

MSGP Quarterly Visual Monitoring Instructions

- Once each quarter for the entire permit term, you must collect a stormwater sample from each outfall and conduct a visual assessment of each of these samples. The monitoring **quarters are: Jan – March, April – June, July – September, and October – December**. Samples must be collected in such a manner that they are representative of the stormwater discharge.
- The visual assessment must be made using the following protocol:
 - Collect each sample in a clean, colorless **glass or plastic container**, and examine in a well-lit area.
 - Samples must be collected within the **first 30 minutes** of an actual discharge from a storm event. If it is not possible to collect the sample within the first 30 minutes of discharge, the sample must be collected as soon as practicable after the first 30 minutes and you must document why it was not possible to take the sample within the first 30 minutes. In the case of snowmelt, samples must be taken during a period with a measurable discharge from your site.
 - Samples must be collected at least **72 hours (three days) from the previous storm event** which results in discharge. The 72-hour (three-day) storm interval does not apply if you document that less than a 72-hour (three-day) interval is representative for local storm events during the sampling period.
 - The minimum requirement for a storm event to qualify for quarterly sampling is **0.1 inch of rain**.
- You must visually inspect or observe the sample for the following water quality characteristics:
 - Color
 - Odor
 - Clarity
 - Floating solids
 - Settled solids
 - Suspended solids
 - Foam
 - Oil sheen
 - Other obvious indicators of stormwater pollution
- A copy of all documentation must be sent to the **VTrans MSGP Program Administrator** upon completion of quarterly inspections.