

2021-2022

City of Fultondale



Annual Report

City of Fultondale
Jefferson County Department of Health
Storm Water Management Authority, Inc.
May 2022

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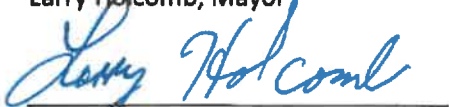
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General Information

Signatory Requirements

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated 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 submitted 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 fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Larry Holcomb, Mayor


Signature


Date

Address: PO Box 699
Fultondale, AL 35068
Phone: (205) 841-4481

Notice of Reliance

The City of Fultondale is a member of the Storm Water Management Authority, Inc. (SWMA) which is a corporation that allows the member cities within Jefferson County to cost share storm water services. SWMA entered a contract with the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) to provide certain storm water services to the cities. The contract is found in Appendix A. JCDH assists with education, outfall screening, water quality complaints, the development of the permit-related procedures and forms, training, and activity recording software. The City of Fultondale is responsible for the enforcement of all ordinances.

Responsible Parties

The following parties had input and were responsible for the preparation of the annual report:

Agency	Name	Phone Number	Address	Email address
City of Fultondale	Mayor Larry Holcomb	(205) 841-4481	1210 Walker Chapel Rd. Fultondale, AL 35068	lholcomb@fultondaleal.gov
City of Fultondale	Chief Justin McKenzie	(205) 415-1777	1210 Walker Chapel Rd. Fultondale, AL 35068	jmckenzie@fultondaleal.gov
Jefferson County Department of Health	Scott Hofer	(205) 930-1274	1400 Sixth Avenue South Birmingham, AL 35233	scott.hofer@jcdh.org
Jefferson County Department of Health	Jonika Smith	(205) 558-2103	1400 Sixth Avenue South Birmingham, AL 35233	jonika.smith@jcdh.org

Introduction

In the 1987 amendments to the Clean Water Act (CWA), Congress directed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop a phased approach to controlling storm water discharges under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. This action was based, in part, on growing evidence of the impact storm water discharges have on water quality. According to the 2004 National Water Quality Inventory (a biannual report to Congress) roughly 40% of the Nation's waters were unable to fully support their designated beneficial uses (e.g. fishable, swimmable, etc.). The information provided by the states for the inventory indicates that 44% of the Nation's rivers, 64% of lakes, and 30% of estuaries and coastal waters are water quality impaired.

In 1990, EPA promulgated regulations for establishing water quality-based municipal storm water programs to address storm water runoff from certain industrial and construction activities and from medium and large municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) serving populations of 100,000 or greater. These Phase I regulations were incorporated into the existing NPDES permit rules that address point source dischargers. As a result, urban nonpoint source runoff became regulated as a point source. In 1999, EPA promulgated regulations to address storm water runoff from small MS4s; these are Phase II regulations.

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) presently has primary jurisdiction over permitting and enforcement of the Storm Water Program for Alabama. In 2011, the City of Fultondale became a Phase II MS4 (General NPDES Permit No. ALR040037). In December 2020 the City of Fultondale joined SWMA as a member city. While the City is retaining its Phase II MS4 General NPDES permit, SWMA is helping the City fulfill its permit requirements. JCDH is on contract with SWMA to fulfill certain components of the storm water permit. The contract can be found in **Appendix A**.

On September 16, 2021, Fultondale received its latest permit reissue. The permit is effective from October 1, 2021 until September 30, 2026 (**Appendix A**).

The City of Fultondale's program has been developed to include the storm water pollution prevention and management programs described in Part III of its NPDES Permit. Part III describes six program elements that are required to be incorporated in the City's program.

The following information summarizes the City's efforts for the reporting period April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022 to comply with the above listed program elements.

MS4 Characterization

The City of Fultondale covers approximately 12.3 square miles. Population, as measured in the 2020 Census, is approximately 9,179 people with an overall population density of approximately 746 people per square mile. Municipalities immediately adjacent to the City of Fultondale include the City of Gardendale to the north and the Cities of Birmingham and Tarrant to the south. Unincorporated Jefferson County is to the east and the City of Birmingham is to the west.

The land uses in the City, based on USGS data are as follows:

- Industrial - less than 1%
- Commercial - 3%
- Residential - 32%
- Rural - 64%

Figure 1 shows the corporate limits for the City of Fultondale and land cover.

The Fultondale area receives approximately 55 inches of rainfall annually. Rainfall tends to be evenly distributed throughout the year with drier periods occurring during late summer and early fall. Storm water runoff from the City of Fultondale discharges into five receiving streams:

- Fivemile Creek
- Black Creek (tributary to Fivemile Creek)
- Black Creek (tributary to Cunningham Creek)

Black Creek (tributary to Cunningham Creek) is a small stream that crosses the City of Fultondale's MS4 boundary northeast of downtown, roughly between Carson Road and Indian Valley Road. Black Creek is impaired and listed for pH from its confluence with Cunningham Creek to its origin. It was listed on the 2014 303(d) list and a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) was established in August 2019. The stream reach within the MS4 boundary is just over one mile in length and very near the origin of the stream. Approximately 911 acres of Fultondale's MS4 drains to this Black Creek. Of that area, approximately 3% is classified as urban.

There is a history of mining activities in the Black Creek watershed. Abandoned mines can contribute significant amounts of acid mine drainage, which causes low pH in surface and subsurface water.

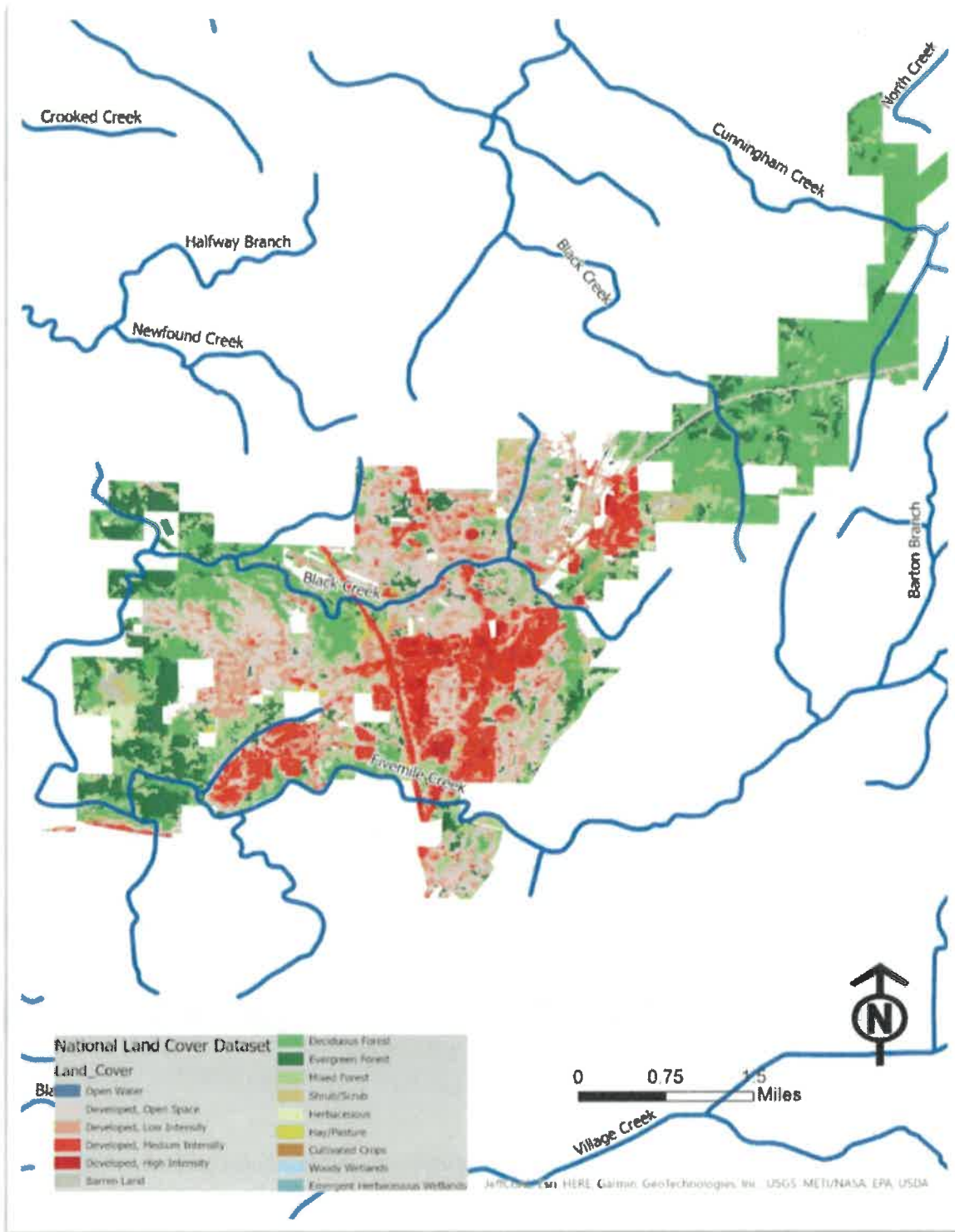


Figure 1. Fultondale's Municipal Boundaries and Land Cover

Program Requirements

The information contained in this report demonstrates the SWMA, JCDH, and the City’s efforts to maintain and comply with the NPDES MS4 regulations and requirements. The overall goal is to continually improve and refine the program elements to best meet the needs of the City and the permit requirements for Phase II MS4s.

Public Education and Public Involvement on Storm Water Impacts

The City uses various methods to educate and involve the public in general storm water management issues. These include water utility mailings that detail storm water hazards and solutions as well as posting fliers and brochures in civic buildings.

The City receives complaints and requests by phone and records them for addressing and record keeping. Citizens also express complaints at City Council meetings. These often result in work orders for the Public Works Department to remove debris from a storm ditch or similar requests. Any water quality complaints or illicit discharges are worked by the JCDH on behalf of Fultondale.

Requirement 1: A description of the method used to seek and consider input from the public in the development, revision and implementation of the SWMPP.

The City of Fultondale announced the public comment period at a March 2022 City Council meeting, on social media outlets and word of mouth.

Requirement 2: A description of the activities used to involve groups and/or individuals in the development, revision and implementation of the SWMPP.

The City of Fultondale posted the draft SWMPP on its website for two-week period of time. They asked for comments to be sent to City Hall.

Date	Attendees	Meeting Description
March 8, 2022	Mayor and Municipal Personnel	Announcement of public comment period for new SWMPP

Requirement 3: A description of the targeted pollutant sources the public education and public involvement program addressed.

The City has targeted litter and trash as a pollutant source. The Barking at the Moon Festival at the Fultondale Bark Park/Children’s Park was held on October 24, 2021. A Black Creek Cleanup was held March 5, 2022. Anti-littering signage is posted throughout the City.

Requirement 4: A description of the individuals and groups targeted and how many groups and/or individuals participated in the programs.

The program involved the general public, builders, developers, and students. Website materials, calendars, posters, and resource booklets were used to reach out to the general public.

The ESC Workshop provided annually to Builders and developers from throughout Jefferson County was cancelled due to COVID-19. Fultondale has brochures available at City Hall. Its website is currently under reconstruction and will provide pertinent resources for contractors, developers, and engineers.

JCDH provided a storm water calendar for 2021 and 2022. The calendar depicts photos of local creeks and wildlife. Additionally, information is included on various storm water topics along with links to informational sites, recycling services and community events.

Various educational and outreach activities were provided to citizens of all ages during the reporting period. The activities included: virtual Cahaba River Society Fry Down, Electronic Collection Days, Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, Fiesta Health and Wellness Fair, Cooper Green Mercy Hospital-Health Today for Tomorrow Summer Fair, and a virtual Rain Barrel Workshop. Additionally, brochures and links to relevant resources for residents, businesses and children have been published on the City's Storm Water page.

Requirement 5: A description of the activities used address the reduction of litter, floatables and debris from entering the MS4 as required in Part III.B.1.b.iii.

The City has anti-littering signs posted throughout the municipality.

During the reporting year there were four electronic collection days available to all Jefferson County citizens. These type of items are often illegally dumped. The dates were May 15, 2021, June 12, 2021, October 9, 2021, and February 19, 2022 and the respective drop off sites were Center Point Satellite Courthouse, Valley Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, Birmingham City Hall, and The Birmingham Zoo. The events were promoted city wide via word of mouth and on social media. Participants received an informational package that included educational outreach materials on the environment and recycling.

On April 24, 2021, JCDH, SWMA and the Jefferson County Commission sponsored a household hazardous waste collection day with sites in Bessemer, Gardendale and Irondale for all Jefferson County residents. The sites collected over 119 tons from 1,242 households.

The Litter Quitter video competition was greatly diminished this year due to COVID-19, but county-wide public service announcements giving an anti-littering message were still aired.

Requirement 6: A description of the communication mechanism(s) or advertisement(s) used to inform individuals, households, public and/or groups as well as the quantity that were distributed (i.e. number of printed brochures, copies of newspapers, workshops, public service announcements, etc.)

The program provided information to the general public through brochures, public posters and resource booklets. The information distributed by brochures is as follows: the storm water fee; JCDH's Watershed Protection Program; pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers (PHFs); household hazardous waste (HHW); SWMA and JCDH's Storm Water Hotline number; pet waste disposal; erosion and sedimentation controls; and illicit discharge detection and elimination (IDDE). During the reporting period, 11 brochures were picked up from City Hall. City Hall had limited visitors due to COVID-19.

The City also has a webpage with storm water information and hotline information to report different types of storm water pollution.

Three posters were placed around the City (city hall, library and school) to additionally educate the public on illicit discharges and where to report any observed activity. Sixty-five storm water calendars were also distributed to the City.

The Litter Quitters video competition also filmed a public service message at the conclusion of the competition with students from across Jefferson County. There were 255,050 digital ads promoting anti-litter public service announcements aired on TV and other digital platforms equaling 8,301,843 impressions.

See **Appendix B** for examples of the communication mechanisms.

Requirement 7: Results of the evaluation of the effectiveness of the public education and public involvement program

The City continues to explore options to bring awareness to storm water issues and gain public participation in reducing storm water pollutants. As a result of the City's education efforts more than 9,000 local citizens received information regarding storm water protection and anti-litter.

See **Appendix B** for additional education and outreach activities.

Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)

The City of Fultondale is using the United States Geological Survey's National Hydrography Dataset to identify the Waters of the State. The dataset was reevaluated in 2021 and Fultondale has 24.1 miles of streams within its city limits. JCDH attempts to inspect at least 15% or 3.62 miles of streams each year. The goal is to inspect 100% of the waters of the state within the five-year cycle. The MS4 is currently being mapped using Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

Requirement #1: List the outfalls observed in the annual reporting year to demonstrate that 100% of the outfalls are screened once per five years during the dry weather screening.

During the reporting period, 5.3 miles, or 22% of the total streams, were screened. Coordinates for the 12 outfalls observed during this reporting period are in **Appendix C**.

Requirement #2: Provide updated MS4 map(s) unless there are no changes to the map that was previously submitted.

A total of 219 outfalls have been identified within Fultondale's City limits. Coordinates for all outfalls are in **Appendix C**. The updated outfall map is shown in **Figure 2**.

Requirement #3: Copies of, or a link to, the IDDE ordinance or other regulatory mechanism.

Ordinance 634 was enacted in 2017 and addresses illicit discharges. A copy of the ordinance can be found in **Appendix C**.

Requirement #4: Dates of training conducted for appropriate personnel;

Appropriate personnel from Administration, Fire Dept., Street Dept., and the Parks and Recreation Dept. were trained on 3/30/2021.

Requirement #5: The number of illicit discharges investigated, the screening results, and the summary of corrective actions taken to include dates and timeframe of response.

No illicit discharges were found during the screening process. JCDH received 13 illicit discharge complaints during this reporting period.

Illicit Discharge Description	Corrective Actions	Complaint Date	Complaint Closure Date
Septic Tank	Repair evaluation completed	4/12/21	4/19/21
Septic Tank	Septic tank lid replaced	5/13/21	12/29/21
Septic Tank	No sewage leak found	5/14/21	7/23/21
Septic Tank	Sewage leak cleaned up	5/27/21	6/3/21
Septic Tank	Septic tank not leaking	7/7/21	8/31/21
Septic Tank	Septic tank not leaking	7/8/21	7/28/21
Septic Tank	Premises vacated	7/22/21	10/11/21
Septic Tank	No sewage found	10/4/21	12/29/21
Water Quality	Water quality was found to be within normal level	11/5/21	11/10/21
Septic Tank	Sewer leak not confirmed	1/7/2022	1/20/22

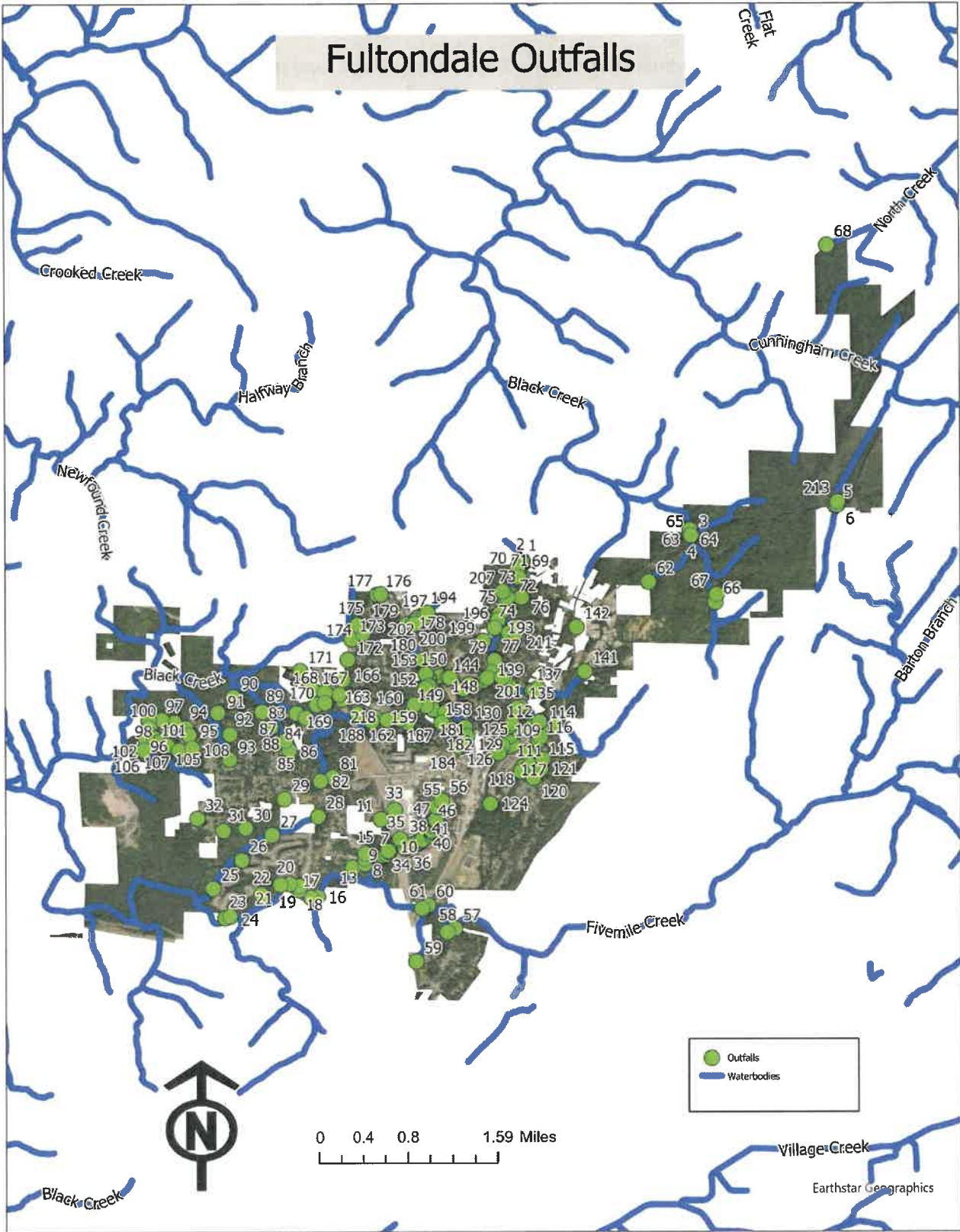


Figure 2. City of Fultondale Outfalls Map

Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control

Requirement #1: A description of any completed or planned revisions to the ordinance or regulatory mechanism required by the Permit and the most recent copy, or a link to the ordinance.

The City adopted a new Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance on December 22, 2020. The ordinance was enacted on January 1, 2021. A copy is in **Appendix D**.

Requirement #2: List of all active construction sites within the MS4 to include the following: number of construction site inspections; number of non-compliant construction site referrals and/or enforcement actions and description of violations; number of construction site runoff complaints received; and the number of MS4 staff/inspectors trained (include copies of certifications or attendance records).

Construction Site Description	Address	# of Construction Inspections
Residential	3684 Vanderbilt Way	7
Residential	3675 Vanderbilt Way	7
Residential	3692 Vanderbilt Way	4

The City had zero non-compliant construction site referrals and/or enforcement actions. The City received no construction site runoff complaints.

Name	Certification	Certification Date
Daniel Goolsby	QCI	8/10/21

A copy of the certification is in **Appendix D**.

Post-Construction Storm Water Management in New Development and Redevelopment

Requirement #1: Copies of, or link to, the ordinance or other regulatory mechanism required by the permit.

The City adopted a new Post-Construction Ordinance on December 22, 2020. The ordinance was enacted on January 1, 2021. A copy is in **Appendix E**.

Requirement #2: A list of the post-construction structural controls installed and inspected during the permit year. The list shall include which post-construction structural controls installed are considered LID/GI.

The City did not install any structural controls during this reporting year. The inspection information for all site can be found in Requirement #3.

Requirement #3: Updated inventory of post-construction structural controls including those owned by the Permittee.

Description	Address	# of Inspections
Storm Shelter Main St. (City Owned)	601 Main St.	1
Store Ease (Private)	3006 Decatur Hwy.	0
Highlands Pond (Private)	3250 Lowery Pkwy.	0

Requirement #4: Number of inspections performed on post-construction structural controls.

The City reported one inspection was completed for one of the sites listed. While Highlands Pond was maintained by the owner, an inspection was not performed. The City experienced several changes in personnel relating to the Storm Water Program during this reporting period. Due to the learning process all inspections were not completed.

Requirement #5: Summary of enforcement actions.

There were no enforcement actions by the City of Fultondale.

Pollution Prevention/ Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

Since January of 2015, SWMA and JCDH has have an online storm water program called the Storm Water Online Activity Record (SOAR). The program allows all SWMA cities to track the following storm water related activities: PHF application and storage; deicing application and storage; leaves and litter collection; storm water infrastructure construction, maintenance and repair; asphalt patchwork, construction projects, street sweeping, and spills.

Requirement #1: Any updates to the municipal facility inventory.

There were no new municipal facilities added to Fultondale. Below is a list of the facilities

Facility	Address	Latitude	Longitude	Inspection
City Hall	1210 Walker Chapel Road	33.6095778	-86.79875	Yes. Vehicle
Detective Building	925 Whaley Road	33.6064485	-86.79212	Yes. Vehicle/ Equipment
Inspections Building	1015 Old Walker Chapel Road	33.6089938	-86.79898	Yes. Vehicle/ Equipment
Street Department	1304 Arwood Drive	33.6067422	-86.79589	Yes. Vehicle/ Equipment
Black Creek Concessions	901 Yarbrough Road	33.6211498	-86.79782	No. No potential to discharge pollutants.
Black Creek Shop	900 Rowe Drive	33.6214544	-86.79905	No. No potential to discharge pollutants.
Boy Scout Building	2209 Fulton Road	33.6168659	-86.80314	No. No potential to discharge pollutants.
Fire Station #1	1100 Walker Chapel Road	33.6089744	-86.79952	No. No potential to discharge pollutants.
Fire Station #2	2600 Walker Chapel Road	33.6064477	-86.82223	No. No potential to discharge pollutants.
Food Bank Building	1419 Stouts Road	33.6074975	-86.79755	No. No potential to discharge pollutants.
Fultondale Library	500 Byrd Lane	33.6140116	-86.79532	No. No potential to discharge pollutants.
Fultondale Recreational Center	2980 Hawkins Lane	33.592188	-86.80179	No. No potential to discharge pollutants.
Park & Rec.	951 Central Avenue	33.5999309	-86.79664	No. No potential to discharge pollutants.
Park & Rec. Office	2309 Fulton Road	33.6180709	-86.80213	No. No potential to discharge pollutants.

Facility	Address	Latitude	Longitude	Inspection
Senior Citizen Building	900 Rowe Drive	33.6214544	-86.79905	No. No potential to discharge pollutants.
Storm Shelter #1	2520 Walker Chapel Road	33.6066135	-86.82264	No. No potential to discharge pollutants.
Storm Shelter #2	3220 Hubbert Drive	33.6003612	-86.79649	No. No potential to discharge pollutants.

Requirement #2. An estimated amount of floatable material collected from the MS4 as required by the permit.

The City's municipal personnel removed approximately **470** trash bags of litter from the MS4 during the reporting period.

Requirement #3: Any updates to the inspection plan.

There were no updates to the inspection plan. The inspection plan can be found in the SOP manual adopted by the City (**Appendix F**).

Requirement #4: The number of inspections conducted.

At least one inspection was reported for the City Hall, Detective Building, Inspections Building and Street Department.

Requirement #5: Any updates to the SOP of good housekeeping practices.

There were no updates to the SOP for good housekeeping practices. The SOP manual is found in **Appendix F**.

Monitoring

The impaired Black Creek has been monitored for pH quarterly since June of 2017 at two monitoring locations. A portion of the impaired Black Creek is in the far reaches of Fultondale's boundary, northeast of downtown and population concentrations. The pH during this reporting period ranged from 6.83-8.46, which is within the established TMDL range of 6.0 - 8.5. The monitoring results from this reporting period are summarized in the table below.

Date	Location	Time	Temperature (°C)	pH
6/30/21	Chenoor Rd.	12:35	N/A	7.19
6/30/21	Cottonwood Dr.	13:50	23.62	7.36
09/30/21	Chenoor Rd.	16:16	21.15	8.46
09/30/21	Cottonwood Dr.	16:40	19.90	6.83
12/20/21	Chenoor Rd.	14:47	12.72	7.82
12/20/21	Cottonwood Dr.	14:18	11.90	7.85
2/14/2022	Chenoor Rd.	14:47	11.56	8.15
2/14/2022	Cottonwood Dr.	14:07	13.54	7.88

Program Evaluation

Program Strengths and Weaknesses

Overall Strengths

The City continues to work toward fulfilling the requirements of its storm water permit. The City offers educational messaging such as placing a storm water information on utility bills and will post educational materials on their Storm water webpage. Outreach activities that were cancelled in the reporting period due to COVID-19 are expected to resume when possible.

Overall Weakness

The City has had multiple personnel changes relating to the Stormwater Program. It is in the process of training appropriate staff on meeting permit requirements.

Future Directions

Public Education and Public Involvement on Storm Water Impacts: The City, JCDH and SWMA will continue to provide education to the public through classroom education, and multiple media outlets, including print and internet.

Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination: The City will continue to inspect outfalls and partner with the public on illicit discharge identification. Currently, the City, JCDH, and SWMA are collaborating to review the stormdrain infrastructure of Fultondale for inventory and modeling purposes.

Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control: The City is in the process of implementing a digital inspection format to improve documentation.

Post-Construction Storm Water Management in New Development and Redevelopment: The City will continue to offer information to developers on the benefits of green technologies and LID

Pollution Prevention/ Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations: The City will work to improve its operations to ensure the minimization of pollutants entering the system. Appropriate City staff will complete training to improve their level of knowledge on pertinent storm water issues.

SWMPP Effectiveness

The previous SWMPP was effective overall.

2021-2022 SWMPP Summary

The summary table of storm water controls that are planned/scheduled for the next reporting cycle can be found in **Appendix G**.