A. Regulatory Requirements

As required by Section 402 of the Clean Water Act, The Illinois Department of Transportation is required to obtain National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for activities that result in point and nonpoint pollution. These permits are issued by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA).

For highway projects, IDOT is required to obtain the ILR10 General Storm Water Permit for Construction and the ILR40 General Storm Water Permit for Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4). For IDOT, the ILR40 permit covers the entire state.

Requirements for each permit are described below:

ILR10 permit:

The ILR10 permit is obtained through submittal of a Notice of Intent (NOI) which includes both a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP) for any project that disturbs an acre or more of land.

Guidance to comply with the ILR10 permit occurs in various policies, forms, and manuals discussed in Section B.

ILR40 permit

The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System's (NPDES) final regulation was promulgated on December 8, 1999. However, since March 1, 2003 IDOT has been required to submit a NOI to the IEPA for 5-year coverage under the Phase II NPDES Permit for Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) operators.

IDOT’s permit covers state and interstate highways (including Right-of-Way), bridges, maintenance facilities, service areas, and rest areas.

The main focus of this permit are the six Minimum Control Measures:

1. Public Education and Outreach
2. Public Involvement and Participation
3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
4. Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control
5. Post-Construction Storm Water Management in Development and Redevelopment
6. Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping
One major component of this permit is the submittal of an Annual Report discussing how the above six minimum control measures are implemented. A copy of which is uploaded to the IDOT Stormwater webpage.

B. Policies, Forms, and Manuals

To implement NPDES permit requirements, IDOT utilizes a variety of policies, forms, and manuals that describe Stormwater Management activities and programs for the planning, design, implementation, and maintenance stages of highway development and management. These policies and manual are reviewed by the Department’s Stormwater Committee which includes a diverse membership of IDOT staff and other state agencies such as the IEPA.

Policies:

D&E 23: Erosion and Sediment Control Training

This policy establishes an erosion and sediment control training program conducted through the Illinois Center for Transportation (ICT) that conducts the following courses which are taken by IDOT staff and its consultants:

- Module I: Fundamentals of Storm Water Pollution and Erosion and Sediment Control
- Module II: Erosion and Sediment Control Planning and Design

Forms:

BDE 2342: Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan

BDE 2342a Contractor Certification Statement

BC 2259: Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan Erosion Control Inspection Report

Manuals:

Illinois Bureau of Design and Environment Manual

Illinois Construction Manual

Erosion and Sediment Control Field Guide for Construction

Maintenance Policy Manual

Standard Specification for Road and Bridge Construction

C. IDOT’s Relationship with Municipalities

An important purpose of the IDOT SWMP is to ensure that those who direct and perform activities that may affect the quality of storm water system discharges are aware of their respective roles and responsibilities. IDOT currently relies on the Illinois Road and Bridge Laws to administer maintenance responsibilities for highway drainage systems within municipalities. The federal regulations encourage partnerships among MS4s in meeting the intent of the Clean Water Act
Phase II regulations. Numerous IDOT and municipal personnel are involved in daily activities that may impact storm water quality. It is the intention of the IDOT SWMP to coordinate activities within municipalities. Current municipal agreements may need to be updated to reflect any shared responsibilities under the permit requirements.

IDOT has taken this approach as discharges from IDOT’s MS4s flow to MS4s owned or operated by municipalities (cities or counties) and vice versa. The IDOT and/or municipalities are ultimately responsible for the quality of the discharges from their MS4s. IDOT will make the commitment to ensure pollutants are reduced or controlled in discharges from the IDOT MS4 into municipal systems to the maximum extent practicable. Coordination will be accomplished through formal and informal discussions, meetings, agreements, and procedures for any joint municipal program.

IDOT’s objective is to incorporate BMPs identified in this SWMP and any updated SWMPs into IDOT’s general manuals, policies, and procedures. This allows IDOT the flexibility to make necessary modifications to expand or improve upon detailed procedures within the framework of the SWMP.

D.  Best Management Practices Overall Strategy

Best Management Practices (BMPs) were developed and selected based upon the requirements of the NPDES permits, reviewed, and approved by IDOT officials for cost effectiveness, operation and maintenance needs, and applicability to IDOT activities and facilities. IDOT also oversees research of BMPs to ensure the latest products that meet our needs are used during and after construction.

For the ILR10 permit, BMPs can be placed into two categories; structural and non-structural that are designed to either control erosion or sedimentation and may include:

- Vegetated swales or ditches
- Catch Basin Inlet Devices
- Temporary Seeding /Mulching
- Ditch checks
- Perimeter Barriers
- Detention Basins

For the ILR40 permit, BMPs can be found for each of the six Minimum Control Measures and may include:

- Employee Training
- Litter Control Programs
- Street Sweeping
- Ditch Cleaning
- Detection/Monitoring of Illicit Discharge to Storm drains
- Brochures/Pamphlets