

# Sioux Falls Public Works Stormwater Enforcement Program Protects Our Environment

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In 1992, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USENPA) identified the City of Sioux Falls as a Phase I Stormwater community subject to stormwater regulations. In 1999, the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (SDDENR) issued a stormwater permit to the City of Sioux Falls. The stormwater permit required the City to develop programs to reduce the discharge of pollutants into the municipal separate storm sewer system. The City developed seven programs which included management practices, control techniques, and local standards to reduce the discharge of pollutants. The Public Works Environmental Division administers and manages associated Enforcement Response Plans to address any non-compliance with the City standards established by our stormwater programs.

#### **Intent and Goals**

The City's Stormwater Programs were developed to provide local standards and procedures for reviewing, inspecting and enforcing stormwater discharges into the City's storm sewer and natural drainage systems. The specific enforcement goals of the City are as follows:

- Protect and improve our environment by reducing the amount of pollutants being discharged from the City's storm sewer system to the waters of the state by implementing Best Management Practices (BMP).
- Use of an inspection program by qualified staff to educate the public with the intent to prevent formal enforcement activities.
- Provide a fair and consistent implementation of the City standards to prevent any unfair economic benefit to individuals not willing to comply with stated standards.
- Use of a tiered Enforcement Response Plan to take necessary actions to ensure compliance and assess a punitive penalties only as needed for recurring or significant non-compliance activities.
- Locally control non-compliance issues to reduce or eliminate environmental liability risks to our citizens, development community and the City of Sioux Falls.

## **Stormwater Program Benefits**

The City of Sioux Falls believes that the community has achieved the following benefits to our program.

- Reduction in pollutants to our local environment.
- Improved water quality on the Big Sioux River allowed the SDDENR to remove segments of the river near Sioux Falls from their impaired waters list for total suspended solids in 2006.
- Identification and correction of non-compliance issues with fair and consistent enforcement.
- Local implementation and control has prevented any citizen or entity from receiving formal enforcement from the SDDENR and the USEPA for stormwater activities within Sioux Falls.

### **Adequate Construction Site BMPs**



Construction site properly revegetated.



Proper installation of sediment basin, silt fence and seeding/mulching.



Proper installation of silt fence to protect disturbed soils.

#### **Inadequate Construction Site BMPs**



Rill and gully erosion due to no soil stabilization.



Sediment basin and silt fence failure due to no soil stabilization measures.



Improper stormwater inlet protection.