

# City of Fairhope, Alabama Storm Water Management Plan Phase II General Permit # ALR040040

**March 2014** 

Report Prepared By: City of Fairhope Planning Department 555 South Section Street Fairhope, AL 36532

## **Table of Contents**

- 1.0 CONTACT LIST AND INTRODUCTION
  - 1.1 CERTIFICATION
  - 1.2 LIST OF CONTACTS
  - 1.3 GENERAL INTRODUCTION
- 2.0 STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN (SWMP) REQUIREMENTS
  - 2.1 LISTED REQUIREMENTS
  - 2.2 MANAGEMENT
  - 2.3 WATERSHEDS OF FAIRHOPE
  - 2.4 MS4 AREA MAP
- 3.0 MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE # 1: PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ON STORM WATER IMPACTS
- 4.0 MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE # 2: PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT / PARTICIPATION
- 5.0 MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE # 3: ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION AND ELIMINATION (IDDE)
- 6.0 MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE # 4: CONSTRUCTION SITE STORM WATER RUNOFF CONTROL
- 7.0 MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE # 5: POST CONSTRUCTION STORM WATER MANAGEMENT
- 8.0 MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE # 6: POLLUTION PREVENTION / GOOD HOUSEKEEPING FOR MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS
- 9.0 APPENDIX: MS4 AREA MAP

### 1.0 CONTACT LIST AND INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Certification

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments are prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fines and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Name and Title (type or print)	
Timothy M. Kant, Mayor (Signature)	Date

#### 1.2 List of Contacts

Address: City of Fairhope

Post Office Drawer 429 Fairhope, AL 36533

Phone: (251) 928-2136

Contact Person: Mrs. Kim Burmeister

Code Enforcement Officer

City of Fairhope Planning Department Post Office Box 429 Fairhope, AL 36533

Phone: (251) 990-2877

#### 1.3 General Introduction

The City of Fairhope is situated on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay in Baldwin County, in southwest Alabama. The 2010 US Census determined the City's population to be 15,326. The annexed limits, which are also the MS4 area limits, comprises roughly 12 square miles. It is part of the Eastern Shore area with Daphne, Montrose and Spanish Fort to the North.

There are three main receiving streams within these area limits (Fly Creek, Rock Creek and Cowpen Creek). Cowpen Creek is identified as a 303 (d) stream due to the presence of atmospheric mercury deposition. It is not anticipated that the land uses in the City of Fairhope MS4 watersheds are contributors to the atmospheric deposition of mercury.

The aquatic resources of the Fairhope Region, including Mobile Bay, Cowpen Creek, Fly Creek and Rock Creek are essential to the area's economy and the attractiveness of the community to both residents and visitors. Preserving these resources and keeping them healthy is of primary interest to the community and to area leaders.



Pictured: Rose Garden at Fairhope Municipal Pier

#### 2.0 STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN (SWMP) REQUIREMENTS

### 2.1 Listed Requirements

As part of the MS4 Phase II requirements, the City of Fairhope must develop, implement and enforce a SWMP designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants from its MS4 to the maximum extent practicable (MEP) to protect water quality and satisfy the appropriate water quality requirements of the Clean Water Act. The City of Fairhope shall use all known, available, and reasonable methods of prevention, control and treatment (BMPs) to prevent and control storm water pollution from entering waters of the State of

Alabama. The SWMP shall include:

- a. Management Practices
- b. Control techniques and system design, and engineering methods
- c. BMPs
- d. Coordination among entities
- e. Measurable goals for each of the BMPs (including month and year in which action will be taken, including interim milestones and frequency of action)
- f. Person or persons responsible for implementing and coordinating BMPs

Furthermore, the SWMP must address the six minimum control measures, which are:

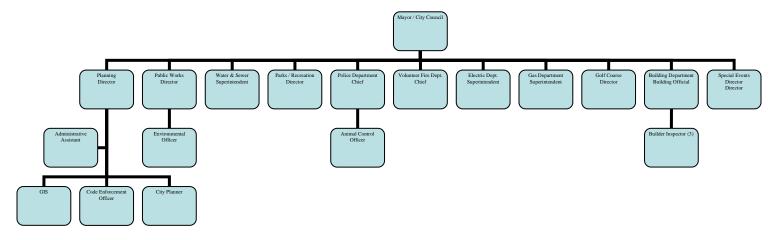
- a. Public Education and Outreach on Storm Water Impacts
- b. Public Involvement / Participation
- c. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)
- d. Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control
- e. Post Construction Storm Water Management in New Development and Redevelopment
- f. Pollution Prevention / Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations



Pictured: Green median in Fairhope on North Section Street

### **2.2 SWMP Management**

The City of Fairhope Planning Department will serve as the lead coordinator of the MS4 Storm Water Management Plan. Several departments within the City will have a role in Fairhope's MS4 SWMP. A general contact number for everyone on the flow chart is: 251-928-8003. Below is a flow chart defining MS4 roles and responsibilities of each department:



#### 2.3 SWMP – Watersheds of Fairhope

The City of Fairhope uses a watershed based approach to storm water management. The MS4 area limits (also the annexed limits) encompass 12 watersheds, and roughly 12 square miles.

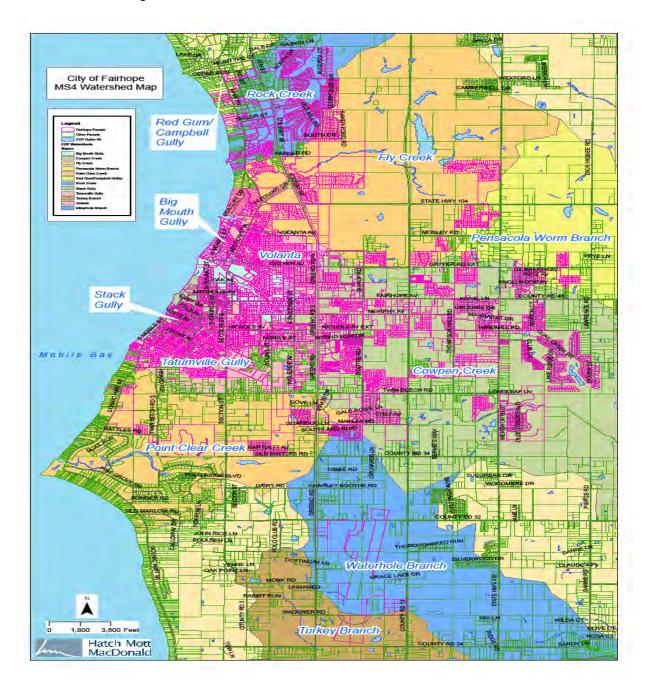
City of Fairhope MS4 area limit watersheds (on attached map) are:

a.	Red Gulley	54 acres (+/-)
b.	Rock Creek	678 acres (+/-)
c.	Fly Creek	1,228 acres (+/-)
d.	Volanta	389 acres (+/-)
e.	Big Mouth Gulley	500 acres (+/-)
f.	Stacks Gulley	397 acres (+/-)
g.	Tatumville Gulley	617 acres (+/-)
h.	Point Clear Creek	523 acres (+/-)
i.	Turkey Branch	88 acres (+/-)
j.	Waterhole Branch	480 acres (+/-)
k.	Cowpen Creek	2,866 acres (+/-)
1.	Pensacola Branch/Worm Branch	91 acres (+/-)

TOTAL ACREAGE: 7,911 (12.3 SQUARE MILES)

While all of these watersheds ultimately drain to Mobile Bay, the watersheds located on the East side of U. S. Highway 98 drain to Fish River before final discharge into Mobile Bay. The watersheds that drain into Fish River first are: Turkey Branch, Waterhole Branch, Cowpen Creek and Pensacola/Worm Branch.

# 2.4 MS4 Area Map



# 3.0 MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE#1: PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ON STORM WATER IMPACTS

- ➤ **Requirements:** Implement a public education program to distribute educational materials to the community or conduct equivalent outreach activities about the impacts of discharges on water bodies and the steps that the public can take to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff to the maximum extent practicable.
- ➤ **Responsible Persons**: Planning Department; Building Department; Public Works Department; Police Department
- Rationale Statement: The City of Fairhope supports the Fairhope Environmental Advisory Board (FEAB), which is being restructured for 2014. This Advisory Board provides a public forum for local environmental discussions and educational outreach, with storm water being a major topic of interest. The City of Fairhope also works collectively with neighboring municipalities (City of Daphne and City of Spanish Fort), Baldwin County and non-profit agencies to create and provide educational materials to the public on storm water issues. Additionally, such hands on events as Earth Day (in Fairhope) and the annual Rain Barrel Workshop (held in Fairhope or Daphne every year) show our communities how to recognize storm water as a resource and not (always) a liability. Auburn University Marine Extension & Research Center is instrumental in providing registration, workshop materials and demonstration guidance during the annual Rain Barrel Workshop.

The City of Fairhope sponsors several community events each year, such as Coastal Clean Up, Mobile Area Earth Day, America Recycles Day and Arbor Day. These events collectively reach over 1,000 residents. The Public Work Department coordinates these efforts.

The City of Fairhope supports public access to volunteer water testing results by posting a link to Alabama Water Watch on the City website. Alabama Water Watch is a volunteer water testing program, overseen by Weeks Bay National Estuary Research Reserve. The Alabama Water Watch program currently provides volunteer water testing at three locations within Fairhope monthly. Testing parameters include turbidity, dissolved oxygen, ph, temperature, and e. coli.

**Target audience** for the City educational mechanisms are:

- a. Developers
- b. Contractors
- c. Landscapers
- d. Business owners / managers
- e. Property owners
- f. Residents
- g. City employees

#### Pollutants of concern:

- 1. Sediment
- 2. Oil residue from parking lots
- 3. Pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers
- 4. Pathogens

#### **BMPs / Mechanisms** used for educational outreach:

- 1. Brochures / publications / media
- 2. Public Educational Meetings
- 3. City Website (www.cofairhope.com)
- 4. Existing Demonstration projects (Rain Garden, Wetland Pond)
- 5. Community Events
- 6. Employee Certifications and Training
- 7. City Erosion and Sediment Control Workshop
- 8. Pet waste bags available in City Parks

# **BMP # 1 : Brochures / Publications / Media** promoting green space and storm water management, available at City offices and/or on-line:

- 1. Greener by the Yard, pamphlet, Weeks Bay Watershed Project
- 2. Fairhope Gullies, brochure, joint effort of Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, Fairhope Single Tax, and the City of Fairhope
- 3. Parks of Fairhope, brochure, joint effort of the Fairhope Environmental Advisory Board and the City of Fairhope
- 4. Storm Water Management, brochure, by Ecosolutions, created for the City of Fairhope
- 5. Field Guide for Erosion and Sediment Control on Construction Sites in Alabama, booklet, by Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Committee
- 6. City Sketches, quarterly newsletter for Fairhope residents. City Sketches will have at least one article yearly to focus on storm water education. Available on City website
- 7. What is a Phase II Small MS4?, brochure compiled by the Eastern Shore MS4 Stormwater Education Outreach Team, available at the City of Fairhope Planning Department and Public Works Building

8. Understanding Your Stormwater Management Program; this 5 minute video, produced by and shared with the permission of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, is an informational source for elected officials, and the general public. It briefly explains the importance and requirements of our local MS4 program. Available on the City of Fairhope website:

 $\underline{www.cofairhope.com/departments/planning-and-building/publications-and-forms}$ 

Responsible Person(s) for brochures / publication / media placement: Planning Department (Code Enforcement Officer); Public Works Department (Director)

#### **BMP # 2: Public Educational Meetings:**

- 1. Rain Barrel Workshop Barrel-building hands on workshop open to the Public for a minimal cost; City of Fairhope in conjunction with Auburn University Marine Extension & Research Center, and other municipalities.
- 2. Mobile Area Earth Day City of Fairhope is a sponsor of this event yearly and it is held at South Beach Park in Fairhope. The Planning Department hosts an informational booth here to showcase local watershed / storm water information. Public Works hosts a recycling event here (usually e-waste or HHW).

Responsible Person(s) for Public Educational Meetings: Planning Department (Code Enforcement Officer); Public Works Department (Environmental Officer)



Pictured: Rain Barrel Workshop, presentation (December 2013)

**BMP** # 3: City Website (www.cofairhope.com) has informative links for:

- a. Alabama Water Watch (www.cofairhope.com)
- b. City Rain Garden (www.cofairhope.com/departments/planning-and-building/publications-and-forms)
- c. Waste Management

(www.cofairhope.com/departments/public-works/waste-manaement)

- d. MS4 Annual Report & SWMP (www.cofairhope.com/departments/planning-and-building/publications-and-forms)
- e. Zoning Ordinance / Subdivision Regulations (www.cofairhope.com/departments/planning-and-building/publications-and-forms)
- f. Municipal Code of Ordinances (www.cofairhope.com/departments/building/building-codes)
  - 1. Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance (#1398)
  - 2. Red Soils Ordinance (# 1423)
  - 3. Wetlands Ordinance (#1370)
  - 4. Construction Site Waste Ordinance (#958)
  - 5. Illicit Discharge Ordinance (#1081)

Responsible Person(s) for City website informative links: Planning Department (Code Enforcement Officer)

#### **BMP # 4: Existing Demonstration projects** provide educational signage:

- a. Wetland Pond @ North Beach Park this simulated Wetland Pond was created about 10 years ago, to reduce pathogens entering Mobile Bay, from duck pond water run off. The pond features native plants and is a joint project from the MBNEP and City of Fairhope.
- b. Rain Garden @ City Hall this 480 square foot rain garden was installed by City employees in 2003, to treat run off from 2,600 square feet of asphalt from the City Hall / Civic Center parking lot. It is maintained yearly. This project was funded in part by Gulf Coast Resource Conservation and Development. Details of this project, and the benefits of rain gardens, is available on the City of Fairhope website (www.cofairhope.com).



Pictured: Rain garden under construction at City Hall (2003)



Pictured: Rain Garden Plaque (2009)
Responsible Person(s) for Existing Demonstration Projects: Public Works (Director)

#### **BMP # 5: Community Events:**

- a. Mobile Area Earth Day (South Park Beach in Fairhope).Public Works offers E-waste recycling at this event in April.
- b. Coastal Clean Up (beachfront parks). This event, held in September, is advertised in *City Sketches*, the City of Fairhope quarterly newsletter. City provides garbage pick up for this event.
- c. Arbor Day (Faulkner Community College) City gives away approximately 1,000 trees yearly each February at this event, hosted by the City of Fairhope.
- d. America Recycles Day Free Amnesty Day recycling drop off of electronics and paper shredding at Public Works, on or about on November 15<sup>th</sup>, annually. Also prescription drug drop off is done on the same day (drop off at the Police Department).



Pictured: America Recycles Day, electronics received (November 2013)

Responsible Person(s) for Community Events: Public Works (Director)

#### **BMP # 6: Employee Certifications:**

- 1. The City of Fairhope currently has (4) licensed Commercial Pesticide Applicators, who are licensed by the State of Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries Pesticides Applicators Certification program. This 3 year certification aids in pollution prevention by guiding applicators on correct application techniques, which discourages overuse or misuse of pesticides/herbicides:
  - a. Horticulturist, Certification # 53242
  - b. Landscape Supervisor, Certification # 57285
  - c. Golf Course Grounds Supervisor, Certification # 13550
  - d. Recreation Director, Certification # 13268
- 2. Qualified Credentialed Inspector (QCI) program educates inspectors on correct erosion and sediment control applications and installation techniques:
  -QCI (Yearly recertification)
  - a. Code Enforcement Officer, Certification # 25712
    - b. Building Inspector #1: #65045
    - c. Building Inspector # 2: #64077

Responsible Person(s) for Employee Certifications: Public Works (Director); Planning Department (Code Enforcement Officer); Building Department (Building Official); Golf Course (Grounds Supervisor)

#### BMP #7: Employee Erosion and Sedimentation Workshop

The City of Fairhope Planning Department periodically hosts an employee Erosion and Sedimentation Workshop at City facilities. The purpose of this two hour workshop is to remind existing employees (and inform new employees) of the Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control standards required by the City of Fairhope. State and Federal regulations are also reviewed. Emphasis is placed on right of way and utility work, as well as other planned and emergency projects, as they may be applicable to the different City of Fairhope departments. A local storm water professional is invited to be a guest speaker at the event, to offer an outside view on storm water standards from the State and Federal level. City staff reviews City of Fairhope regulations and ordinances regarding storm water standards, which apply to contractors, developers, land owners and City projects. Each department within the City is expected to send employees such as crew leaders, assistant supervisors and/or supervisors.

Responsible Person(s) for the Employee Erosion and Sediment Control Workshop: Planning Department (Code Enforcement Officer)



Annual Erosion and Sediment Control Workshop (2013)

#### BMP #8: Pet Waste Bags in City Parks

Pet waste bag dispensers are available in City parks (along the Bay and at the Dog Park). Pet waste bags are available free to the public, and encourage removal of pet waste from public areas. The Animal Control Officer is responsible for keeping pet waste bag dispensers full, and for enforcement of City Ordinance #988, which requires owners to clean up after their pets on public property. This helps keep pet waste out of storm drains and area waters.

Responsible Person(s): Police Department (Animal Control Officer)

#### **➤** Measurable Goals

One Year Goals:

#### 1. Storm Water Education / Seminar

**Responsible Department :** Planning Department

Goal: Staff shall attend one storm water related workshop, conference or

seminar annually **Due:** December 2014

### 2. Storm Water Article in City Sketches

**Responsible Department:** Public Works

Goal: Ensure there is at least one storm water article in City Sketches

(quarterly newsletter for citizens) per year

**Due:** December 2014

#### 3. BMP Seminar for City Employees

Responsible Department: Planning Department

Goal: Host workshop for City employees to demonstrate BMP techniques

and minimum standards for storm water compliance.

**Due:** December 2014

# 4.0 MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE # 2: PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT / PARTICIPATION

- **Requirements:** At a minimum, comply with State and local public notice requirements when implementing a public involvement/participation program.
- **Responsible Persons**: Planning Department; Building Department
- ➤ Rationale Statement: The City of Fairhope will offer opportunities for public review, involvement and participation in the City of Fairhope Storm Water Management Program (SWMP). The SWMP and the MS4 Annual Report are posted on the City website, under the Planning Department page, "publications" (www.cofairhope.com). The Planning Commission, a group of appointed volunteers who offer insight and approval on Planning Department procedures and policies, meets monthly at City Hall. The meeting is open to the public. The Planning Commission is used annually as a review board for the SWMP. The Planning Department is responsible for coordination of these efforts.

The City of Fairhope complies with State and local public notice requirements.

The City of Fairhope facilitates opportunities for direct action and volunteer programs. The City of Fairhope website hosts a link to Alabama Water Watch, a volunteer water testing program, overseen by Weeks Bay National Estuary Research Reserve.

#### **Target audiences:**

- a. Homeowners
- b. Subdivision Property Owner Associations
- c. Environmental groups
- d. Educational groups
- e. Commercial business owners

#### PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT / PARTICIPATION, cont.

- > BMPs / Mechanisms used for Public involvement of Public Meetings / Direct Action Opportunities:
  - a. BMP #1: Ads are placed in newspapers, advertising public meetings, as per legal requirements
     Responsible Person(s): Planning Department (Administrative Assistant)
  - b. **BMP #2: Notices for public meetings are posted at City Hall** Responsible Person(s): Planning Department (Administrative Assistant)
  - c. BMP #3: Subdivision Property Owners Associations Contact List
    This list is kept current to include email contact information for President
    of Property Owners Associations. This list is used as one form of
    notification for public meetings, including Planning Commission meetings
    Responsible Person(s): Planning Department (Administrative Assistant)
  - d. **BMP #4: Fairhope Environmental Advisory Board (FEAB)**The City of Fairhope (via Planning Department support) facilitates monthly volunteer meetings on issues relative to storm water. This volunteer based advisory committee makes recommendations to City leaders, and offers a third party evaluation of City procedures and regulations.
  - e. BMP #5: Recycling Committee

The City of Fairhope (via Public Works) facilitates monthly volunteer meetings on issues relative to waste management and recycling. This volunteer committee makes recommendations to City leaders, and offers a third party review of City procedures and practices. This committee was reformed in 2013.

#### **➤** Measurable Goals

One Year Goals:

1. Public Educational / Input Meeting for Stormwater Issues Responsible Department: Planning Department

**Goal:** Facilitate at least one educational meeting per year (such as through FEAB and/or Planning Commission). This meeting will allow the public to offer input on the City of Fairhope's stormwater plans and policies (in regards to new and improved development).

**Due:** December 2014

#### 2. SWMP Review

**Responsible Department:** Planning Department

**Goal:** Facilitate review of storm water management plan yearly, through public forum such as Planning Commission and/or City Council. Send out notices accordingly. (*Planning Director/Administrative Assistant*)

**Due**: December 2014

# PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT / PARTICIPATION, cont.

# 3. \*REMOVE\* Recycle Committee Revitalization Responsible Department: Public Works

Goal: Revitalize / reestablish monthly recycle committee meetings

Note: This goal has been accomplished; Recycle Committee meets monthly as

of September 2013.

### 5.0 MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE # 3: ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION AND ELIMINATION (IDDE)

- ➤ Requirements: Develop, implement and enforce a program to detect and eliminate illicit discharges into the regulated MS4; Develop a storm sewer map (to include locations of outfalls and structural BMPs); Effectively prohibit to the maximum extent practical under State or local law, through ordinance, or other regulatory mechanism, non-storm water discharges into the MS4 and implement appropriate enforcement procedures and actions; Develop and implement a plan to detect and address nonstorm water discharges, including illegal dumping, to the system that are not authorized by a separate NPDES permit; Inform public employees, businesses, and the general public of the hazards that are generally associated with illegal discharges and improper disposal of waste; Address non-storm water discharges or flows (such as residential and charitable car washes) where they are identified as significant contributors of pollutants to the MS4.
- ➤ **Responsible Persons**: Planning Department; Building Department; Water and Sewer Department, Volunteer Fire Department, Public Works Department
- ➤ Rationale Statement: Illicit discharges are generally any discharge into a storm drain system that is not composed entirely of storm water. The City of Fairhope has an IDDE program, which is based on enforcement of our Illicit Discharge Ordinance (Ordinance # 1081).

The City of Fairhope Illicit Discharge ordinance states "It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to discharge a pollutant to the city's stormwater system that will have a deleterious impact on the environment. Any pollutant, associated with an industrial or commercial activity that is covered by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System as dictated by 40 CFR 122.26, can be discharged to the city stormwater system only if the discharge is covered by, an NPDES permit for stormwater. Where an illicit discharge is reasonably believed by the city of originating from a facility, it shall be the right of the city to designate employees, bearing proper credentials and identification, to enter facility grounds for the purpose of inspection, observation, measurement, sampling and testing in accordance with this article. Authority is hereby granted to the city by and through its duly designated enforcement officers to halt any discharge from a facility that is reasonably believed by the city to be potentially harmful to human health or the environment. All costs incurred by the city in association with the ceasing of a potentially harmful discharge will be reimbursed by the discharging facility. The city may charge the cost against the subject land as a municipal lien, charges to be recovered in a suit at law against the owner." Procedures for tracing and removing the source of the illicit discharge are written into the ordinance.

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The Planning Department Code Enforcement Officer uses a monthly complaint log to track complaints and corrective action procedures taken. Smoke tests are periodically performed throughout the year by the Water and Sewer Department, to help detect infiltration from faulty sewer lines.

Building Inspectors ensure new development and redevelopment activities are compliant upon inspections.

Areas zoned "M-1" (Light Industrial District) are considered a priority area for IDDE monitoring. The general location of M-1 zoned areas are:

- a. Airport (CR 32)
- b. Nichols Avenue/Middle Street @ S. Greeno Road
- c. South Section Street @ Pecan (City of Fairhope Public Works facility)

These areas are monitored periodically by the Code Enforcement Officer, and/or the Environmental Officer (and Building Inspectors for new development and re-development), to ensure compliance with the IDDE program.



Pictured: "M-1" (Light Industrial) zoned property: Sonny Callahan Airport

The IDDE program will be reviewed yearly by the Planning Commission (a public meeting), as part of the SWMP review process.

- **BMPs / Mechanisms** used for IDDE program compliance:
  - a. Illicit Discharge Ordinance #1081
  - b. Code Enforcement Officer (Planning Department)
  - c. Environmental Officer (Public Works Department)
  - d. Residential Curbside Cooking Oil Recycling Program
  - e. Household Hazardous Waste drop off site for residents
  - f. Greener by the Yard pamphlet
  - g. Staff Meetings
  - h. City of Fairhope Watershed Map
  - i. Storm Sewer Inventory & Mapping
  - j. Volunteer Fire Department

**BMP # 1: Illicit Discharge Ordinance -** states "It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to discharge a pollutant to the city's storm water system that will have a deleterious impact on the environment. Any pollutant, associated with an industrial or commercial activity that is covered by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System as dictated by 40 CFR 122.26, can be discharged to the city storm water system only if the discharge is covered by, an NPDES permit for storm water."

Penalty for non-compliance: Up to \$500

Responsible Person(s) for Illicit Discharge Ordinance: Planning Department (Code Enforcement Officer); Public Works Department (Environmental Officer)

#### **BMP # 2: Code Enforcement Officer (Planning Department)**

The City of Fairhope employees a Code Enforcement Officer full time, in part, to investigate and issue corrective action on illicit discharges issues.

#### **BMP # 3:** Environmental Officer (Public Works Department)

The City of Fairhope employees a Environmental Officer full time, in part to manage the waste management operations, and to enforce waste management laws, of the City.

BMP # 4: Cooking Oil Recycling: The City of Fairhope has a used cooking oil recycling program for residents, which has been in effect since 2007. Containers for cooking oil collection are available free upon request to residents. Residents may bring in used cooking oil for recycling, or may place the containers on the right of way for curbside pickup. Restaurants are not allowed to dispose of oil within the City of Fairhope garbage stream and must set up a cooking oil recycling program. Sanitation and recycling crews (Public Works Department) are trained to report illegal dumping / rinsing activities, including inappropriate disposal of cooking oil. Responsible Person(s): Public Works Department (Environmental Officer)

**BMP** # 5: Household Hazardous Waste: The City of Fairhope Public Works Department manages a household hazardous waste (HHW) drop off site for residents, free of charge. The HHW drop off site is located at 555 South Section Street. This site encourages the correct disposal of paints, motor oil and other chemicals, as well as electronic waste, automobile batteries and tires. There is a minimum recycling fee for tires (based on industry standards). There is no charge for other hazardous waste drop off, including electronic waste. On average, the City of Fairhope recycles about 20 tons of hazardous waste yearly (which includes electronic waste). Responsible Person(s): Public Works Department (Director)

#### BMP # 6: Greener by the Yard

This pamphlet includes information in regards to what residents can do to prevent illicit discharges. It was created and published by the Weeks Bay Watershed Project, and is available in hard copy (Planning Department) and on the City website.

**BMP # 7: Staff Meetings** – Public Works employees are trained throughout the year in weekly staff meetings to report illegal dumping / rinsing activities, including inappropriate disposal of cooking oil, rinsing of paints and chemicals into storm drains, etc. Responsible Person(s): Public Works Department (Director)

#### BMP #8: Watershed Map

City of Fairhope has a watershed map which is used as a planning and construction tool. It is available on line, in the Planning Department and in Public Works. Planning Department (GIS) is responsible for updating, printing and providing this map.

### BMP # 9: Storm Sewer Inventory & Mapping

In 2012, the City of Fairhope Planning Department coordinated efforts to complete a survey of the City outfalls and infrastructure. This information is provided through GIS, and a map was also produced, including designation of 13 major (Bay) outfalls. This information is updated annually.

**BMP # 10: Volunteer Fire Department / Fuel Spills:** The Fairhope Volunteer Fire Department is responsible for responding to and facilitating removal of fuel / chemical spills. Responsible Person(s): Volunteer Fire Department (Chief)

#### **➢** Measurable Goals

#### **One Year Goals:**

#### 1. Storm Sewer and Outfall Inventory Update

**Responsible Department:** Planning Department

**Goal:** Update inventory annually, to include new development, redevelopment and corrections. (GIS)

Due: December 2014

#### 2. Smoke Test on Sewer Lines

**Responsible Department**: Water Department

**Goal**: Conduct smoke test on priority sewer lines annually to detect leaking sewer pipes or illegal connections. Document findings and corrective action taken (*Water & Sewer Superintendent*)

Due: December 2014

# 3. Public Works Illicit Discharge Detection Meeting

**Responsible Department:** Public Works

**Goal:** Alert and remind waste management crews to look for illicit discharge indicators such as sheen in or near storm drains, leaking dumpsters, etc. (*Public Works Director*)

Due: December 2014

#### 4. Dry Weather Screening of Major Outfalls

**Responsible Department:** Planning Department

**Goal:** Assess the thirteen major outfalls (*Code Enforcement Officer*)

**Due:** December 2014

### 6.0 MINIMUM CONTROL REQUIREMENT #4: CONSTRUCTION SITE STORM WATER RUNOFF CONTROL

- ➤ Requirements: Develop, implement, and enforce a program to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff from construction activities. The program shall include ordinances (to require erosion and sediment controls), requirements for construction site operators to control waste; procedures for site plan review; procedures for receipt and consideration of information submitted by the public; and procedures for site inspection and enforcement of control measures (i.e. BMP inspections)
- **Responsible Persons:** Planning Department; Building Department
- Rationale Statement: The City of Fairhope has a Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control program to control erosion and sedimentation. This program is applicable to all construction and land disturbance sites, and is not limited by the size of the site (sites under an acre as well as over an acre are included in the program). This program includes project review, BMP inspections and enforcement of construction related ordinances for environmental protection. City employees are held to the same standards as property owners, contractors and developers. The Planning Department and the Building Department has QCI trained staff to conduct BMP and construction inspections. Furthermore, City crew leaders in each department are offered an overview of the Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control program (including storm water standards at local and state levels) through a workshop held annually (Erosion and Sediment Control Workshop) by the City of Fairhope Planning Department.
- ➤ BMPs / Mechanisms used for Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control
  - a. Design Review
  - b. BMP Inspections
  - c. Code Enforcement / Procedures for non-compliant sites
  - d. City ordinances
  - e. Educational material available in the Building Dept.

**BMP # 1: Design Review**: The City of Fairhope Planning Department design review (and pre-construction meeting) process includes:

- a. Preliminary Plats for Subdivision
- b. Pre-construction meeting on site with engineer of record
- c. Final Plats for Subdivision
- d. Zoning Applications
- e. Site Plans, if they meet the following qualifications
  - -Has a gross floor area of 10,000sf or greater; or,
  - -More that 30% of the lot (excluding the building) is impervious; or
  - -All applications for zoning map amendments to any of the Village Districts
  - -All mixed-use projects electing to build to 35 feet high with 33% residential.

All preliminary and final subdivision submittals require a public hearing through the Planning Commission. Notification requirements are as required by State law and the City of Fairhope Subdivision Regulations, and also via Subdivision POA contact list (email). The City of Fairhope Building Department coordinates plan reviews of residential and commercial submittals for permit issuance. General procedure of submittal review:

Staff conducts a review of all submittals. For the subdivision applications, storm water drainage is reviewed for compliance with the City of Fairhope Subdivision Regulations in the Preliminary Plat review. A design review meeting is held and attended by the various City of Fairhope Superintendents or Department representatives. The Public Works Department, Planning Department and Building Department are the most instrumental representatives for Storm Water reviews. However, since the City of Fairhope does not have a civil engineer on staff, the applicant's engineer is the person ultimately responsible for drainage compliance with the City's regulations. The Code Enforcement Officer is responsible for the Erosion Control compliance review of submitted plans. The comments generated during the design review meeting are compiled in a review letter which is sent to the applicant. The applicant provides a response letter. The City of Fairhope staff prepares a staff report for the Planning Commission members prior to the Planning Commission meeting.

Pre-Construction meetings are held with the applicant after Preliminary Plat approval and before submittal of a Final Plat application. During the preconstruction meetings, City staff meets (typically on-site) with the applicant's engineer of record to address specific issues such as wetland buffer protection, on-site erosion controls, and drainage concerns.

The Final Plat approval phase is when the final inspection of installed subdivision infrastructure takes place and a final punch list is generated. A second design review and a site inspection take place and any deficient items are addressed during this inspection process. The site inspection is conducted by the same Department Supervisors/Representatives who perform the preliminary design review.

The City of Fairhope requires a 2 year maintenance bond for the infrastructure to be accepted by the City.

Responsible Person(s): Planning Department (Planner and Planning Director)

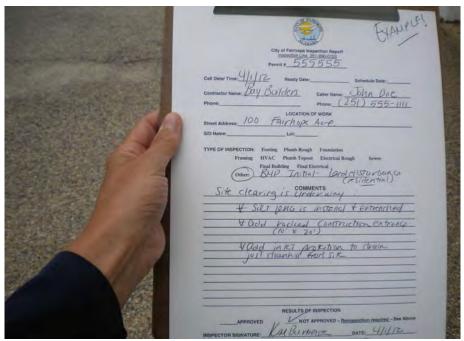
BMP # 2 & #3: BMP Inspections / Code Enforcement: City of Fairhope Planning Department has a full time Code Enforcement Officer to conduct BMP inspections, as well as other code enforcement inspections. The Code Enforcement Officer tracks BMP inspections and non-compliant sites (including corrective actions taken) via a monthly log.

The initial BMP inspection is performed prior to other construction inspections. The Building Inspectors assist with BMP inspections by ensuring compliance with each construction inspection (essentially, a BMP inspection is performed with each construction inspection). The Building Inspectors usually perform the closure BMP inspection, as part of the final inspection on the site. Certificate of occupancy is not issued unless site is stable and compliant. The City of Fairhope Erosion and Sediment Control ordinance is strictly enforced, and is successful at minimizing sedimentation and erosion to the maximum extent practical. Construction sites with high impact potential and subdivisions under construction are inspected frequently. Construction sites with high impact potential include multi-family, non-residential, those near critical areas or those disturbing more than an acre. Other single family home construction sites are inspected initially and with follow up inspections to ensure continued compliance.

Significant rain events (those greater than .75") trigger random inspections on subdivisions and priority sites under constructions..

BMP inspections include:

- a. Initial
- b.Phasing (if applicable)
- c.Closure (certificate of occupancy is not issued unless site is stable)



Pictured: BMP Inspection Sheet (Example)

Procedures for non-compliant sites:

- a. Notice of Violation (written or verbal)
- b. Withheld Construction Inspections
- c. Stop Work Orders
- d. Authorize Street Sweeper at \$300 minimum charge to violator
- e. Municipal Offense Ticket
- f. ADEM notification if water quality impact has occurred

Responsible Person(s) for BMP inspections / Code Enforcement: Planning Department; Building Department (Code Enforcement Officer / Building Official)

# **BMP # 4: Municipal ordinances** utilized for erosion, sediment and waste control on construction sites:

- a. Erosion and Sediment Control (#1398), outlines procedures for BMP requirements (including inspections), and corrective action.
- b. Red Soil Ordinance (#1423) prohibits red soil and clay in or near critical areas
- c. Construction Site Waste (#958) requires construction sites to contain waste

Responsible Person(s) for municipal ordinances: Planning Department; Building Department (Code Enforcement Officer / Building Official)

# **BMP # 5: Educational Material**, brochures/booklets available to contractors/developers:

- Field Guide for Erosion and Sediment Control on Construction Sites in Alabama by Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Committee Partners
- b. BMP Minimum Requirements, City of Fairhope handout
- c. Storm Water Management, by Ecosolutions

#### ➤ Measurable Goals:

#### One Year Goal:

1. QCI Re-certification for Code Enforcement Officer

**Responsible Department:** Planning Department

**Goal:** Recertify QCI certification (*Code Enforcement Officer*)

Due: December 2014

2. QCI Re-certification for Building Department (2 Building Inspectors)

Responsible Department: Building Department

Goal: Recertify (2) Building Inspectors with QCI training

Due: December 2014

3. QCI Certification for Building Department, two employees: Building Official and Building Inspector

Responsible Department: Building Department

Goal: Acquire QCI Certification for Building Official and one Building

Inspector

**Due**: December 2014

### 7.0 MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE # 5: POST CONSTRUCTION STORM WATER MANAGEMENT

- ➤ Requirement: Develop, implement, and enforce a program to address storm water runoff from new development and redevelopment projects that disturb greater than or equal to one acre by insuring that controls are in place that would prevent or minimize water quality impact; Develop and implement strategies, which include a combination of structural and/or non-structural BMPs appropriate for the community; Use an ordinance or other regulatory mechanism to address post construction runoff from new development and redevelopment projects to the extent allowable under State or local law; Ensure adequate long-term operation and maintenance of BMPs.
- ➤ **Responsible Persons**: Planning Department; Building Department; Public Works Department
- **Rationale Statement:** The Planning Department works closely with the Fairhope Planning Commission (which meets monthly) and the Fairhope Zoning Board of Adjustments and Appeals (which also meets monthly, if there are cases to be heard). Both of these committees are appointed by the Mayor and Council, and work with the Planning Department and the Building Department with design and review procedures, as set forth in the Zoning Ordinance. The Planning Commission reviews amendments to the Zoning Ordinance and the Subdivision Regulations. The Subdivision Regulations were amended in 2007 to include a 3 year storm water inspection report requirement (Section F) and a long term storm water plan (Operation and Maintenance requirement). An O&M Plan is submitted with every final subdivision plat which requires a storm water structure. Furthermore, the Planning Department Code Enforcement Officer addresses runoff issues from all sites within the City of Fairhope (including post construction residential, commercial and right of way areas). These issues are tracked via a monthly Notice of Violation log. This log tracks complaints, follow up, and corrective action taken. The Public Works Department and the Maintenance Department oversee maintenance of city-owned storm water infrastructure.

#### POST CONSTRUCTION STORM WATER MANAGEMENT, CONT.

- **BMPs / Mechanisms** for Post Construction Storm Water Management
  - 1. Subdivision Regulations
  - 2. Zoning Ordinance
  - 3. Storm Water Standards within Subdivision Regulations (Article V, Section F of Sub Regs)
  - 4. Flood Control Structures definition in Subdivision Regs
  - 5. Pervious Paving Material (25%) Requirement
  - 6. Pervious Paving in City projects, where applicable (Police Department, City parks, Library, etc.)
  - 7. Storm Water Projects
  - 8. Storm Water Facility Inspection Requirement (Subdivision Regs)
  - 9. Rain Barrel Workshop, annually, for the community
  - 10. Creek / Shoreline Assessment by kayak

BMP # 1, 2 and 3: Subdivision Regulations (including Storm Water Standards) and the Zoning Ordinance are available on line the public to view. Construction, development and re-development standards for storm water are listed here.

www.cofairhope.com/departments/planning-and-building/publications-and-forms

BMP # 4: Flood Control Structures definition was added to the Subdivision Regulations in October 2011 to clarify whether detention ponds can be located within stream buffers: "Those physical structural works for which funds have been authorized, appropriated and expended and which have been constructed specifically to modify flooding in order to reduce the extent of areas within the city subject to a "special flood hazard" and water depths associated with flooding. Flood control structures typically include: hurricane tidal barriers, dam, reservoirs, levees or dikes. Typically flood control structures are located perpendicular to a stream and within the stream buffer."

**BMP #5: Pervious Paving requirement**: For projects requiring more than 8 parking spaces, a 25% minimum pervious paving material requirement was written into the Zoning Ordinance (January 2012)

**BMP # 6: Pervious Paving material is used in City projects** where applicable. Past projects include sidewalks at the Police Station, Bancroft Avenue sidewalk, the Volanta sidewalk, Knoll Park, and Faulkner Community College Campus.

**BMP #7: Storm Water Projects**: The City of Fairhope Public Works Department completes several storm water projects annually. Projects include bioretention and storm water facility installation and maintenance (on City property), pervious sidewalk installation (on City right of way), bluff stabilization and repair (on City property) and drainage improvements on City right of way. These will be detailed in the 2013 Annual Report.

### POST CONSTRUCTION STORM WATER MANAGEMENT, CONT.

**BMP # 8: Storm Water Facility Inspection Requirement**: As per the Operation and Maintenance plan within the Subdivision Regulations, the City of Fairhope Planning Department notifies property owners in regards to the three year storm water inspection requirement for respective storm water facilities. This requirement is for subdivision storm water facilities, installed as of 2007. For more information, refer to the City of Fairhope Subdivision Regulations, Article V, Section F, 3. (a) (3).



Pictured: North Village @ Stone Creek (State Hwy. 181) retention area

**BMP # 9: Rain Barrel Workshop:** The City of Fairhope, in conjunction with the Auburn Extension Center and other municipalities, hosts or sponsors a rain barrel workshop annually. The workshop can usually accommodate about 24 people. The minimum charge to participants, collected by Auburn Extension, covers the cost of the materials used. Education focuses on how to capture and reuse rain on your property, and how this action reduces erosion of property, while providing a valuable resource. Each participant leaves with a completed and ready-to-use rain barrel.

**BMP # 10:** Creek / Shoreline Assessment by Kayak: The Planning Department staff conducts a creek or shoreline assessment (by kayak) of a priority area, annually. included drain pipes dumping into the creek (privately owned and city owned). Target items to look for are negative impacts of drainage, erosion and sedimentation (man made or otherwise).

### POST CONSTRUCTION STORM WATER MANAGEMENT, CONT.

#### ➤ Measurable Goals:

#### 1. One Year Goal: Rain Barrel Workshop

Responsible Department: Planning Department

**Goal**: Facilitate community event: hands on workshop related to post-construction storm water education (such as a Rain Barrel Workshop) (*Planning Director*)

Due: December 2014

#### 2. One Year Goal: Creek/Shoreline Assessment by Kayak

**Responsible Department**: Planning Department

**Goal:** Conduct creek or shoreline assessment via kayak to look for pipes, pollutants or sediment discharging into the creek or shoreline, and obstructions in the creek or shoreline.

**Due:** December 2014

#### 3. One Year Goal: LID Manual

Responsible Department: Planning Department

Goal: Finalize creation of a Low Impact Development Design Manual to be available in the Planning Department / Building Department and on-line on the City website (*Planning Director*)

Due: December 2014



Pictured: Fly Creek Kayak Assessment December 2013

### 8.0 MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURE # 6: POLLUTION PREVENTION / GOOD HOUSEKEEPING FOR MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS

- ➤ Requirements: Develop and implement an operations and maintenance program that includes a training component and has the ultimate goal of preventing or reducing pollutant runoff from municipal operations; Using training materials that are available from EPA, the State, or other organizations, include employee training to prevent and reduce storm water pollution from activities such as park and open space maintenance, fleet building maintenance, new construction and land disturbances, and storm water system maintenance.
- ➤ **Responsible Persons**: Planning Department; Building Department; Public Works Department; Golf Course; Recreation Department; Gas Department; Water and Sewer Department; Electric Department; Police Department; Fire Department; Mechanic Shop; City Hall
- ➤ Rationale Statement: The City of Fairhope has many departments within its own authority. City facilities include:
  - Mechanic Shop (AL0000324764)
  - Waste Water Treatment Plant (AL0020842)
  - C & D Landfill (02-07)
  - Golf Course (Quail Creek)
  - Recreation Department
  - Gas Department
  - Water and Sewer Department
  - Electric Department
  - Public Works Department
  - Recycle Facility
  - Greenhouse (Nichols Avenue)
  - Police Department
  - Volunteer Fire Department
  - City Hall / Civic Center
  - The Haven (Animal Shelter)

# POLLUTION PREVENTION / GOOD HOUSEKEEPING FOR MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS, CONT.

All department heads / directors are responsible for pollution prevention / good housekeeping in each respective department. This is implemented through weekly or monthly staff meetings and training. The Public Works Department Environmental Officer and the Planning Department Code Enforcement Officer periodically monitor the Public Works facility and maintenance / shop areas, to ensure compliance with the City of Fairhope IDDE program. Any inefficiencies are reported to the Department Director. If not resolved within a timely manner, inefficiencies are reported to the Mayor for resolution.

The City of Fairhope provides garbage, trash and recycling pickup weekly (garbage twice weekly), and this aids in keeping our storm drains clean. Daily street sweeping operations also remove debris from streets and storm drains.

These City facilities operate under a separate ADEM Permit:

- a. Mechanic Shop, 560 South Section Street (AL0000324764)
- b. Waste Water Treatment Plant, 300 N. Church Street (AL0020842)
- c. C & D Landfill, 555 South Section Street (AL 02-07)

# **▶** BMPs / Mechanisms for compliance of pollution prevention / good housekeeping:

- 1. Employee Meetings
- 2. Certified Pesticide Applicators
- 3. Waste Management Program (Garbage, Trash, Recycling, HHW)
- 4. Street Sweeper
- 5. Project work by City Employees
- 6. Field Guide for Erosion and Sediment Control on Construction Sites in Alabama, by Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Committee and Partners
- 7. Dedicated Wash Racks for Vehicles

**BMP # 1: Employee Meetings:** Employee meetings are held in each department weekly, and housekeeping items are addressed throughout the year.

# POLLUTION PREVENTION / GOOD HOUSEKEEPING FOR MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS, CONTINUED:

**BMP # 2: Certified Pesticide Applicators:** Pesticide, herbicide and fertilizer application is overseen by certified applicators, in the Public Works and Golf Course. Four employees within the City of Fairhope are certified through the State of Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries as certified pesticide applicators. This specialized training ensures that pesticide, herbicide and fertilizer application on City property is done in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations in the most environmentally friendly method possible. Applicator license (3 year) certifications include:

- a. Public Works, Horticulturists
- b. Public Works, Landscape Supervisor
- c. Parks and Recreation Director
- d. Golf Course Grounds Supervisor

#### **BMP # 3: Waste Management Program:**

Garbage, Trash and Recycling Pickup: Recycling is picked up weekly, curbside for residents and commercial businesses. In FY 2012, about 1,500 tons of material were recycled (paper, cardboard, glass, plastic, and metals). Yard waste is picked weekly from residents, and placed in the City yard waste pile (at 555 South Section Street) for mulching, grinding or land reclamation efforts. In FY 2012, about 30,000 cubic yards of yard waste (organic) material was removed from residential right of ways, contributing to keeping the storm drains clear from debris. Garbage pickup is offered two times per week for residents, and up to five times per week for commercial businesses. In FY 2012, about 9,000 tons of garbage were removed and disposed of in Magnolia Springs landfill. There is a drop off site at the Public Works facility for garbage, trash, HHW and recycling. Recycling Facility / HHW: The Environmental Officer (Public Works) is responsible for overseeing these areas are kept clean, and ensures there is no illicit discharge from these activities. Tires, HHW chemicals, motor oils, electronics and anything that could contribute to an illicit discharge is kept covered, to the maximum extent practical.

Residents and businesses are encouraged to recycle. Mechanisms for education include:

- 1. Mobile Area Earth Day; E-waste recycling event (April)
- 2. America Recycles Day; E-waste recycling event (November)
- 3. City website (<u>www.cofairhope.com</u>)
- 4. Recycling Committee

**BMP # 4: Street Sweeper:** The City of Fairhope Public Works Department owns two street sweepers. Streets are swept daily in the downtown area, removing sediment and debris from the road ways, and storm drains. Other main streets in the City of Fairhope are swept weekly.

# POLLUTION PREVENTION / GOOD HOUSEKEEPING FOR MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS, CONTINUED:

**BMP** # 5: Project work by City Employees: City departments are required to pull City of Fairhope construction / land disturbance permits (as well as any necessary State and Federal permits) for planned projects; City projects are held to the same standards as other projects. The Code Enforcement Officer (Planning Department) and the Building Inspectors (Building Department) ensure that erosion and sediment control on construction projects are done in accordance with City of Fairhope BMP standards (which follow the *Alabama Handbook*). City of Fairhope crew leaders of right of way and utility work are given the *Field Guide for Erosion and Sediment Control on Construction Sites in Alabama* as a reference tool.

**BMP** # 6: Field Guide For Erosion and Sediment Control on Construction Sites in Alabama, by the Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Committee and Partners, is a pocket size pamphlet available to contractors and other permittees on request. Available in the Building Department.

BMP #7: Vehicle / Equipment Washing: Employees in all departments within the City are instructed to wash vehicles and equipment only in designated areas, which are connected to the City of Fairhope Waste Water Treatment plant. The City currenty has seven (7) designated wash rack facilities, which discharge into the Waste Water Treatment plant, within its operation. Wash rack facilities include the main wash rack at Public Works (555 South Section Street), the Transfer Station at Public Works, Founders Park Maintenance Barn (Founders Park, Hwy. 44), and car wash facilities at the Police Department (107 North Section Street) and Fire Stations. Fire Station addresses are: Station #1- 198 S. Ingleside Drive; Station #2- 19875 Thompson Hall Road; and Station #3- 8600 Highway 32 (Airport). Director or department head of each department is responsible for overseeing the proper washing of vehicles and equipment in his / her respective department.

### Measurable Goals One Year Goals:

1. Good Housekeeping / Pollution Prevention memo for all departments Responsible Department: Planning Department

**Goal:** Create and send out a memo to all departments, reminding employees of good housekeeping or pollution control practices (*Planning Director*)

Due: December 2014

# POLLUTION PREVENTION / GOOD HOUSEKEEPING FOR MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS, CONTINUED:

# 2. Dry Weather Screening of Public Works Facility Responsible Department: Public Works

**Goal:** Conduct dry weather screening of the facility at 555 South Section Street, to ensure rinsing activities are in designated areas; recycle and drop off materials are properly managed and covered; and to ensure Public Works activities are not contributing to illicit discharges. (*Environmental Officer*)

**Due:** December 2014

# 3. \*REMOVE\* Commercial Pesticide Applicators Certification for Parks and Recreation Dept.

**Responsible Department:** Parks and Recreation Dept.

Goal: Director will obtain certification for Commercial Pesticide Application

through State of Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries.

**Note:** This goal was accomplished in November 2013.

#### Two to Five Year Goal:

#### 1. Recertify Pesticide License

- a. Public Works Dept (1. Landscape Supervisor; 2. Horticulturist)-2015
- b. Golf Course (Grounds Supervisor)-2015
- c. Recreation Director 2016



Pictured: Tatumville Gulley