



Administrative Policies and Procedures

Executive Orders, Policies & Procedures

<p>Title</p> <p>Executive Order for Implementing the County's Stormwater Management Program and for Compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase I Municipal Stormwater Permit</p>	<p>Document Code No.</p> <p>PUT-8-19-2-EO</p>
<p>Department/Issuing Agency</p> <p>Department of Natural Resources and Parks</p> <p>Approved</p>	<p>Effective Date</p> <p>July 24, 2025</p>

Signed by:

John Taylor

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This Order requires and empowers King County Departments to collaborate and coordinate on managing stormwater runoff and the implementation of the County's programs for maintaining compliance with the NPDES Phase I Municipal Stormwater Permit.

WHEREAS, Stormwater runoff is the largest source of pollution to Puget Sound.

WHEREAS, Water quality treatment and substantial methodologies for flow control were not applied in King County until 1990. By the time these mitigation efforts were applied to new development there were already 1.5 million people living in King County.

WHEREAS, King County agencies are working together and in partnership with cities, counties, tribes, and non-profits to address the estimated 118 billion gallons of untreated stormwater runoff from all of King County polluting the Puget Sound ecosystem;

WHEREAS, the 2020 – 2025 Clean Water Healthy Habitat (CWHH) Strategic Plan established the following goals for cleaner controlled stormwater runoff:

- When stormwater runoff enters water bodies and groundwater, it is without excessive contaminants, pathogens, or nutrients. Water levels and stream flows are healthy for fish and aquatic life.
- Waters that provide swimming, fishing, and shell fishing opportunities and/or drinking water are clean, healthy, and accessible.
- All lives, homes, and properties are protected from stormwater-related flooding and other damages. King County has taken targeted action to ensure water bodies that are in or important to predominantly BIPOC communities reach these goals promptly and thoroughly.

WHEREAS, the 2025-2030 Strategic Climate Action Plan established the following goals:

- Maximize the efficiency and capacity of existing stormwater infrastructure.
- Build climate resilient county stormwater infrastructure.
- Develop implementation pathways for accelerating green stormwater infrastructure.
- Seek opportunities for innovative, multi-benefit stormwater solutions.

WHEREAS, advancing CWHH and SCAP goals requires greater communication and accountability between King County agencies to integrate actions, capital planning, and monitoring across King County to ensure these long-term goals are met;

WHEREAS, King County is the owner and operator of a municipal separate storm sewer system that is regulated under Phase I of the Clean Water Act's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

(NPDES) through a municipal stormwater permit (municipal permit) issued by the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology).

WHEREAS, King County has an obligation to comply with the NPDES Phase I Municipal Stormwater Permit and effectively manage stormwater impacts to King County's wetlands, streams, rivers, lakes, and Puget Sound;

WHEREAS, King County is fully committed to complying with the municipal permit as part of its effort to contribute to the protection and restoration of the Puget Sound ecosystem;

WHEREAS, every King County agency responsible for implementing compliance activities has an important contribution to make in improving the quantity or quality of stormwater runoff so that the region may realize its goals of a resilient Puget Sound ecosystem;

WHEREAS, the municipal permit requires either written agreements among branches of regulated municipalities or an executive order to facilitate compliance with the municipal permit and stormwater management partnerships;

WHEREAS, the municipal permit requires contributions from agencies responsible for implementing compliance activities to provide written documentation of King County's compliance programs and activities and annual reporting to Ecology; and

WHEREAS, the Clean Water Act provides for significant fines and penalties for failure to meet compliance requirements within NPDES permits;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Shannon Braddock, King County Executive (Executive) do hereby order and direct all King County (the "County") departments to implement the following policies and procedures to seek opportunities for managing untreated stormwater and ensure the County's full compliance with its municipal permit toward protection and restoration of Puget Sound:

- 1) The Water and Land Resources Division shall be responsible for coordinating the County's municipal permit compliance activities and shall designate a municipal permit coordinator (the coordinator).
- 2) Each department, division, section, or workgroup (agency) engaging in any activities or programs that the coordinator determines may be subject to, or could support, compliance with the municipal permit is expected to comply with municipal permit requirements.
- 3) Each agency shall annually submit a report describing how they are coordinating with Water and Land Resources Division (WLRD) to identify and pursue retrofit opportunities for compliance with SMED requirements.
- 4) Management of each agency subject to the municipal permit shall designate a municipal permit lead.
- 5) Coordination framework and expectations:
 - a. Agency management shall be proficient in municipal permit requirements that are applicable to their agency.
 - b. Agency management shall establish methods for funding and staffing to meet municipal permit requirements. Agencies shall track the cost or estimated cost of

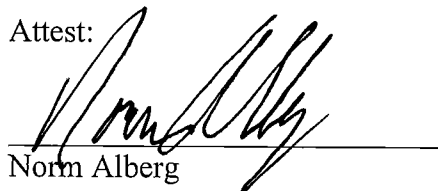
- development and implementation of each component of the stormwater management program (SWMP) plan, and this information shall be provided to the coordinator annually for reporting to Ecology.
- c. Agency management and municipal permit leads shall coordinate to implement stormwater runoff projects, King County stormwater initiatives and compliance activities. Municipal permit leads shall collaborate regularly with agency management on the status of applicable stormwater management activities.
 - d. The coordinator, in collaboration with municipal permit leads, shall develop county-wide protocols needed to achieve compliance with specific municipal permit requirements. Affected agencies shall implement and adhere to these protocols.
 - e. The coordinator, in collaboration with municipal permit leads, shall prepare and provide submittals to Ecology to comply with municipal permit requirements. Submittals include, but are not limited to, annual reports, SWMP plans, compliance reports and other submittals as required by Ecology.
 - f. To facilitate retrofit opportunities, each agency shall consult with WLRD to identify opportunities to incorporate municipal permit retrofit goals into 6-year capital project planning and delivery.
 - g. Municipal permit leads shall consult with the coordinator to assess their agency's pertinent policies and standards and remove barriers for improving stormwater management.
 - h. The coordinator shall indicate the timeline for any request for information related to stormwater management activities and may extend the timeline at the request of the municipal permit lead if there is flexibility to do so.
 - i. The coordinator shall regularly communicate with municipal permit leads, Water and Land Resources Division and other agency management about municipal permit requirements, the SWMP, and the status of the County's compliance.
- 6) Any coordinator responsibilities listed above may be delegated to appropriate staff, but the coordinator shall retain accountability to the Director of the Water and Land Resources Division.
 - 7) Signature authority for all documents related to the municipal permit that require an official signature shall reside with the Director of the Water and Land Resources Division, with the exception of signature authority for the annual report, which shall reside with the Director of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, or an appropriate designee.
 - 8) This order shall supersede executive order PUT 8-19-1 (AEO) of June 20, 2014.
 - 9) These policies and procedures shall apply to any municipal stormwater permits under which the County is regulated.

Dated this 24 day of July, 2025.



Shannon Braddock
King County Executive

Attest:



Norm Alberg
Records and Licensing Services