Property | WMO Schedule O ¹ | (1 Pages) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Erosion Control (Required in all cases) | WMO Schedule P ^{1,2} | (_ Pages) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recording and Maintenance | WMO Schedule R ² | (_ Pages) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wetlands and Wetland Buffer Areas | WMO Schedule W ² | (_ Pages) |

¹ Submittal elements required to District for qualified sewer construction, outfalls, direct connections to District facilities and development impacting District Property.

² Submittal elements required to Authorized Municipality if development is within the corporate limits of an Authorized Municipality. Submit to District otherwise.

Note: Refer to Table 1 of § 201 of Article 2 of Watershed Management Ordinance for applicable Permitting Authority.

OTHER DOCUMENTS: Indicate title, number of pages and originator _____

NOTE: ATTACH FEE PAYMENT VOUCHER AND PAYMENT IF APPLICABLE

MWRDGC USE ONLY

Application received: _____ WMO Permit issued: _____ WRP: _____

Issued by: MWRDGC Authorized Municipality



Authorized Municipalities

- **Local administration of WMO provisions**
 - Authorized (201.1)
 - District (201.2)
- **Letter of Intent**
 - Legal opinion
 - Verified financial statement
 - Implementation plan
 - Schedule of permit fees
 - Combined sewer exhibit
- **Adoption of WMO by reference**
- **Intergovernmental agreement**



Existing Development Plans List

- **District compile list before May 1, 2014**
- **Municipality submits projects**
 - Form
 - Preliminary Site plan
 - Documentation of preliminary approval from governing municipality
- **Subject to legacy Sewer Permit Ordinance**
 - Must apply for permit before May 1, 2015
 - 3 years to complete the project
- **List Expires May 1, 2015**



Multi-County Municipalities

- **May adopt adjacent county stormwater ordinance**
- **Process**
 - Letter of intent
 - Adoption of adjacent county ordinance
 - Intergovernmental Agreement
- **Permits**
 - Municipality issues permits for activities in Section 201.1
 - District issues permits for activities in Section 201.2

Do I need a WMO Permit... ... Even Here?



Permit Applicability
§201, Table 1

Development
> 0.5 Disturbed
Area

Flood Protection
Areas
Floodplain, Wetlands,
Riparian etc.

Qualified Sewer
Construction

District
Impacts

Stormwater
Requirements
Article 5, Table 2
Ownership

Color Code:

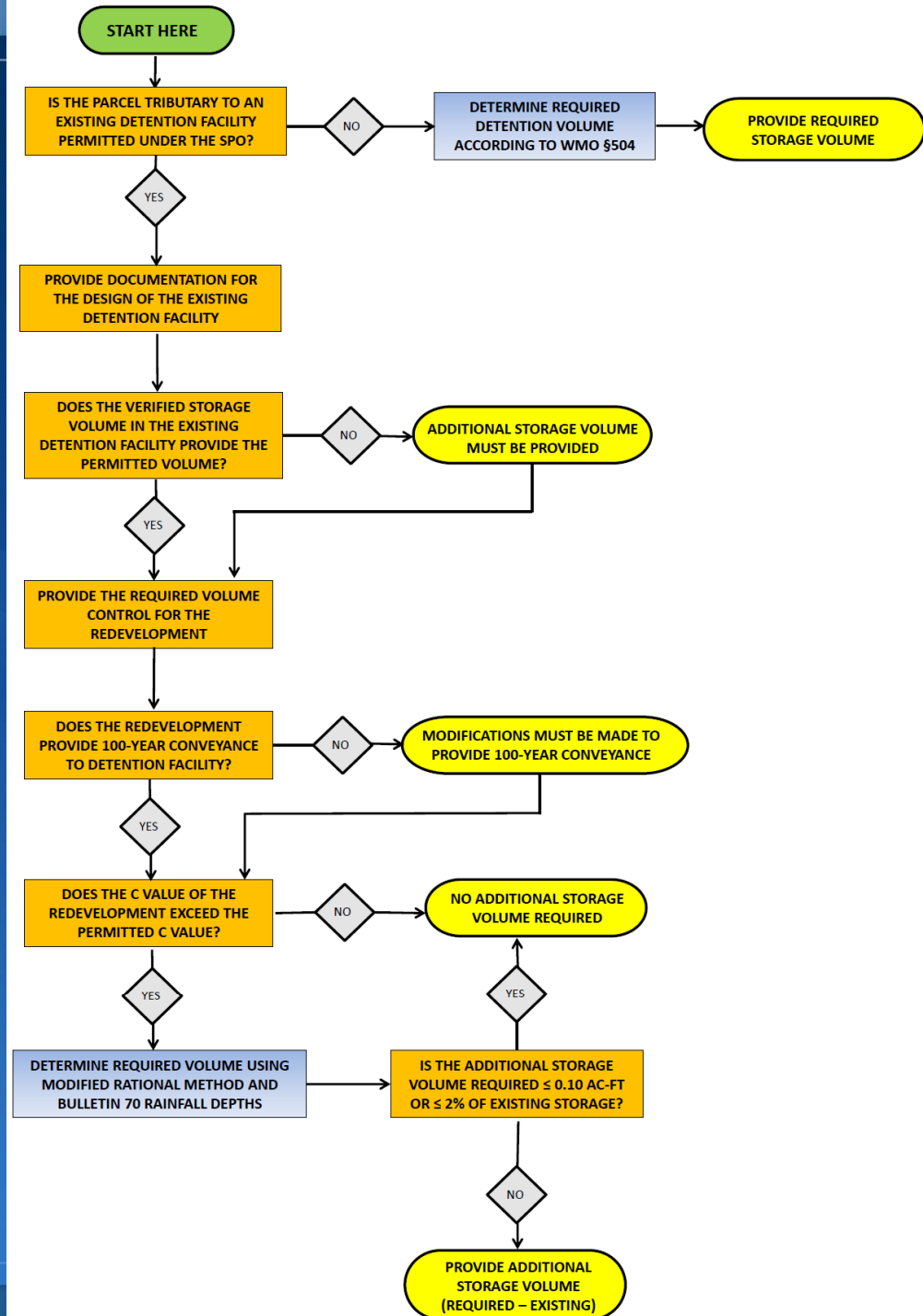
- Cook County, ~~Chicago~~
- District Corporate Limits, ~~Chicago~~
- Cook County including Chicago

TARP / Interceptors
Waterway Outfalls
Lake Michigan
District Property

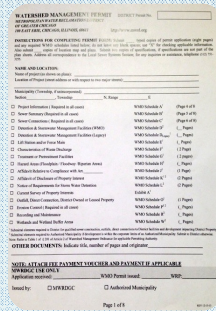
| Table 2. Summary of Site Stormwater Management Requirements₁ | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| | §502 | §503 | §504 |
| Development Type <i>(See Appendix A for definitions)</i> | Runoff Requirements | Volume Control Requirements₂ | Detention Requirements₂ |
| Single-Family Home | Exempt | Exempt | Exempt |
| Residential Subdivision | Parcels ≥ 1 acre | Parcels ≥ 1 acre | Parcels ≥ 5 acres |
| Multi-Family Residential | Parcels ≥ 0.5 acre | Parcels ≥ 0.5 acre | Parcels ≥ 3 acres † |
| Non-Residential | Parcels ≥ 0.5 acre | Parcels ≥ 0.5 acre | Parcels ≥ 3 acres † |
| Right-of-Way | New Impervious Area ≥ 1 acre | New Impervious Area ≥ 1 acre † | New Impervious Area ≥ 1 acre † |
| Open Space | Parcels ≥ 0.5 acre | Not Applicable | Not Applicable |
| <p>1 Site stormwater management requirements are not required for maintenance activities as defined in Appendix A.</p> <p>2 Requirements are applicable when a Watershed Management Permit is required under §201 of this Ordinance.</p> <p>† Where practicable.</p> <p>‡ Starting the effective date of this Ordinance, any new development on the parcel that totals either individually or in the aggregate to more than one-half (0.5) of an acre.</p> | | | |

FLOW CHARTS

ARTICLE 3: SWM REQUIREMENTS FOR SITES SUBJECT TO LEGACY SEWER PERMIT DEVELOPMENT & REDEVELOPMENT



Under the Current SPO MWRD Involvement in Project



Design Project

Apply for MWRD Permit

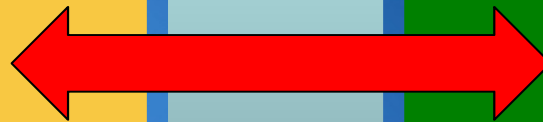
Mobilize

Obtain Permit

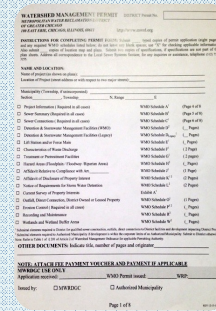
Substantial Completion

MWRD Inspect

Occupancy



Under the Current SPO MWRD Involvement in Project (expedited)



Design Project

Mobilize

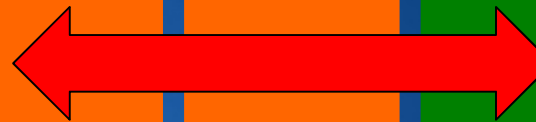
Substantial Completion

Apply for MWRD Permit

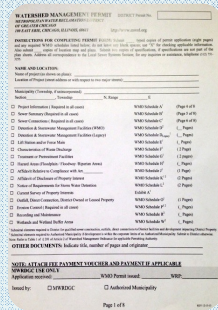
MWRD Inspect

Obtain Permit

Occupancy



Under the Coming WMO MWRD Involvement in Project



Design Project

Apply for MWRD Permit

Obtain Permit

Mobilize
• MWRD Erosion Inspection

Sewer Work
• MWRD Inspect

Substantial Completion
• MWRD Inspect

Occupancy





Frequently Asked 'Key' Questions

- ✧ Is the WMO really effective May 1, 2014?

Yes

- ✧ How do I get on the existing development plans list, aka the 'grandfather' list? When is it due?

Contact your municipality or township, List due by 5/1/14

- ✧ When will WMO training be provided?

Third and fourth week of April

- ✧ How long will it take to obtain a WMO permit?

That depends on what is submitted...

Initial submittal response : 15 working days / 30 for complicated
10 working days for resubmittal



Frequently Asked 'Key' Questions

- ✧ Is there a deadline to submit a letter of intent to become an authorized municipality?
There is no deadline
- ✧ Will the District's inundation maps be used to establish the FPE?
No, refer to FEMA regulatory floodplain maps (FPE = BFE + 2')
- ✧ How do I provide detention according to the new WMO standards in a high density downtown area?
Detention trading is a final option, but lots of flexibility
- ✧ When will the snow melt and this record breaking winter end?
May 1, 2014



WMO Compliance Flexibility

- **Full credit for volume control**
- **Trading**
- **Phased release rates**
- **Existing development plans list**
- **Legacy development / redevelopment allowance**
- **Authorized municipalities**
- **Multi-county municipalities**
- **Non-qualified development**
- **Marginal increase in required volume**
- **Streamlined, practical permit review**



- Home
- Commissioners
- Departments
- Services & Facilities
- Public Affairs
- Newsroom
- Business with Us
- Reports
- Employment

- Overview
- Cook County Stormwater Management Plan (CCSMP)
- Watershed Management Ordinance (WMO)**
- Inundation Maps & Hydraulic Profiles
- Stormwater Annual Reports and Publications
- Watershed Planning Council
- WPC Meetings
- Combined Sewer Communities

[Services & Facilities](#) >> [Stormwater Management](#) >> [Watershed Management Ordinance \(WMO\)](#)

Cook County Watershed Management Ordinance (WMO)

Final Adopted WMO - October 3, 2013

[Please click here to view the adopted WMO document, dated October 3, 2013](#)

After hosting four public meetings and a recent study session, on October 3, 2013 the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the Cook County Watershed Management Ordinance (WMO). The WMO was adopted with an effective date of May 1st, 2014.

The meetings held this summer offered the public the opportunity to voice their opinion regarding the proposed ordinance. The purpose of the WMO is to establish uniform stormwater management regulations for Cook County in order to prevent future commercial, municipal, and residential development and redevelopment projects from exacerbating flooding.

Paved roads, parking lots, walkways, and buildings make cities livable, but they also reduce the amount of land on which water can be absorbed and can lead to increased flooding without sufficient regulation.

[2014 Draft Technical Guidance Manual \(TGM\)](#)

Other Resources

[Watershed Management Ordinance: Short Summary](#)

[Authorized Municipalities](#)

[Existing Development Plans List](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#)

[WMO Advisory Committee Resource Page](#)

If you have any questions about the WMO or EIS, contact Mr. John Murray at (312) 751-7918 or john.murray@mwrdd.org.

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wmo.mwrdd.org





WMO Prospective Schedule

| | |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| Early 2014 | Technical Guidance Manual Development |
| April 2014 | Training |
| May 1, 2014 | WMO effective date |



Acknowledgments

- **MWRD Board of Commissioners**
- **WMO Advisory Committee**
- **Stakeholders**
- **MWRD Law Department**
- **Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd.**



Thank you

Questions & Discussion

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