

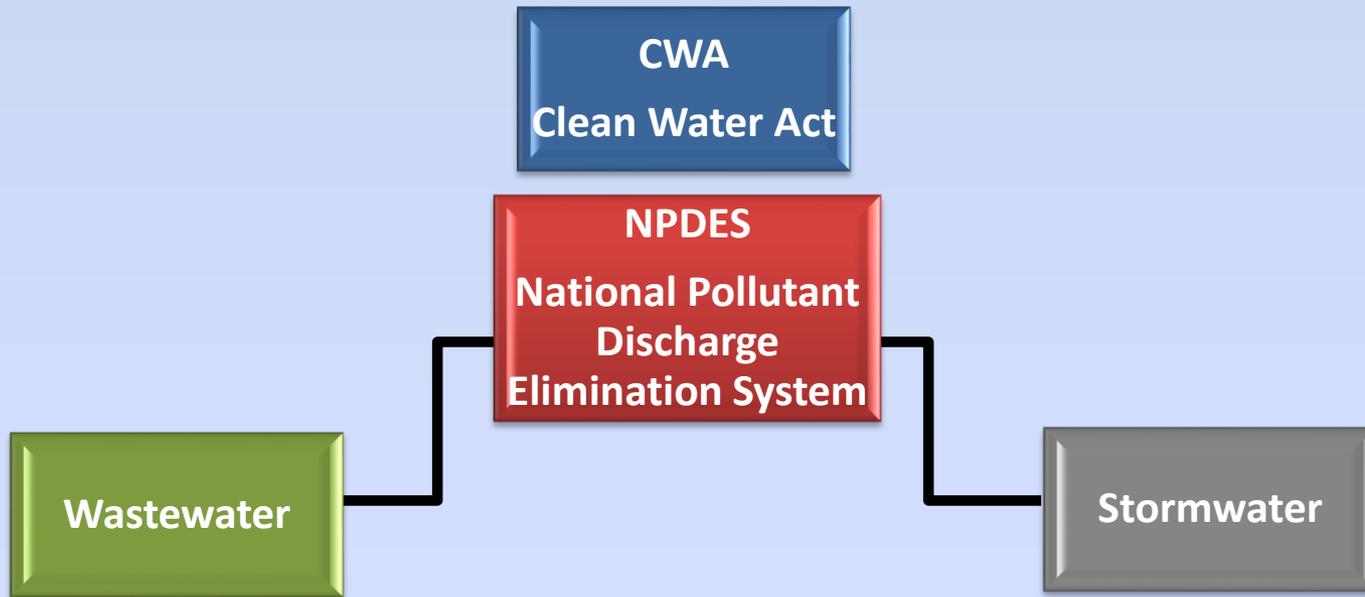
# *Cumberland's Stormwater Permit and Natural Resources Protection*



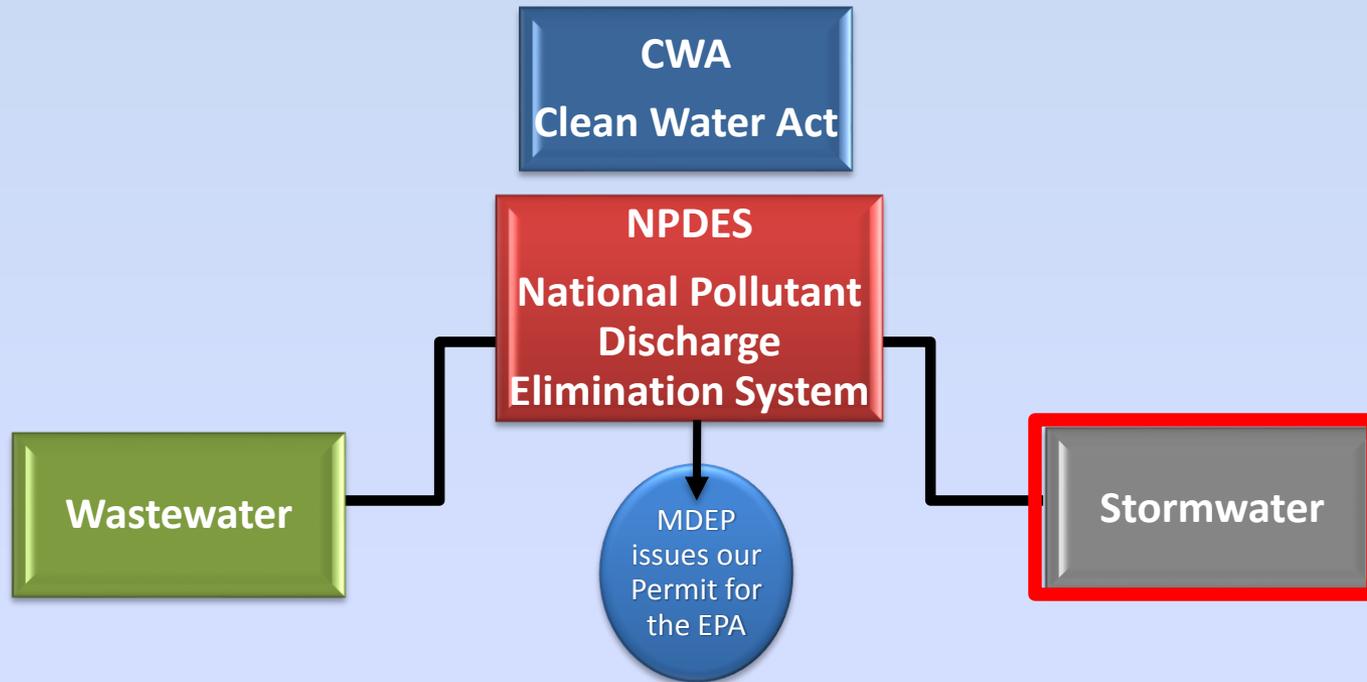
**Chris Bolduc - Assistant Town Manager**  
**Laura Neleski – Stormwater Coordinator**



# Basic Regulatory Framework



# Basic Regulatory Framework



**Regulated municipalities must have a permit to direct stormwater runoff into local water resources AND meet requirements to minimize pollution**

# What is Stormwater?

- Stormwater is precipitation or melted snow flowing over the land plus anything carried along with it.



## FOLLOW THE FLOW Where does water go?

Not all water that falls on your property soaks into the ground. As water flows off your property, it can wash pollutants such as soil, lawn chemicals and pet waste into where we fish, what we drink and where we swim.

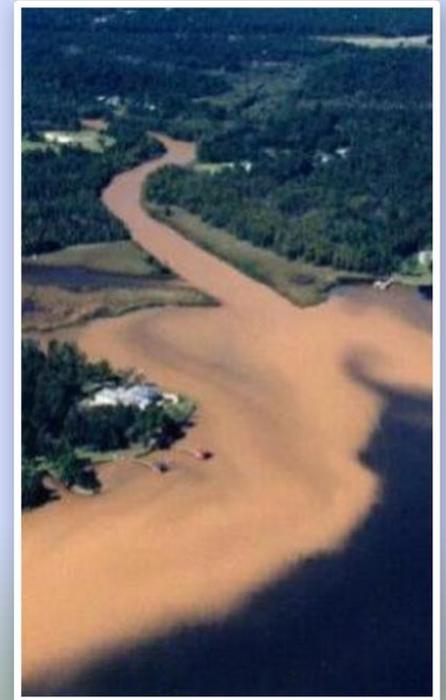
It's up to all of us to protect our local rivers, lakes and bay from polluted runoff.

Learn how at  
[www.ThinkBlueMaine.org](http://www.ThinkBlueMaine.org)



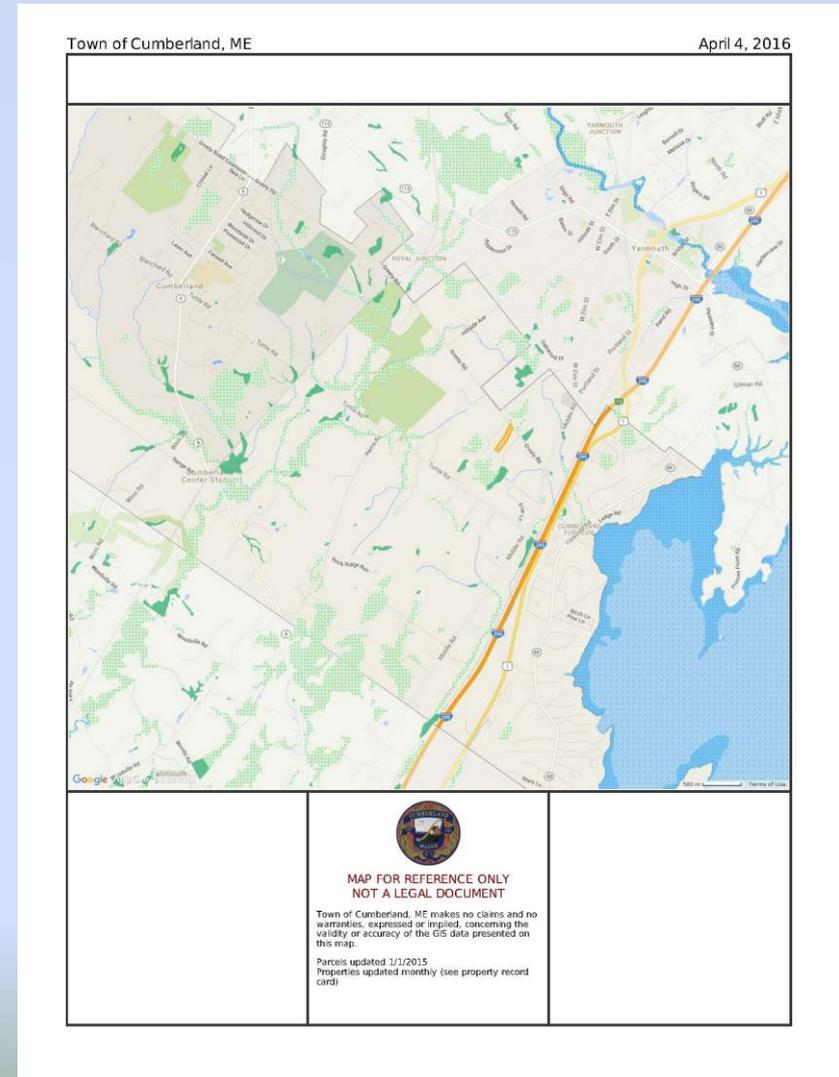
# Polluted Stormwater

- Drainage systems also carry pollutants like sediment, oil, fertilizers, salt, pet waste and trash.
- Rainwater that falls on paved streets, lawns, parking lots and sidewalks becomes polluted stormwater.



# Why it Matters

- Polluted stormwater is one of the largest remaining sources of pollution for the Nation's waters (“...one of the great challenges of modern water pollution control”)
- Polluted stormwater is “only increasing source of water pollution in many watersheds” – *Seth Brown, WEF Stormwater Program Director*



# Municipal Permit

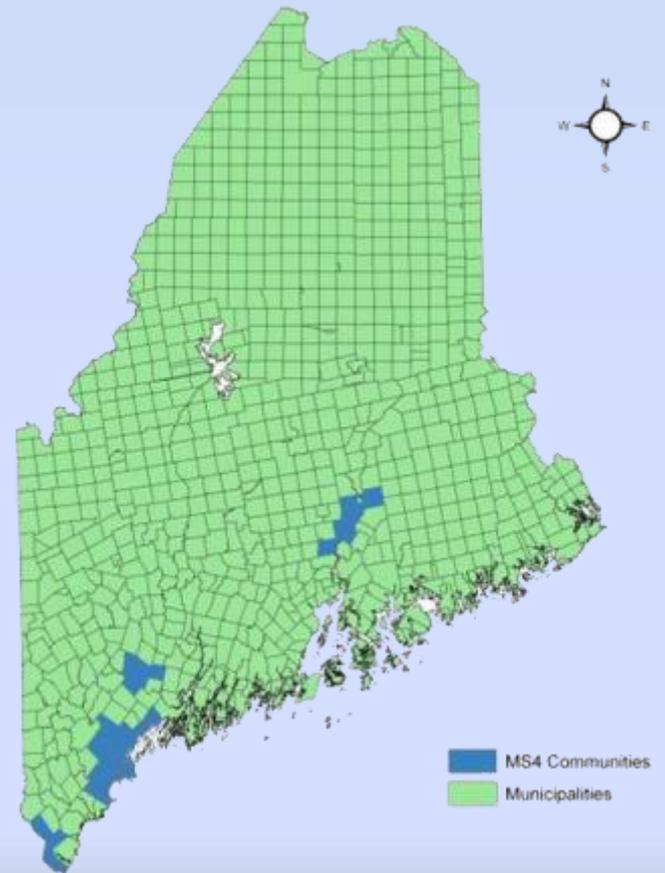
## CWA requires regulation of stormwater discharges

- 5 year permit cycles
- 1<sup>st</sup> permit issued in 2003 – next permit due in 2018
- Additional regulations required with each new permit cycle
- DEP administers Maine's permit
- Each regulated community must develop and submit a Stormwater Plan consistent with the permit



# Permit Requirements / Implications

- Full compliance with 6 “minimum control measures”
- Improvement & protection of priority water bodies
- Added scrutiny from DEP, EPA & environmental groups
- Higher costs than non-regulated municipalities



# Stormwater Program Elements



# Minimum Control Measure 1

## *Public Education & Outreach*

- Raise public & municipal staff awareness about polluted SW runoff & how to reduce it
- Promote & implement practices to reduce SW pollution



# Minimum Control Measure 2

## *Public Involvement & Participation*

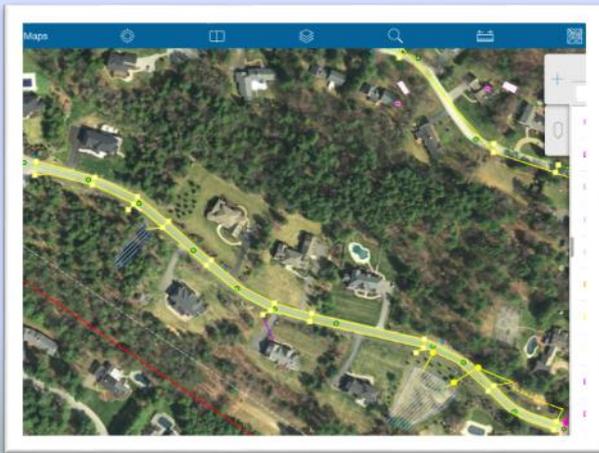
- Provide public with opportunities to participate in Town's stormwater program



# Minimum Control Measure 3

## *Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination*

- Identify & eliminate pollution sources
- Maintain & update stormwater infrastructure mapping



# Minimum Control Measure 4

## *Construction Site Runoff Control*

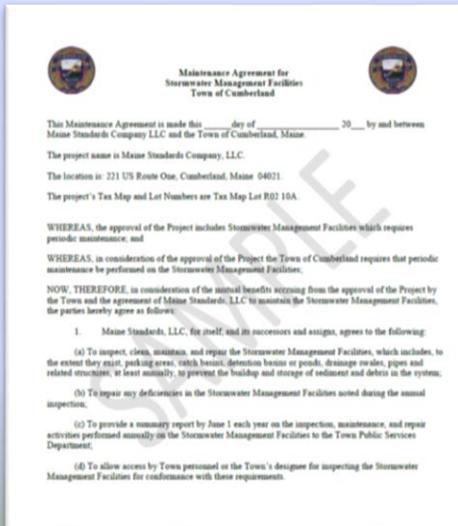
- Ensure that public & private construction projects do not impact local water resources



# Minimum Control Measure 5

## *Post-construction Stormwater Management*

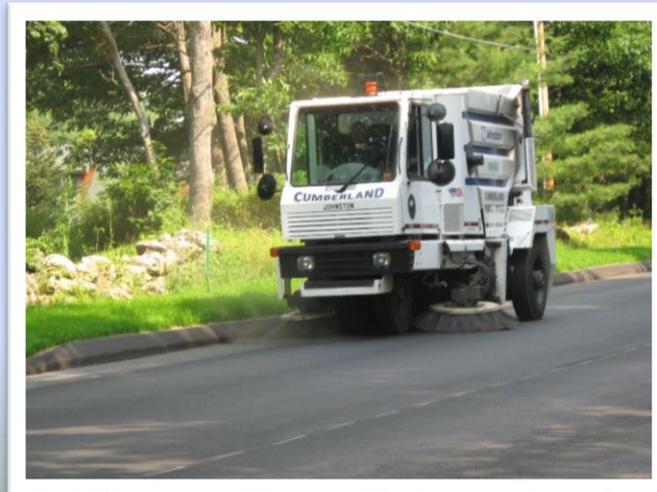
- Implement ordinances that promote the use of practices to reduce impacts on local water resources from new or redevelopment projects
- Ensure newly installed systems are maintained.



# Minimum Control Measure 6

## *Good Housekeeping & Pollution Prevention*

- Prevent pollution from municipal operations, facilities & activities
- Educate municipal staff about practices to reduce polluted runoff



# Recordkeeping & Reporting

- Comprehensive records documenting compliance with all permit requirements must be retained.
- Detailed reports describing stormwater program activities must be submitted to DEP annually.



# Stormwater Program Audits

- **Clean Water Act permit compliance**
  - Conducted by EPA and/or DEP
  - Completed in several Maine communities
  - Cumberland scheduled in May 2016???
  
- **All regulated municipalities can anticipate being audited by 2018**



# Common Deficiencies

- **MCM3: Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination**

- Clear procedures and follow up

## MCMs 4 & 5: Stormwater Management During & After

### **CRITICAL NEED TO IMPROVE INTERDEPARTMENTAL**

- Site inspections during construction

### **COMMUNICATION & COLLABORATION FOR**

### **SHARED PERMIT COMPLIANCE RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs)

- Staff training & standard operating procedures / work practices

- **ALL:** Documentation of required activities

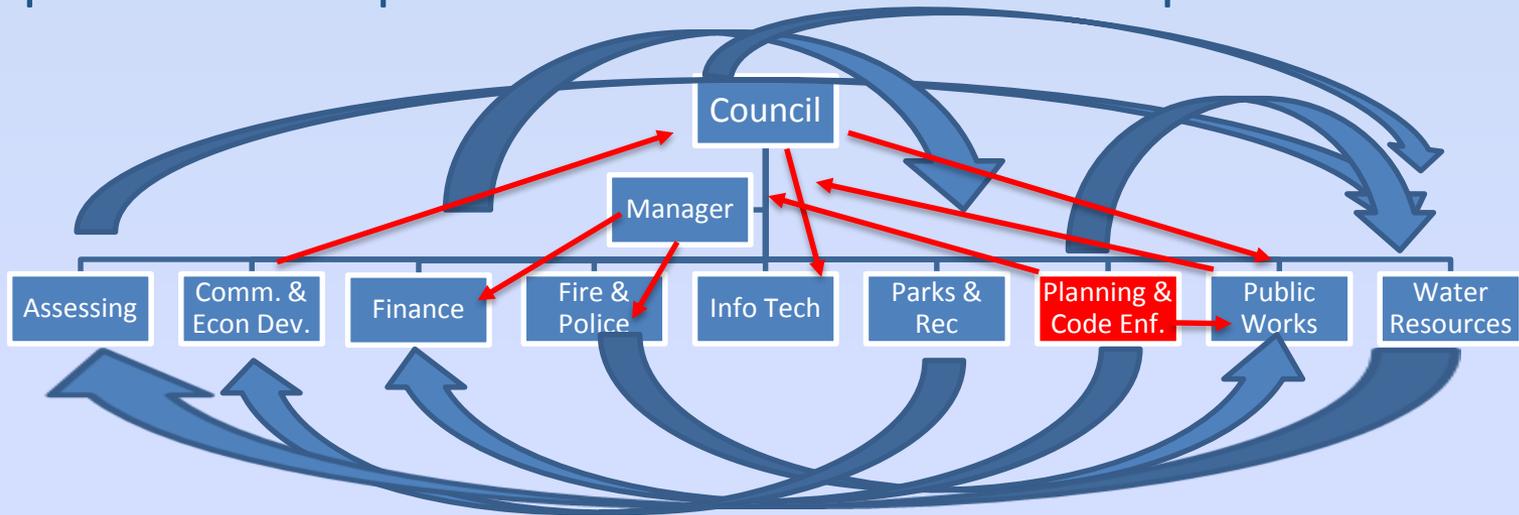


# Compliance vs. Noncompliance

- **Audited communities in Maine**
  - Spending \$1,000s on audit preparation
  - Paying \$10,000s in legal and consulting fees
- **Non compliance can result in:**
  - Fines up to \$25,000 per day, per violation
  - More rigorous CWA requirements
  - Adverse impacts to the environment & public health

# Interdepartmental Coordination is Key

Need to work outside the box to collectively meet permit requirements & promote local water resource protection efforts



Permit affects most aspects of local government and highlights *importance of interdepartmental collaboration for shared compliance responsibilities*

# Questions / Discussion

