

# CITY OF ELLensburg



## Stormwater Management Plan

2024/2025

Written by  
Jon Morrow and Erin McGowan

## Table of Contents

- A. Introduction**
- B. S5 – Stormwater Management Program Components**
  - 1. Public Education and Outreach**
    - a. Ellensburg Water Quality Grant Program: Ongoing
    - b. Earth Day Activities: 2024/2025
    - c. Arbor Day Tree Giveaway: 2024/2025
    - d. Interlocal Agreement Franklin County Conservation District (Drain Rangers): Ongoing
    - e. Touch-A-Truck & Drain Rangers: 2024/2025
    - f. KEEN E3 Fair: 2024/2025
    - g. Storm Drain Markers: 2024
    - h. Pet Relief Stations and Pet Waste Fliers: 2024/2025
  - 2. Public Involvement and Participation**
    - a. Utility Advisory Committee (UAC)
    - b. Environmental Commission
    - c. Annexations
    - d. Administrative Hearing (Public Works Development Standards Update)
  - 3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)**
    - a. Legal Authority to Prohibit Discharge
    - b. Stormwater Utility Map Updates
    - c. Spill Reporting and Tracking
    - d. Outfall Inspection Program
    - e. Catch Basin IDDE Inspections & Cleaning Program
    - f. Bacteria Monitoring
    - g. ORP, Temperature, and pH Monitoring
  - 4. Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control**
    - a. Regulatory Erosion, Sediment, and Pollution Mechanisms
    - b. Development/Redevelopment Plan Review
    - c. Construction Site Inspections and Enforcement
    - d. Internal Staff Training
    - e. Construction Site Operator Outreach
  - 5. Post-Construction Stormwater Management for New Development and Re-Development**
    - a. Regulatory Post-Construction Stormwater Management Mechanisms
    - b. Low Impact Design (LID) and Site Design
    - c. Stormwater Treatment and Flow Control

## Table of Contents - Continued

- d. Plan Review and Approval
- e. Post-Construction Inspections and Maintenance
- f. Post-Construction Record Keeping

### **6. Operation and Maintenance**

- a. Operations and Maintenance Plan
- b. City Shop Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)
- c. Ecology's 2024 City Shop Inspection
- d. Street Sweeping Program

### **C. S7 – Compliance with Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Requirements**

- 1. Public Education and Outreach
  - a. Pet Waste Program
  - b. Feeding Waterfowl Program
- 2. Enhanced IDDE Program in Wilson Creek

### **D. S8 – Monitoring and Assessment**

- 1. Tree Canopy for Stormwater Management
- 2. Payments into the Stormwater Action Monitoring Collective Fund

### **E. Achievements and Planned Activities**

- 1. Gateway II Stormwater Retrofit Project Update: WQC-2020 EllePW-00053
- 2. Reecer/Currier Flood Project
- 3. FCAAP FbD Storm System Modeling Grant from Ecology
- 4. FbD Land Acquisition Grant from Ecology
- 5. Stormwater GPSing – Capacity Grant
- 6. 2024 Washington Department of Natural Resources Community Forestry Assistance Grant

### **Appendices: Stormwater Utility Budget**

## **A. Introduction**

On January 17, 2007, the City of Ellensburg was issued an Eastern Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit. In compliance with the provisions of the State of Washington Water Pollution Control Law, Chapter, 90.48 Revised Code of Washington, and The Federal Water Pollution Control Act (The Clean Water Act), the City formed the Stormwater Utility in 2009.

The City of Ellensburg adopted ordinances, created utility fees, and hired the necessary staff to develop and implement programs aimed at complying with the permit. Those programs and projects are captured each year in the annual report to Ecology and Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP).

In addition to the NPDES Permit requirements, the City wrote its own Stormwater Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Plan in 2010 and updated it in 2017. The plan was recently updated in 2022. The City trained all field staff from all departments on Best Management Practices and pollution prevention from 2010 to current. A copy of the 2022 O&M Plan is provided in the O&M section of this management plan.

The City of Ellensburg maintains approximately 2,503 catch basins and 346 manholes in the public right of way. The public storm system is comprised of 49.16 miles of underground pipe. The system discharges to approximately 90 outfalls in local streams. In addition, most of the newer parts of town infiltrate stormwater in bio-retention facilities (swales). The City's public storm system also receives runoff from private property, but not in all locations.

The SWMP outlines specific programs and projects aimed at improving water quality throughout the City. Public outreach/education, illicit discharge elimination, construction/post-construction runoff controls, public participation, operation maintenance, and LID stormwater retrofit projects are covered in detail with this plan.

## **B. S5 – Stormwater Management Program Components**

### **1. Public Education and Outreach**

The City's Public Education and Outreach Program is designed to increase awareness of stormwater pollution, encourage behaviors that minimize pollutants in runoff, and engage the community through educational events, hands-on activities, and volunteer opportunities. These activities help protect local creeks and enhance environmental stewardship. The following events, initiatives, and programs support this effort.

#### **a. Ellensburg Water Quality Grant Program: Ongoing**

In 2015, the City Council approved a grant program whereby stormwater utility funds are used to improve the health of local streams and the environment. Applicants who can demonstrate water quality health improvements within the city limits are encouraged to apply annually. Grant applications are scored and ranked by the Environmental Commission and those applicants that meet the funding guidelines are awarded. The utility awards up to \$10,000 annually out of the stormwater budget.

In 2024 the Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group (MCFEG) was awarded grant funding from the City's Stormwater Utility to continue the operation of the Adopt-A-Stream program, backyard stream protection program, and a water in the classroom education program. Volunteer groups from the community planted trees and removed trash from local streams. The Ellensburg Stormwater Utility is happy to help fund this necessary program.



Mid Columbia's 2024 year-end report utilizing Ellensburg's grant funds is the link below.

[COE Final Report\\_1\\_7\\_2025.docx](#)

### b. Earth Day Activities: 2024/2025

2024 Earth Day Activities were held on April 20<sup>th</sup> at Irene Rinehart Park from 9 am to 12 pm. The Stormwater Utility partnered with the Parks Department and Central Washington University's Student Leadership, Involvement and Community Engagement (SLICE) volunteers, to plant native plants and trees along the park trail. The volunteers also picked up trash and pet waste that had accumulated over winter. SLICE integrates education into the volunteer experience, enabling staff to educate volunteers about native plants in the riparian zone and highlight the impact of trash and pet waste on stormwater and the broader environment. **This event was well received by both staff and volunteers, leading the Stormwater Utility to partner with the Parks Department and SLICE again in 2025. The Earth Day volunteer event is scheduled for April 12th at Irene Rinehart Park from 9 am to 12 pm. This year, the project is expanding to include restorative planting in two areas of the park that were affected by fires in 2024.**



### c. Arbor Day Tree Giveaway: **New 2024/2025**

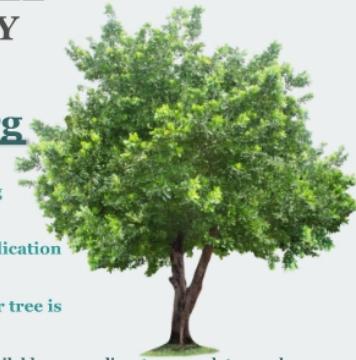
Since 1982, the City of Ellensburg has offered an annual Street Tree Giveaway each April, traditionally funding tree planting in the City right-of-way through the Street Department. In 2024, using the City's new Urban Tree Canopy Assessment and Sustainability & Energy Plan, the Stormwater Utility expanded the program to include residential properties. Last year, the program provided 10 street trees and 13 residential trees, which help manage stormwater by reducing runoff, improving rainfall interception, and mitigating flooding. These trees also improve air quality and contribute to overall environmental health. **With a \$10,000 budget from the Stormwater Utility, the expanded program will continue in 2025, aiming to increase community participation in its second year.**

## 2024 ARBOR DAY

### STREET TREE GIVEAWAY

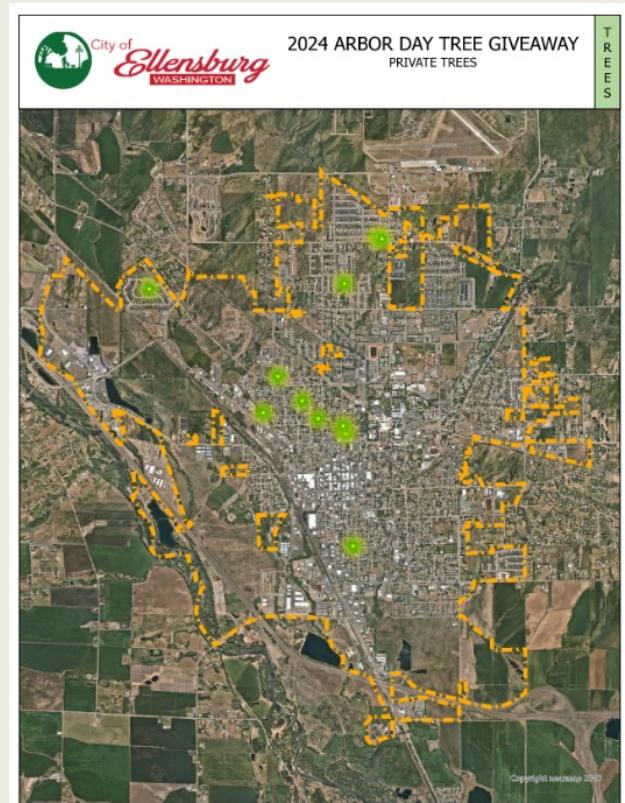
#### City of Ellensburg

- Pick up an application from City Hall, starting [April 8th](#).
- Please return your application by [April 24th](#).
- Last day to pick up your tree is [May 2nd](#).



One Arbor Day Tree is available per applicant; corner lots may be eligible for two trees, depending on demand. City Staff will approve the tree species and planting location of trees within the right-of-way. If there is not space available in the right-of-way to plant a tree, a limited number of trees are available for planting on private property.

Please contact the Public Works & Utility office at (509) 962-7230 for more information.



#### **d. Interlocal Agreement Franklin County Conservation District (Drain Rangers) Ongoing**

In 2024 the City renewed the Interlocal Agreement with Franklin County Conservation District and the Drain Rangers program. The Drain Rangers program focuses on educating students about stormwater runoff and its environmental impacts. Through hands-on lessons and interactive models like the EnviroScape, the curriculum teaches students about water pollution, engineering solutions, and watershed management. It equips them with problem-solving and communication skills to address stormwater issues, preparing them to make informed decisions that protect water quality. The program targets elementary students, with lessons aligned with Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards.

**Below is the progress report from Drain Rangers for 2024.**

<b>City of Ellensburg Jr. Drain Rangers, Drain Rangers &amp; Wheat Week Report July – December 2024</b>			
<b>Jr. Drain Rangers</b>	<b># Students</b>	<b># Teachers</b>	<b># of Lessons</b>
<b>Ellensburg</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>
Ellensburg Christian School	39	3	3
Ida Nason Aronica Elementary	60	3	3
<b>Kittitas</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>
Kittitas Elementary	104	6	6
<b>Thorp</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>
Thorp School	75	7	4
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Drain Rangers</b>	<b># Students</b>	<b># Teachers</b>	<b># of Lessons</b>
<b>Ellensburg</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>
Ellensburg Christian School	22	1	1
Lincoln Elementary	58	3	3
Valley View Elementary	113	9	6
<b>Thorp</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>
Thorp School	46	3	2
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Wheat Week</b>	<b># Students</b>	<b># Teachers</b>	<b># Weeks</b>
<b>Ellensburg</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Ellensburg Christian School	16	1	1
<b>Thorp</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Thorp School	22	1	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Drain Rangers Virtual Teacher Workshops:</b>			
October 21 – 3 Teachers			
December 11 – 7 Teachers			
<b>Total students taught between July and December 2024: 555</b>			
<b>Total teachers taught between July and December 2024: 37</b>			

e. **Touch-A-Truck & Drain Rangers: 2024/2025 Ongoing**

Each year, the City hosts the popular Touch-A-Truck event, which has seen significant growth over the past decade. In 2024, the event took place on Tuesday, June 18th, right after school let out for the year. Drain Rangers partnered with staff at the Stormwater booth to teach kids the importance of putting "only rainwater down the drain." They also distributed free car wash coupons and educated parents on how washing cars in proper locations helps prevent wash water from entering the storm system. The City's Stormwater Utility featured the interactive EnviroScape to demonstrate how water pollution and runoff occur, and their impact on the stormwater system and surrounding watershed. Additionally, the utility showcased the new street sweeper and a vactor truck, giving kids a chance to learn how these vehicles help protect water quality. The Stormwater Utility will once again partner with Drain Rangers for a booth at the event in 2025.



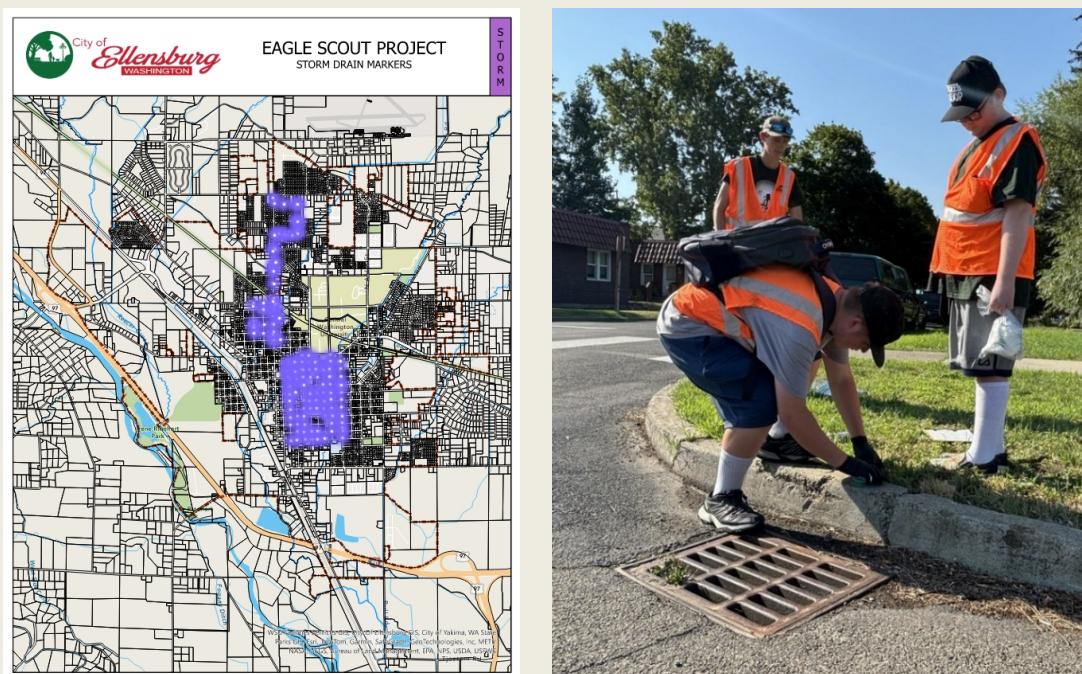
#### f. KEEN E3 Fair: 2024

The Stormwater Utility had a booth at the 2024 KEEN E3 Fair on Saturday, January 27th, focusing on the Gateway 1 and Gateway 2 stormwater retrofit projects. While the Stormwater Utility was eager to participate again in 2025, the event organizers have unfortunately decided to retire the fair after 13 years.



#### g. Storm Drain Markers: 2024 New

An Eagle Scout candidate approached the Stormwater Utility with a proposal to organize a Storm Drain Marker project. With the help of several troop members, they marked 247 previously unmarked drains and created a GIS map documenting all the catch basins their project marked. At the project's conclusion, they presented their work to the City Council. Stormwater staff provided safety training, instructions, and all necessary materials to support the effort.



#### **h. Pet Relief Stations and Pet Waste Fliers: 2024/2025 New**

In 2024, the Ellensburg Downtown Association (EDA) developed a new flyer to promote its downtown pet relief station. These stations play a vital role in protecting water quality by reducing pet waste pollution in stormwater runoff. The Stormwater Utility provides funding for the pet waste bags available at each location. By encouraging proper waste disposal, the pet relief stations help prevent contamination, keeping public spaces and water sources clean. **The Stormwater Utility has also been working with a consultant to update our pet waste outreach materials. The new content will be designed for flyers and social media and will be available in both English and Spanish. We plan to begin using the updated materials and launching social media campaigns in 2025.**



**Pet Relief Station**

**LOCATION: CORNER OF PINE ST. AND 4TH AVE**  
A designated doggy area has been constructed within one of downtown Ellensburg's nodes! This is the first of many to come, and we encourage you to bring your dog-o down to check it out.

**A Pet Relief Station Means:**

- Your pet has a designated spot to relieve themselves
- Access to waste removal baggies near the trash can
- Other downtown nodes do not become filled with pet waste
- Instead of grass or dirt, the ground is covered with synthetic grass or turf

**IT'S A WIN FOR YOUR PET, AND A WIN FOR OUR DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY!**  
Enjoy this station, courtesy of the City of Ellensburg and Ellensburg Downtown Association.

 **ELLENBURG DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION**  
109 E. 3rd Ave., Suite 1 | 509-962-6246 | [director@ellensburgdowntown.org](mailto:director@ellensburgdowntown.org)

## 2. Public Involvement and Participation

The City encourages public participation in its stormwater program by providing opportunities to give input on utility program development, the NPDES permit, volunteer initiatives, and other related topics. Residents can use the City's stormwater webpage to report issues, share concerns, and stay informed about upcoming events. For inquiries, feedback, or volunteer opportunities, the Stormwater Utility Manager can be reached at 509-925-8619.

### a. Utility Advisory Committee (UAC)

The City of Ellensburg Utility Advisory Committee (UAC) meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month from 3:30-5pm at City Hall and these meetings are open to the public. All committee meetings have stormwater agenda items and will remain to do so in the future. This plan goes before the UAC for public approval and is recommended by the UAC for City Council approval. Most items like SWMP, O&M, grants/projects and ordinances always are presented at the UAC first, then to City Council for authorization and public comment.

### b. Environmental Commission

On the third Wednesday of each month, the City of Ellensburg's Environmental Commission holds its public meeting at 5:15 pm, at 501 North Anderson Street (City Hall). The meeting is open to the public. From time to time, the agenda will have stormwater items requiring SEPA that is reviewed by the committee.

### c. Annexations

One annexation occurred in 2024. Annexation 4941, and the attached ordinance is below.

ORDINANCE NO. 4941

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELLensburg, WASHINGTON ANNEXING PARCELS 166133, 118133, 118836, 278836, 108836, 288133, 850836, 278133, 919333, and 639333 TO THE CITY OF ELLensburg, WASHINGTON, ASSIGNING COMMERCIAL HIGHWAY ZONING CLASSIFICATION TO PARCELS 919333 AND 639333 AND LIGHT INDUSTRIAL ZONING TO THE REMAINING PARCELS, PROVIDING FOR THE PROPORTIONAL ASSUMPTION OF EXISTING CITY INDEBTEDNESS AND FIXING A TIME WHEN THE SAME SHALL BE EFFECTIVE.

WHEREAS, on January 24, 2024, the City of Ellensburg, Washington received a notice of intention to commence annexation proceedings pursuant to the "direct petition" method of RCW 35A.14.120 for parcels 166133, 118133, 118836, 278836, 108836, 288133, 850836, and 278133, as more fully described in Section 1 of this Ordinance and depicted in Exhibit A, attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, to eliminate an adjacent unincorporated island within the City of Ellensburg's Urban Growth Area, Community Development Staff added two (2) adjacent parcels to the proposal. These parcel numbers include 919333 and 639333; and

WHEREAS, on February 5, 2024, the City Council of the City of Ellensburg, Washington held a public meeting with the annexation initiators pursuant to RCW 35A.14.120 and determined that the initiators could proceed to acquire a 60% petition for annexation pursuant to RCW 35A.14.120; and

WHEREAS, at its February 5, 2024, public meeting, the City Council set the annexation area by adding two (2) additional parcels, 919333 and 639333 to the annexation area to eliminate an adjacent unincorporated island with the City's Urban Growth Area (UGA); and

WHEREAS, City Council further determined at the February 5, 2024, meeting that the two (2) added parcels, 919333 and 639333, would receive a Commercial Highway zoning designation, the remaining eight (8) parcels subject to annexation would be zoned Light Industrial, and all ten (10) parcels would assume the annexation area's proportional share of City indebtedness; and

WHEREAS, the owners of not less than 60% in value, according to the assessed valuation for general taxation of the property hereinafter described, signed the petition pursuant to RCW 35A.14.120 for the annexation of said area to the City of Ellensburg, Washington; and

WHEREAS, the petition for annexation was certified as sufficient by the Kittitas County Assessor, on February 23, 2024. City staff determined that the petition signatures have a combined total assessed value for general taxation of not less than 60% of the total assessed value for general taxation of all property in the proposed annexation area, in compliance with RCW 35A.01.040;

Calaway Annexation P23-130 (Second Reading) Ordinance 4941 – Ellensburg City Council 05/06/2024

Annexation Expanded Boundary Map

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#### **d. Administrative Hearing (Public Works Development Standards Update)**

In 2025, the Stormwater Standards and Details will be updated as part of a broader revision to the Public Works Development Standards. These updates will incorporate links to the 2024 Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington (SWMMEW), clarify and strengthen requirements for geotechnical assessments and reporting, and mandate the use of Low Impact Development (LID) design practices where feasible. The proposed updates will be presented to the Utility Advisory Committee (UAC) and City Council for approval and public comment. Additionally, an administrative hearing will be required, providing the public with another opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the Stormwater Standards and Details.

### **3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)**

The 2024 Phase II Eastern Washington Municipal Stormwater Permit requires municipalities to establish legal authority to prohibit illicit discharges, maintain an updated MS4 map, and implement procedures for detecting, investigating, and eliminating unauthorized discharges. Staff training, public education, and community reporting are essential components of the program. Additionally, all IDDE activities must be documented, with annual reports submitted to the Washington State Department of Ecology to ensure compliance and protect water quality.

#### **a. Legal Authority to Prohibit Discharge**

A link is provided to the City's Municipal Code, which outlines prohibited discharges (Section 9.25.320), allowable discharges (Section 9.25.322), conditional discharges (Section 9.25.324), and prohibited illicit connections to the storm drainage system (Section 9.25.326).

[https://library.municode.com/wa/ellensburg/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=TIT9UT\\_CH9.25REREUTSE\\_9.25.320PRDISTSE](https://library.municode.com/wa/ellensburg/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIT9UT_CH9.25REREUTSE_9.25.320PRDISTSE)

The City implements an escalating enforcement procedure in accordance with Ordinance 4717, Chapter 1.80 of the Civil Violations and Penalties section of the City Code. This ordinance enables the City to enforce water quality and other stormwater regulations beyond an initial educational correction notice. The code applies to Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE), Post-Construction, and Construction compliance.

#### **b. Stormwater Utility Map Updates**

All permitted and documented modifications to stormwater infrastructure are tracked and mapped for both public and private stormwater systems that connect to or overflow into the MS4. Newly installed infrastructure is incorporated into inspection lists and schedules to ensure proper maintenance and compliance. Private stormwater systems that do not connect to the MS4 are also mapped. Mapping is conducted as needed and upon project completion. The maps are maintained in ESRI GIS and are accessible to staff and field crews through ESRI Field Maps and ArcGIS Online (AGOL).

### **c. Spill Reporting and Tracking**

Stormwater complaints, drainage concerns, spills, flooding, and other water quality issues are documented and tracked in a spreadsheet. The Stormwater Utility operates on a complaint driven basis, enforcing storm drainage regulations by thoroughly investigating and addressing all reported issues until compliance is achieved or the matter is resolved. While public complaints remain anonymous, they are classified as public records.

A significant portion of reported spills originates from City crews, emphasizing the importance of internal monitoring and rapid response. Complaints involving violations of state water quality standards are reported to the Washington State Department of Ecology through the Environmental Reporting Tracking System (ERTS) and Portal.

To facilitate timely reporting and response, the City maintains a 24-hour spill response hotline. Residents can report spills by calling (509) 962-7230 during regular business hours or (509) 925-8534 after hours.

Additional information is available at <https://ci.ellensburg.wa.us/738/Stormwater-Division>



### **d. Outfall Inspection Program: 2024/2025**

Annually, the City performs outfall screenings during the dry season and following rain events that exceed the 10-year, 24-hour storm threshold. In 2024, no recorded storm events surpassed this threshold, thus

no spot checks were necessary. The City conducted mapping of all outfalls to local streams in 2010 and again in 2013. There are approximately 90 discharge points (outfalls) within the 49.16-mile underground system. The following provides a breakdown of the underground pipe/outfall sizes (in inches of diameter) and the corresponding quantities of each pipe type within the system.

**Pipe/culvert size diameter on the top row and the number of pipes/culverts that match that size on the bottom row.**

48"	42"	36"	30"	24"	18"	16"	12"	10"	8"	6"	4"
15	6	3	4	82	129	137	1013	136	947	354	30



Below is the 2024 inventory of storm pipes that indicates the pipe make, type, length etc.

Dia.	Storm Pipe Inventory												Total Feet	Total Miles	% Total
	CI	DI	CMP	HDPE	PVC	AC	CONC	TRUSS	VC	STL	OJ	UNK			
4"			8	189	116		175			60		324	871	0.17	0.34%
6"	83	22	3022	1094	3715	246	8478	75	217		953	409	18,314	3.47	7.06%
8"		763	7017	13548	24651	770	16445	2626	609		1981	3404	71,813	13.60	27.67%
10"			684	3254	2473		4076						10,487	1.99	4.04%
12"		2571	6839	51464	28225	355	12599	5316	143		3985	1571	113,068	21.41	43.56%
14"		39											39	0.01	0.01%
15"				10355	2314		7697						20,366	3.86	7.85%
18"		140	940	8502	1788		2771						14,141	2.68	5.45%
21"			1749		199		611						2,559	0.48	0.99%
24"			1623	2941	1117		1401						7,062	1.34	2.73%
30"		150											150	0.03	0.06%
36"							36						36	0.01	0.01%
42"				344									344	0.07	0.13%
48"			145										145	0.03	0.06%
Unknown/ Irregular			136	2									139	0.03	0.05%
Total Feet	83	3,535	22,313	91,693	64,598	1,371	54,289	8,017	970	60	6,919	5,708	259,555	49.16	100%
Total Miles	0.02	0.67	4.23	17.37	12.23	0.26	10.28	1.52	0.18	0.01	1.31	1.08			

CI = Cast Iron, DI = Ductile Iron, CMP = Corrugated Metal Pipe, HDPE = High Density Polyethylene, PVC = Polyvinyl Chloride, AC = Asbestos Concrete, CONC = Concrete, STL = Steel, ABS = Pressure Pipe, TRUSS = Thermoplastic Composite, Double-Walled Pipe, VC = Vitrified Clay, OJ = Open Joint, UNK = Unknown

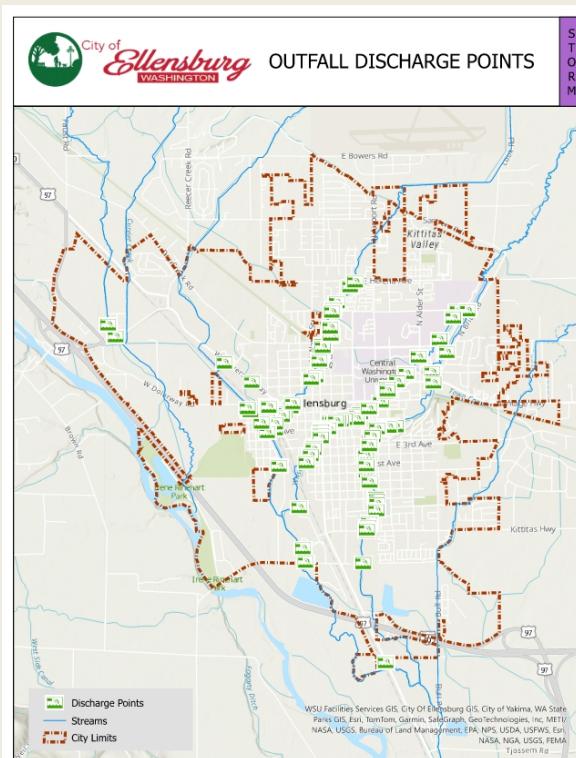
\*All pipe totals are manually entered and come from the most current GIS storm main totals. Verify totals each year as the map is updated.  
+Only SubTypes 1,3,4,7 & 8 were used starting in 2017

Updated: EM 01/15/2025

Catch Basins	2503
Manholes	346

The average underground pipe size in Ellensburg is 12 inches in diameter. An outfall is defined by 40 CFR 122.2, a point where a discharge leaves the MS4 and discharges to waters of the state.

### Below is the Outfall Discharge Points Map



Each outfall is identified by an ID number correlating with the City's GIS maps. Each outfall is screened for flow, odor, color, and any visible signs of pollution annually. Pictures were taken of every outfall. Each outfall inventoried has an NPDES dry weather field screening data form.

In 2024, City staff inspected 87 outfalls that discharge stormwater to local creeks (waters of the State).

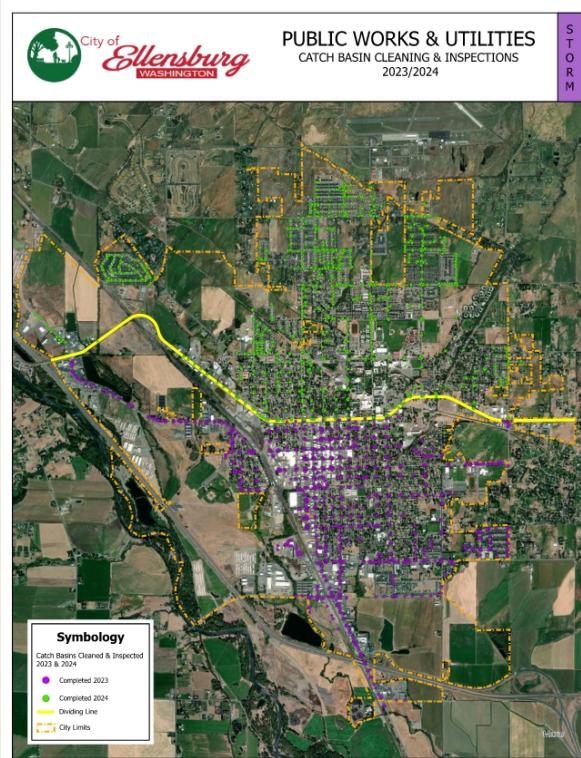
**Below is a portion of the outfall inspection spreadsheet.**

e. Catch Basin IDDE Inspections & Cleaning Program: **2024/2025**

To facilitate Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) inspections, the Stormwater Utility uses a software program powered by ESRI Field Maps. Inspection crews are equipped with tablets to document data on each inspection and cleaning activity. Before cleaning, crews conduct a comprehensive assessment of each catch basin, manhole, and pipe, evaluating inlets and outlets for flow, odor, color, sheen, staining, and the presence of floatable materials. Any visible discharge from private sources inside laterals is also documented. Following the inspection, the lines are cleaned. Structural damage, if identified, is documented in the capital facilities plan. In cases where pollution-related issues are detected, staff is notified, and a source tracing investigation is conducted to address and mitigate the problem.

City crews inspect and clean half of the town each year from April 1 to October 1. In the spring, summer, and fall of 2024, they cleaned and inspected 1,250 catch basins in the north half of town, while the south half was completed in 2023.

**Below is the 2023/2024 Catch Basin Cleaning & Inspection Map**



**f. Bacteria Monitoring: 2024/2025**

The Stormwater Utility conducts bacteria monitoring at five locations along Wilson Creek, from the northern city limits to the southern interchange. As part of the Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) programs, monitoring occurs twice weekly from March through December. A one-milliliter sample is plated using Coliscan Easygel and incubated for 24–36 hours at the Wastewater Treatment Facility to measure bacteria levels in colony-forming units per milliliter (CFU/mL).

Ellensburg began collecting data to assess bacteria loading as Wilson Creek entered the city and to determine concentrations as it exited. Early results indicated a significant dilution effect as the creek moved through town. Data collected by the Washington State Department of Ecology confirmed that most of the bacteria loading originated outside the city limits. By the time Wilson Creek reached Berry Road and Umptanum Road, concentrations had significantly decreased. In 2012, the City collaborated with the County Fairgrounds to eliminate all storm drains discharging into Wilson Creek, further reducing potential contamination sources.

Data trends continue to show higher bacteria concentrations in the northern portion of Wilson Creek, with levels decreasing as the water flows through Ellensburg. If unusually high bacteria levels are detected and cannot be attributed to factors such as low water flow or high temperatures, the utility investigates

potential sources through nearby outfalls. Since the program's implementation in 2010, several illicit discharges have been detected and eliminated.

Bacteria monitoring data is recorded in a centralized spreadsheet, documenting sample collection date, time, and bacteria levels in coliform units per 100 milliliters. While the collection and analysis method is certified for detecting coliform presence, it does not use the EPA-certified Standard Method, membrane filtration. This monitoring effort enhances the City's IDDE program by identifying and addressing potential sources of contamination.

**In 2024 staff conducted 260 tests of streams from March thru December. These tests are used to detect coliform bacteria in Wilson Creek.**

Date sample taken	Wilson @ Sanders cfu/mL	Wilson above Fairgrounds @ 8th & Alder cfu/mL	Wilson @ 5th w of Poplar cfu/mL	Wilson @ Mtn. View south side cfu/mL	Wilson @ Comfort Inn cfu/mL	Precip past 24 hrs	comments
1/8/2024	500	0	0	100	200	0	
1/10/2024	1000	0	0	0	100	0.33	
3/4/2024	2200	0	0	0	0	trace	
3/6/2024	5200	0	100	0	0	0	
3/13/2024	1000	0	100	0	0	0	
3/18/2024	1000	0	0	0	0	0	
3/20/2024	800	0	0	0	0	0	
3/26/2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	
4/1/2024	300	200	100	0	0	0	
4/3/2024	200	0	0	0	0	0	
4/16/2024	100	0	200	100	0	0	
4/17/2024	300	100	0	0	100	0	
4/23/2024	400	100	100	0	100	0.1	
4/29/2024	100	0	0	0	200	0	
5/7/2024	500	200	300	200	300	trace	
5/14/2024	200	200	300	300	0	0	
5/21/2024	0	100	200	100	100	0	
5/29/2024	100	100	0	0	0	0	
6/4/2024	700	400	200	300	100	0.05	
6/11/2024	200	600	900	300	200	0	
6/21/2024	600	200	600	600	100	0	

#### **g. ORP, Temperature, and pH Monitoring: 2024/2025**

Staff conducts weekly ORP, temperature, and pH monitoring at eight sites from March to December. This program assesses water quality in creeks by tracking pollution levels, detecting chemical and thermal changes, and evaluating potential impacts on Whisky, Wilson, and Mercer Creeks.

**In 2024, staff recorded 286 ORP, temperature, and pH measurements, a decrease from 2023 due to the mid-season failure and replacement of the ORP meter, which temporarily stopped data collection. This program will continue in 2025.**

**Below is an example of the ORP data spreadsheet.**

	Site 2 Mercer	Mercer Cr. @ RR Ave						
sample date	pH	mV	sample temp C.	Conductivity	TDS	Resist. (MΩ)	Resist. (Ω)	sample temp F.
7/10/2024	7.64	-59.9	19.4	157.2	78.5	0.006	6.00	66.9
7/16/2024	7.95	-67.7	17.8	179.6	89.5	0.005	5.00	64.0
7/18/2024	8.10	-75.3	18.3	174.2	87.1	0.006	6.00	64.9
7/22/2024	7.85	-65.4	18.4	166.0	82.9	0.006	6.00	65.1
7/24/2024	8.02	-73.0	18.4	191.2	95.7	0.005	5.00	65.1
7/29/2024	7.91	-65.3	17.0	202.7	101.0	0.005	5.00	62.6
8/1/2024	8.11	-75.6	18.2	170.0	85.0	0.006	6.00	64.8
8/19/2024	8.05	-72.6	17.7	155.6	77.9	0.006	6.00	63.9
8/21/2024	8.04	-73.3	16.2	231.7	116.0	0.004	4.00	61.2
9/4/2024	7.78	-59.5	16.3	190.4	95.2	0.005	5.00	61.3
9/12/2024	8.33	-87.0	16.8	170.7	85.4	0.006	6.00	62.2
9/16/2024	8.19	-81.0	16.0	201.9	101.0	0.005	5.00	60.8
9/23/2024	8.33	-88.0	16.0	148.5	74.3	0.007	7.00	60.8
9/24/2024	8.16	-78.3	16.3	149.1	74.6	0.007	7.00	61.3
10/1/2024	8.19	-80.1	13.5	155.1	77.6	0.006	6.00	56.3

#### **4. Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control**

The City has established a program to minimize pollutants in stormwater runoff from construction activities and projects before they enter the MS4. This program applies to both public and private developments, including City led projects. The following section outlines the City's ongoing efforts to ensure thorough project review, inspections, and compliance with stormwater regulations.

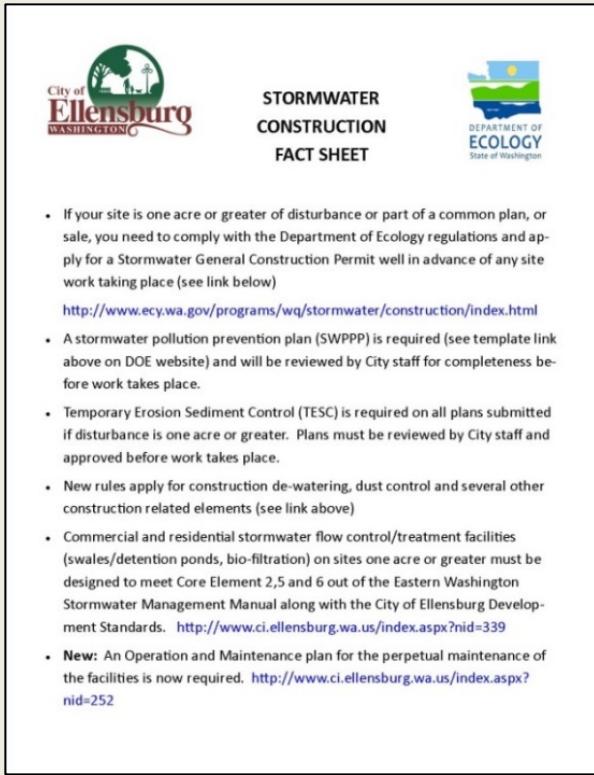
##### **a. Regulatory Erosion, Sediment, and Pollution Mechanisms**

The City of Ellensburg has established regulatory mechanisms to ensure compliance with stormwater management requirements for construction projects. All site operators, civil engineers, city staff, and private developers must adhere to the City's Stormwater Development Standards when designing and constructing projects. <https://ci.ellensburg.wa.us/339/Development-Standards>

Under the 2019 Phase II Eastern Washington Municipal Stormwater Permit, only sites one acre or greater were required to develop a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). However, the 2024 stormwater permit lowers this threshold to include single-family lots beginning in 2027. The Stormwater Utility reviews SWPPPs, along with Operation & Maintenance (O&M) plans and temporary erosion and sediment control (TESC) plans, for completeness. Civil plans and geotechnical reports are also evaluated by both the Stormwater Manager and Stormwater Technician to ensure compliance with the core elements of the 2024 Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington (SWMMEW).

To ensure developers are aware of stormwater requirements, the Stormwater Construction Fact Sheet and O&M Template are provided at every pre-application meeting. These documents outline the need for sites one acre or larger to develop a SWPPP and TESC plan, obtain a Construction General Permit from

the Washington State Department of Ecology, and implement an O&M plan. Future updates to the City's standards will incorporate the new permit language regarding single-family lot requirements in 2027. Both the O&M Template and Fact Sheet are also available on the City's Stormwater webpage, <https://ci.ellensburg.wa.us/738/Stormwater-Division>



The image shows a document titled "STORMWATER CONSTRUCTION FACT SHEET". At the top left is the City of Ellensburg logo, which includes a stylized green globe with a tree and a river. At the top right is the Washington State Department of Ecology logo, which features a blue and green landscape with a sun and the text "DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY State of Washington". The main content of the document is a bulleted list of requirements:

- If your site is one acre or greater of disturbance or part of a common plan, or sale, you need to comply with the Department of Ecology regulations and apply for a Stormwater General Construction Permit well in advance of any site work taking place (see link below)  
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/construction/index.html>
- A stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) is required (see template link above on DOE website) and will be reviewed by City staff for completeness before work takes place.
- Temporary Erosion Sediment Control (TESC) is required on all plans submitted if disturbance is one acre or greater. Plans must be reviewed by City staff and approved before work takes place.
- New rules apply for construction de-watering, dust control and several other construction related elements (see link above)
- Commercial and residential stormwater flow control/treatment facilities (swales/detention ponds, bio-filtration) on sites one acre or greater must be designed to meet Core Element 2.5 and 6 out of the Eastern Washington Stormwater Management Manual along with the City of Ellensburg Development Standards. <http://www.ci.ellensburg.wa.us/index.aspx?nid=339>
- **New:** An Operation and Maintenance plan for the perpetual maintenance of the facilities is now required. <http://www.ci.ellensburg.wa.us/index.aspx?nid=252>

To further protect water quality, the City has adopted ordinances prohibiting construction-related pollutants such as silt, sediment, and concrete slurry from entering the public storm system (City Code Sections 9.25.320, 322, 324, and 326).

[https://library.municode.com/wa/ellensburg/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=TIT9UT\\_CH9.25REREUTSE\\_9.25.320PRDISTSE](https://library.municode.com/wa/ellensburg/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIT9UT_CH9.25REREUTSE_9.25.320PRDISTSE)

These ordinances, along with the adoption of the Eastern Washington Stormwater Manual, the City's Development Standards, SWPPP requirements, site plan reviews, and field inspections, work together to ensure compliance with the stormwater permit requirements.

**In 2024, the City held approximately 35 pre-application meetings.**

**b. Development/Redevelopment Plan Review**

The City of Ellensburg's Stormwater Development Standards include a dedicated section on Low Impact Development (LID) and site design. As part of the 2025 City Stormwater Standards update, LID will be the required design approach wherever feasible. The update will also incorporate links to the 2024 SWMMEW and clarify that a SWPPP must be submitted, reviewed, and approved by City staff before any permits are issued or land disturbing activities begin.

During the development and redevelopment review process, key project details including project number, title, applicant, reviewer, comments, plan approval, and status are evaluated. The comments section specifically documents the status and completeness of TESC plans and SWPPPs.

Since the issuance of the 2007 Phase II Eastern Washington Municipal Stormwater Permit, records for all construction projects disturbing one acre or greater are maintained by the City of Ellensburg. The permit requires construction records to be retained for at least five years after project completion. However, the City archives all records related to public and private development indefinitely.

Under the Stormwater Development Standards, staff must review all site plans for plats, commercial property improvements, and parking lost to ensure compliance with treatment and flow control requirements and inspect all stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) and erosion control measures, regardless of whether the project meets the one-acre disturbance threshold.

**In 2024, staff reviewed 14 proposed projects and approved 11 for construction.**

**Below is an example of the 2024-2025 Plan Review Spreadsheet.**

PW Project #	Project Title In P/W Review	Applicant	Reviewer	prelim site review	Comments	Checked BMP selection and Calcs [added 3-17-18]
2021-126	Foster Plat North - Ph 2		JM & EM			
2021-080	Sparks 12 Lot Plat	Sparks	JM & EM	12/19/22	Update storm calc, SWPPP, maintenance language in O&M plan, test pit locations, infiltration/perc rates, use COE zoning code not KC	
2021-084	Bull Ranch - Bull Rd & Umptanum Rd	Lathrop	JM & EM	3/15/22		
2021-105	Katie Meadows Plat PH 2	Glahn	JM	10/24/24	The amended compost eliminates the need for five feet of separation and using the native soils. On that front they are good to go. The Miraflores is down the road. They will need a TESC and O&M plan. They can keep it as simple as marking up the plan sheet and showing silt socks, silt fence, dewatering plan if needed etc.	
2022-114	PIERCE PLAT - AIRPORT ROAD (POOYA RODHANI)	Pooya Roodhani	JM	10/7/24	No actual O&M plan, they just referenced our code and the manual	
2021-101	Warehouse Facility - Anderson Road/N of Umptanum	WinCo Foods	HLA		No actual TESC plan, they just address it in a paragraph	
					The geo tech acknowledges they have a shallow water table and don't have the 5 feet of separation on most of the test pits	
					They will need to provide treatment before infiltrating to ground, shallow swales behind curb gutter, amended compost etc.	
					They're flow control and treatment numbers check out ok.	
<b>Projects underway</b>						
2024-071	2708 Triple L Loop - Starbucks	Starbucks	JM & EM	1/8/25	The applicant will need to provide a full geotechnical analysis that was completed within the last 5 years. The site exploration should consist of test pits or borings in area of the proposed stormwater facilities. The applicant will need to provide a SWPPP before stormwater can approve the permit.	Approved 2/6/2025
					Before we can complete the review of the proposed plat the drainage report from 2016 needs to be updated to meet the requirements of the 2019 Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington and the current City of Ellensburg Stormwater Standards. Below are some additional comments after a cursory review. •We will need a maintenance agreement between the Park Green Homeowner's Association and Sanders Mill LLC for the stormwater pond at 2410 N Alder Street. The maintenance agreement should clearly identify the responsibilities of each organization for the ongoing maintenance of the storm pond. This agreement will need to be recorded with the County and a copy will be provided to the City's Public Works Department. •This project will also require a SWPPP and O&M plan.	
2024-057	CBP Short Plat - Dandelion Lane Extension	Ward	JM & EM	10/2/24	No Comments	Approved 11/1/2024
2024-094	Ellensburg Flats Phase 2	Lathing	JM & EM			Approved 7/15/2024
20-100	503 E Helena Ave - 15 Unit Apartments	Pooya	JM & EM	5/15/24	#evelDrain does not provide treatment of the parking lot runoff. Please add a treatment element to this area.	Approved 7/10/2024
23-087	Kittitas County Transfer Station	Kittitas County	JM & EM	10/2/23	Initially, we're going to need the engineer to certify that the two detention ponds are functioning the way they were intended on the plans/drainage report. They're full of water and we'll need to find out if they're working properly. In addition to Jon's comment, they need to provide a SWPPP. I see the O&M plan was provided when the swales and detention ponds were originally built.	Approved 6/3/2024
23-124	101 W Washington - Duplex Apartments	Stader	JM & EM	2/16/24	Remove (UIC) reference on drainage report	Approved 5/30/2024

### c. Construction Site Inspections and Enforcement

Once a construction permit is issued and work begins, staff conduct inspections to verify that BMPs are implemented in accordance with the approved TESC and SWPPP plans. The City's construction inspector maintains a daily log, known as the Inspector's Daily Report (IDR), to document site conditions, erosion and sediment control issues, and any corrective actions taken to ensure compliance.

**In 2024, the City's inspector for private development projects conducted inspections on approximately 20 active construction sites.**

### Below is an example of an IDR.

CITY OF ELLensburg Public Works Department Inspector's Daily Report						
Project:	21-061 - 1100 Dry Creek Rd Foster PI	Date:	8/19			
Weather AM:	60 degrees	Weather PM:	90 degrees			
Location:	Dry Creek Rd					
Contractor:	GCX	Representative:	Tyrel Sullens			
Sub Contractors:						
Equipment:	Dumptruck (2), Excavator (1), Dozer					
Labor:	(1) foreman					
Item Of Work	In-Progress	Complete	Erosion Control	Required	Installed	Approved
Saw Cutting			EC Plan			
Clearing/Grubbing	x		SWPP	x	x	x
Excavation & Haul	x		Tire Wash			
Storm Sewer			Silt Fence	x	x	x
Utilities			Wattles			
Water			Wattles			
Sidewalks			Check Dams			
HMA Patch			Drain Filter			
Signage			Seeding/Sod			
Punch List			Sed. Ponds			
Sewer	x					
Paving						
Traffic Control Needed?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	No	Traffic Control Installed?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	N/A	
Foster continues to be a struggle. Pretty sure none of the task items listed by Ecology have been inacted. Wendy called and I mentioned this to her, but she felt that they were making some progress. Crews began working on 15th Ave and Dry Creek Rd on 8/15. Saw cutting and potholing done the first two days. Dug around SSMH 65-292 on 8/16 and had some issues coring into the manhole. Concrete base had been poured above the bottom of the manhole which made it more difficult to do. Pipe installed into manhole, but was a bit off of original location. Had to straighten pipe a couple inches to get to surveyed marks through next 3 pipe installs. On 8/18, hit irrigation line running N/S across 15th Ave. Irrigation Line was already severely damaged from corrosion and I believe it has already been abandoned as rust and dirt were filling it up already. I told crews to leave irrigation line in place, but that they didn't need to repair it. If it does need to be repaired, the entire culvert across the road needs to be replaced. Traffic control has not been stellar for this week and I've had to contact Tyrel several times about meeting their TCP. Also, socks in the storm drains were not installed on 15th Ave and I had to remind Tyrel of installing those. Crews were able to install about 230' of gravity sewer lines into the SSMH-20 (new). Lots of work needs to be completed next week on the force main sewer, in order for GCX to meet their deadlines on paving 15th Ave & Dry Creek Rd. Still have turmoil between members of the crew. Sounds like one was let go this week and Tyrel informed me on 8/19, that he'll be most likely leaving the project in Sept to go to Texas. Not really sure who will be in charge of the project, but hoping that change in leadership will be a positive item. Hydroseed was placed on site on 8/18 to help with dust issues, but it looks pretty light and hopefully doesn't get blown away.						

#### d. Internal Staff Training

All employees involved in operations and maintenance, plan review, construction inspection, and stormwater management receive stormwater pollution prevention training and hold Certified Erosion and Sediment Control Lead (CESCL) certification. Staff renew their CESCL accreditation every three years to ensure continued compliance and up to date knowledge of best practices.

**In 2024, the Stormwater Utility funded three new CESCL certifications and three recertifications.**

#### e. Construction Site Operator Outreach

All construction site operators, developers, and engineers receive information on erosion control training, proper installation of BMPs, and compliance with Appendix 1 of the Phase II Eastern Washington Municipal Stormwater Permit. Guidance is provided on selecting and applying BMPs as outlined in Chapter 7 of the 2024 Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington.

Private contractors have access to statewide CESCL training, informational flyers and pamphlets available on the City's website, and printed materials distributed during pre-construction meetings. Capital Improvement Projects are held to the same standards as private developments, undergoing thorough permitting, erosion control review, plan evaluation, field inspections, and compliance monitoring.

To further support erosion control efforts, the Stormwater Utility developed a flyer aimed at educating contractors on implementing erosion control measures on all sites, regardless of size. This flyer is distributed at pre-development meetings, available online, and provided in the Building Department at City Hall.

**In 2024, the City held approximately three pre-construction meetings for private development and approximately ten for Capital Improvement Projects.**



- Minimize track out by stabilizing construction entrance/exit
- Washout concrete slurry onsite
- De-water only clean water
- Use of silt fence or straw waddles to protect toe of slope
- Saw cutting slurry is not allowed to enter the storm system

Sites may apply for an "Erosivity Waiver" if they qualify under Appendix 1, Core Element 2 of the Eastern Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit.

**New for 2013-2014**

**Erosion Control is Now Required on All Construction Sites and Demolitions**

Contact the Stormwater Utility  
With questions at  
(509) 929-3844






- The City of Ellensburg maintains and operates a public storm system that discharges to Waters of the State.
- The City's storm system is under permit with the Washington State Department of Ecology. The City must enforce the guidelines set forth in the NPDES Phase II Municipal Permit as prescribed on page 28, section 4 (Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control) in order to be in compliance with statewide water quality standards.
- The statewide permit regulates what can be discharged from construction sites into the public storm system. In addition, the City has codes that prohibit pollutants (silt, sediment, concrete, cement or gravel) from entering the public drainage system. EMC 9.25.320

All construction sites **one acre or greater** must file a Notice of Intent (NOI) to be covered under the Washington State Department of Ecology's Construction General Stormwater Permit before site work can begin. <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wa/stormwater/construction/>

**Sites that fall under the one acre threshold** must provide erosion control best management practices (BMP's) on all construction or demolition sites during all phases of work. (Refer to chapter 2, core elements and chapter 7 of the Washington State Department of Ecology Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington for assistance)







## 5. Post-Construction Stormwater Management for New Development and Redevelopment

The City ensures long-term stormwater management by requiring Low Impact Development (LID) techniques, runoff treatment, and flow control for new development and redevelopment projects. The Stormwater Development Standards continue to adopt new practices in order to protect water quality and reduce pollutants. Through plan reviews, inspections, and maintenance requirements, the City enforces compliance and promotes sustainable stormwater practices.

### a. Regulatory Post-Construction Stormwater Management Mechanisms

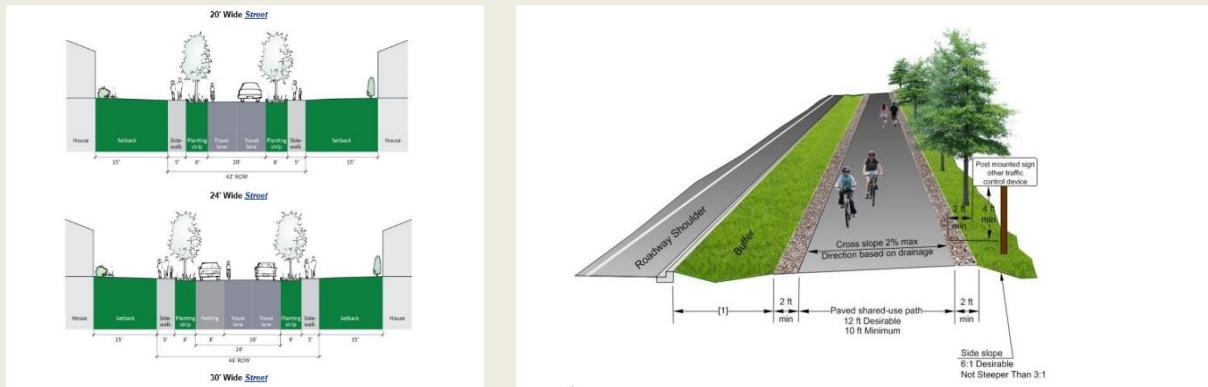
*"Permanent stormwater control facilities shall be maintained and operated in compliance with Chapter 9.100 'Storm Drainage and Surface Water Management Utility' of the Ellensburg Municipal Code and the*

current Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington. Stormwater control facilities include manmade stormwater control facilities that combined constitute the city's stormwater control facility."

Cited above is an excerpt from the City of Ellensburg Storm Drainage Standards. It references the code Chapter 9.100. The ordinance requires that owners (private or public) of stormwater facilities that were constructed after the effective date of this permit be required to maintain their facilities in accordance with the standards and details to which they were constructed.

### b. Low Impact Development (LID) and Site Design

The City of Ellensburg has adopted street standards that prioritize Low Impact Development (LID) practices to improve stormwater management. As part of these updates, all frontage improvements must now provide infiltration for street runoff rather than connecting to the existing storm system. The new standards also narrow street widths and require vegetated or rock-lined planter strips to manage runoff, integrating stormwater treatment directly into the streetscape. Examples of these new street standards, as outlined in the City Code, are pictured below.



Since 2020, most developers, builders, and engineers have moved away from centralized storm ponds, opting instead for roadside rock-lined or compost-amended swales. This shift allows for more efficient land use, enabling developers to build additional homes while eliminating the need for large, under-maintained detention ponds that often fall into disrepair due to absent HOAs or unclear maintenance responsibilities. By treating and controlling stormwater at the source developments eliminate the need for large detention facilities on separate parcels, reducing future maintenance concerns.

In both private and public projects, large stormwater holding facilities are being replaced with rock-lined swales (xeriscaping) in the right-of-way, making them visible and accessible for maintenance. Xeriscaping swales are increasingly popular in Ellensburg due to their low cost, minimal maintenance needs, and ability to blend with the native landscape. Unlike traditional stormwater ponds, these swales do not require watering, providing an additional water conservation benefit.



To ensure proper treatment, pre-treatment BMPs must be implemented to treat the first half-inch of rainfall. The Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington provides options such as 60/40 bio-soil retention media, grassy strips, downturn elbows, and other BMPs, allowing design engineers to select the most appropriate solution for each site.

Additionally, the Department of Ecology now requires that for all sites greater than one acre of disturbance (or part of a common plan or sale), builders must submit an Operations & Maintenance (O&M) plan to the local jurisdiction. This plan must outline how maintenance will be performed, the financial mechanism to support it, and the responsible party.

To assist private property owners, a stormwater maintenance flyer was created in 2020 and is distributed at pre-construction meetings. This flyer, which remains in use through 2024/2025, provides guidance on how to properly maintain private stormwater facilities.



### c. Stormwater Treatment and Flow Control

The link below references the Stormwater Design standards and details for the City of Ellensburg. All projects (public and private) that disturb one acre or more, and from projects of less than one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development or sale, adhere to the Stormwater Management Manual of Eastern Washington. Ellensburg Stormwater Standards require at a minimum all applicants use the

Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington when designing treatment and flow control facilities. The design storm shall treat the first  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch of rainfall in 24 hours (6-month, 24-hour storm event) for all pollution-generating impervious surfaces.

<https://ci.ellensburg.wa.us/339/Development-Standards>

Flow control shall be designed based on the 10-year 24-hour storm event and if detention is proposed, it shall be based on the first 1.6 inches of rain in 24 hours (25-year storm event). The City maintains an annually updated inventory of private BMPs that discharge to ground or surface waters, ensuring they are properly mapped and documented. Below are examples of public and private post-construction flow control and treatment BMPs within Ellensburg.



#### **d. Plan Review and Approval**

Staff reviews all projects that disturb one acre or greater and records comments on a spreadsheet (See review comments spreadsheet excerpt on page 22). In addition, staff reviews all stormwater pollution prevention plans (SWPPPs), temporary sediment erosion control plans (TESC), and operation & maintenance plan (O&M) for completeness.

#### **e. Post-Construction Inspections and Maintenance**

The City of Ellensburg receives approximately 8.89 inches of annual precipitation, primarily as snow. Located in a high desert/shrub-steppe region, the City faces ongoing challenges with maintaining post-construction stormwater facilities. Many of these facilities are privately owned and were built before the 2007 Phase II Eastern Washington Municipal Stormwater Permit, and often without clear maintenance responsibilities. As a result, many have fallen into disrepair, becoming overgrown, clogged, and used as dumping sites.



Statewide, maintaining post-construction stormwater facilities is a common challenge, especially when homeowner associations fail to form or developers abandon responsibility. In Ellensburg, 12 to 14 stormwater detention ponds built before 2007 have been effectively abandoned, lacking both HOA oversight and legal maintenance requirements. In 2024, the City had to intervene and provide emergency repairs after one of these facilities failed, posing a public hazard. The Stormwater Utility is actively exploring a new program to refurbish and maintain these facilities, potentially funded through stormwater grants.

For City-owned facilities, staff conduct inspections following any rain event exceeding the 10-year, 24-hour storm threshold (1.2-1.4 inches, depending on location). **In 2024, no recorded storm events exceeded 1.3 inches in 24 hours.** When facilities show signs of damage, they are added to a Capital Facilities Improvement List for necessary repairs. Additionally, in 2025, staff will inspect all City-owned BMPs to assess maintenance needs. The Phase II Permit (S5.B.6.i.ii.a) requires inspections every two years or as needed for 95% of treatment and flow control facilities.

The City contracts a private company to maintain public stormwater swales, while City staff handle catch basin cleaning. A comprehensive inventory of post-construction BMPs, both public and private, has identified 475 systems citywide, the majority of which are privately owned and predate 2007. The City inspects private post-construction BMPs every two to four years, focusing on those built after 2007.

**City staff inspected 31 owned and maintained swales in 2024. Private swales were inspected in 2023 and are scheduled to be inspected again in 2025.**

### Below is an example of the City Maintained Swale Inspection Spreadsheet

Annual City Maintained Swale Inspection						
Swale ID	Maintainance notes	Project #	Plat / Dev. Name	Street	X Street	inspected 2024
36	no issues - maintained by homeowner	2002-075	Kayla/Mylissa short plats	Ridgeview Ln		
63	still works, but excess vegetation	2002-080	Helena Ave Impr.	Helena Ave.	Chestnut St.	
64	still works, but excess vegetation	2002-080	Helena Ave Impr.	Helena Ave.	Chestnut St.	
65	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Willow St.	9/24/24
99	still works, but excess vegetation	2002-080	Helena Ave Impr.	Helena Ave.	Alder st.	
134	no issues - grass maintained by city contract	2007-049	Alliance SP	Enterprise Way	Dolarway	9/24/24
135	no issues - grass maintained by city contract	2007-049	Alliance SP	Enterprise Way	Dolarway	9/24/24
139	no issues - grass maintained by city contract	2006-080	Dolarway Rd. Impr project	Dolarway Rd.	Prospect St	9/24/24
205	still works, but excess vegetation	2003-055	Water St Impr project	Manitoba	Water	
212	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Ruby St.	9/23/24
213	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Ruby St.	9/23/24
214	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Ruby St.	9/23/24
215	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Ruby St.	9/23/24
216	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Ruby St.	9/23/24
217	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Whitman St.	9/23/24
219	constant groundwater drainage, leads to excess vegetation at inlet	1997-029	Water St Impr project	Water St.	11th Ave	9/24/24
220	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Chestnut St.	9/23/24
221	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Chestnut St.	9/23/24
222	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Chestnut St.	9/23/24
223	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Chestnut St.	9/23/24
224	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Chestnut St.	9/23/24
225	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Chestnut St.	9/23/24
226	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Chestnut St.	9/23/24
227	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Chestnut St.	9/23/24
228	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Chestnut St.	9/23/24
229	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Chestnut St.	9/23/24
230	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Willow St.	9/23/24
231	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Willow St.	9/23/24
232	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Willow St.	9/23/24
233	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Willow St.	9/23/24
287	grass maintained by city contract	2005-127	Mtn View Improvements	Mountain View	Chestnut St.	9/23/24
	standing water in swale bottom, from groundwater flow into upstream storm drains	1997-066	Aspen Grove MHP	Umptanum Rd	Chestnut St.	10/13/24
307	no issues - grass maintained by Parks Dept	2006-080	Dolarway Rd. Impr project	in Rotary Park	5th Ave	
325	no issues	1997-029	Water St Impr project	PTC Trail	15th Ave	
334	standing water in swale bottom	2010-083	PTC Trail extension	Sanders Rd	Alder St	

#### f. Post-Construction Record Keeping

The City maintains comprehensive records for public and private developments, including civil design plans, drainage reports, and O&M plans. Starting in 2027, the City will retain records in accordance with the new threshold requirements outlined in Appendix 1. The City also tracks all maintenance activities, enforcement actions, and staff training to ensure compliance with stormwater regulations and support long-term stormwater management efforts.

### 6. Municipal Operations and Maintenance

The City's Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Program minimizes stormwater pollution from city-owned facilities, streets, and storm systems. Compliance is achieved through regular inspections, maintenance, and pollution prevention practices, including catch basin cleaning, street sweeping, and stormwater facility upkeep. City staff receive stormwater pollution prevention training, ensuring BMPs are followed. The O&M Plan is regularly updated to meet permit requirements.

### **a. Operations and Maintenance Plan**

The City of Ellensburg wrote its own O&M Plan in 2010. The Utility updated that plan in 2017 to meet the permit requirement S5 6a. The Plan was again updated in 2022 and a copy of it is attached in the link below. All City staff are trained on Best Management Practices (BMPs) and pollution prevention every permit cycle.



Operation and Maintenance Plan 2022 Update link Below

<https://ci.ellensburg.wa.us/DocumentCenter/View/23832/Ellensburgs-Opportunity-Maintenance-Plan-2022>

As previously mentioned in the IDDE section, the vector truck is outfitted with a software tool that tracks inspection, cleaning, and jetting. The 2024 map on page 18, shows the north half of town was cleaned and inspected for IDDE and O&M in 2024.

### **b. City Shop Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)**

In 2023/2024 the utility wrote its first ever SWPPP. Up until this time Ecology accepted the management plan in place of a SWPPP. In 2023/2024 Ecology thought it would be a good idea if the city wrote a SWPPP for the shop. Attached below is a copy of the SWPPP for the city shop.

<https://ci.ellensburg.wa.us/DocumentCenter/View/23828/Stormwater-Pollution-Prevention-Plan-SWPPP-2023>

### **c. Ecology's 2024 City Shop Inspection**

Subsequently following submittal of the SWPPP, the Industrial Program out of Ecology scheduled a shop inspection. Copied below is the inspection form from Ecology.

<https://ci.ellensburg.wa.us/DocumentCenter/View/23831/Ecology-Shop-Inspection-2024>

### **d. Street Sweeping Program**

The city has always had a sweeping program, but it has been largely undocumented and never tracked. In 2014 the city applied for a grant to the Department of Ecology and was awarded funds to purchase two new regenerative air sweepers. The grant required tracking the broom down time, engine miles and tonnage, but did not request route tracking. The city generates 750 tons of solids each year with the street sweeping and catch basin cleaning program. The new storm permit will require a sweeping program by 2027 that will track tonnage, miles swept, and by street type. Arterial, collector and local access are the three major street types, and each will have to have its own sweeping frequency.



## **C. S7 – Compliance with Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Requirements**

The City has implemented programs to support compliance with Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) limits for impaired waterbodies. Wilson Creek, which flows through Ellensburg, is subject to a TMDL for fecal coliform, requiring the City to reduce pollutant loads and improve water quality. To meet these requirements, the City utilizes BMPs, conducts public outreach, and implements stormwater infrastructure improvements all aimed at reducing fecal coliform levels in Wilson Creek and ensuring alignment with TMDL goals.

### **1. Public Education and Outreach**

The City's education and outreach program under the TMDL requirements informs the public about pollution sources affecting impaired waterbodies and actions to reduce them. Efforts focus on fecal coliform pollution in Wilson Creek and may include educational materials, public events, and direct community engagement to promote best management practices.

### a. Pet Waste Program

The City is required to maintain pet waste stations at all public parks, city properties, and open spaces to help reduce stormwater contamination. In 2024, several new pet relief stations were installed in downtown Ellensburg, providing free waste bags funded by the Stormwater Utility. City staff regularly maintain all pet waste stations, and Parks staff recently ordered a two-year supply of waste bags, funded through the 2024 Capacity Grant. Additionally, pet waste education flyers were distributed at the 2024 KEEN Winter Fair and the City of Ellensburg's National Night Out Snow Cone Booth to raise awareness about proper waste disposal and its impact on water quality.

**A consultant is currently developing new outreach materials, which are expected to be distributed in 2025.**



### b. Feeding Waterfowl Education & Outreach

**The requirement to distribute waterfowl education materials under S5.B.1 in Appendix 2 of the previous NPDES permit has been removed. As a result, the City did not distribute waterfowl education flyers in 2024, and no future outreach efforts are planned at this time.**

## 2. Enhanced IDDE Program in Wilson Creek 2025 NEW

**Beginning in March 2025, City staff will start an enhanced IDDE program to support the Wilson Creek TMDL. This program will exceed the Appendix 2 requirements by conducting monthly sampling at four outfall locations along Wilson Creek from March to December. Samples will be collected using the same method as the standard IDDE program, where a one-milliliter sample is plated using Coliscan Easygel and incubated for 24–36 hours at the Wastewater Treatment Facility to measure bacteria levels in colony-forming units per milliliter (CFU/mL). Results from this enhanced sampling will be reported separately from the standard IDDE data.**

## **D. S8 Monitoring and Assessment**

Section S8 of the 2024 Phase II Eastern Washington Municipal Stormwater Permit requires the City to monitor and assess stormwater impacts to evaluate program effectiveness. This includes tracking pollutant levels, assessing BMP performance, and reporting findings annually. The permit provides multiple options for compliance, allowing permittees to select the most effective approach to meet these requirements.

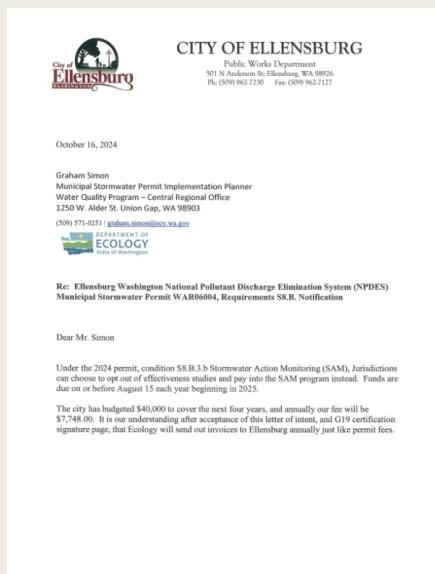
### **1. Tree Canopy for Stormwater Management**

The City completed a Urban Tree Canopy Assessment and a street tree re-inventory, in 2023-2024. The City has secured funding through the 2024 Washington Community Forestry Assistance Grant to develop an Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) and update the tree ordinance. This work will establish long-term tree canopy goals, improve tree protection policies, and ensure future urban forestry efforts support stormwater management. Additional initiatives include conducting a park tree inventory, updating street tree development standards, and expanding public education efforts. These actions will help the City enhance stormwater infiltration, reduce runoff, and ensure compliance with regulatory requirements while strengthening the urban tree canopy.

**The park tree inventory and UFMP are scheduled to be completed in 2025.**

### **2. Payments into the Stormwater Action Monitoring Collective Fund**

To meet the requirements of Section S8 of the Phase II Eastern Washington Municipal Stormwater Permit, the City has opted to participate in the Stormwater Action Monitoring (SAM) Program. By contributing to SAM, the City supports regional stormwater research and effectiveness studies rather than conducting independent monitoring. This collaborative approach provides valuable data on stormwater impacts, BMP performance, and overall water quality trends.



## **E. Achievements and Planned Activities**

This section highlights the City's accomplishments in stormwater management over the past year and provides an overview of ongoing projects and grant opportunities. These efforts contribute to regulatory compliance, infrastructure improvements, public engagement, and water quality protection. Moving forward, the City remains dedicated to enhancing stormwater programs and securing funding to support long-term goals.

### **1. Gateway II Stormwater Retrofit Project Update: WQC-2020 EllePW-00053**

The city was successful in obtaining grant funding from the Department of Ecology to design, permit and construct Gateway II. Gateway II is the same identical project as Gateway I in scope and size, just on the opposite end of town. The agreement between Ecology and the City is fully executed. In October 2021, a consultant was hired to begin designing the project. Below is an artist rendition of what the project might look like when finished on one side of the street. The project will be constructed on both sides of the street.

**Currently the project is at 60% design. The project has been held up for one entire calendar year because of a fish screen/de-regulation issue surrounding East Branch Lyle Creek. The grant runs out July 1, 2025. In a recent meeting with the Department of Ecology we are moving forward with the permitting and installation of the fish screen. The sixty percent design report is being submitted with the East Branch Lyle changes to Ecology. All of this is in hopes of getting an extension to the grant.**



### **2. Reecer/Currier Floodplain Project**

The City has been working on flood management projects with regards to West Ellensburg and Reecer Creek since 2010. Phase I re-located a section of Reecer Creek into a new channel that supported fish habitat and constructed a setback levee. Phase II bonded five million dollars to acquire 56 acres of land, extend the setback levee up to the Burlington Northern Railway, build a new fish passable 35-foot bridge on Dolarway and three contiguous flood swales.

Phase I was completed in Spring of 2023. Phase II extending the levee and flood swales up to the Burlington Northern Railway will go out to bid Spring/Summer 2025 to seek completion to this project. The project had been held up for two years with a cultural resource issue and that has since been rectified. Funding has also been an issue, but those issues are being worked out and the hope is to go to bid spring/summer 2025.

### Before 2022-2023



### After 2024



### 3. Flood Planning Assistance Grant (FCAAP) From the Department of Ecology

The city submitted an application to the Department of Ecology's Floodplain by Designs group (FbD) and was awarded \$400,000.00 to model the City's storm system. In addition to modeling the entire system, it will be re-mapped in its entirety. The data collected will help support an urban flood model where Lidar cannot pick up the first few inches of water on city streets. The reason for this is the storm system picks up the first few inches and conveys the water to nearby outfalls for certain size storm events. This data will be compared with the County's 2D model which only picks up Lidar images in a rural setting. Comparing the two will add another dimensional layer and create a 3D model. That model will re-evaluate the current flood maps for Ellensburg and take a closer look at how the storm system plays a role in reducing urban flooding with small events. The project will also help determine where the system is undersized and look at long-term capital projects aimed at culverts and outfalls. The work is 90% complete and the project will be finished before June 30, 2025.

#### **4. FbD Land Acquisition Grant**

The City's Utility submitted a grant application to potentially purchase two properties on the western edge of town. The properties combined are 52 acres in size. Both properties are in the 100-year floodplain, and both have Whiskey Creek running through them. Whiskey Creek has become the focal point among Fisheries, Tribe, and County Flood District to introduce Steelhead into the Naneum Canyon. The connection would be through Reecer Creek, which is tied to Achievements and planned activities #2 above. As the city goes out to bid to extend the levee up to the BNSF railway, a flood swale next to the levee could someday become the Whiskey channel. Above the railway on University Way is accomplishment #1, Gateway. Gateway would then connect to the levee and provide a recreation trail, then possibly extend up to the Cascade Palouse trail via the two properties. The properties would serve multiple uses among flood protection and fish passage on Whiskey Creek. Final applications were due May 1, 2024.

**This land acquisition grant was not funded in the initial award announcement, but the City has been collaborating with local legislators to secure its inclusion in the funding package.**

#### **5. Stormwater GPSing Project – Capacity Grant**

The City hired a consultant to conduct a stormwater asset data collection project as part of the Urban Flood Modeling and Analysis Project, funded through the FCAAP Grant. This project will update the City's stormwater model and improve floodplain mapping for Whiskey and Mercer Creeks. As part of the project, approximately 3,311 stormwater catch basins and manholes were GPS-located to document rim elevations, pipe diameters, and materials. Additionally, drainage basins will be mapped to define outfall areas, enhancing stormwater modeling and regulatory compliance. Running from April to December 2024, this project strengthens the City's ability to track, manage, and maintain stormwater infrastructure, improving flood mitigation and long-term planning.

#### **6. 2024 Washington Department of Natural Resources Community Forestry Assistance Grant**

Stormwater staff secured \$272,500 through the 2024 Washington Department of Natural Resources Community Forestry Assistance Grant to develop a comprehensive Urban Forest Management Plan & Ordinance Update, modernizing urban forestry practices, and strengthening tree protections. This project will establish a strategic framework for tree care, expand canopy coverage, and enhance stormwater management by reducing runoff, improving water retention, and mitigating flood risks. A key component is a park tree inventory, assessing approximately 6,000 trees in city parks to guide long-term management. The initiative also includes the creation of a new municipal tree ordinance, replacing outdated policies with clear, sustainable regulations that reflect community values. Additionally, street tree development standards will be introduced, providing guidelines for species selection, placement, and maintenance to enhance public spaces and further support stormwater mitigation efforts. To foster community engagement, the project will feature bilingual outreach materials, public meetings, and an interactive field guide for Irene Rinehart Riverfront Park. With a strong emphasis on equity and environmental justice, improvements will be prioritized in underserved areas, ensuring all residents benefit from a well-managed urban forest. The project is set for completion by June 2027.

**Appendices:**

Stormwater Utility Budget

<https://ci.ellensburg.wa.us/DocumentCenter/View/23822/2025-2026-Biennial-Budget--Stormwater-Utility>