



STORMWATER
ENTERPRISE

POLICY STATEMENT

SUBJECT: 4 STEP PROCESS EXCLUSIONS

DATE: MAY 31, 2023

OVERVIEW:

New requirements surrounding the 4 Step Process must be added to the City of Colorado Springs' stormwater criteria to maintain compliance with the City's MS4 Permit.

DETAILS:

On May 31st, 2023, the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment issued Modification #1 to the City of Colorado Springs MS4 Permit. To comply with the requirements of the new permit, the following is incorporated into City stormwater criteria.

POLICY:

All projects that disturb one acre or more, including projects less than one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development or sale, must comply with the Four Step Process.

The following areas are excluded from this requirement. These exclusions must be clearly documented in the applicable drainage report.

- All utility installation and maintenance that does not permanently alter the terrain, ground cover, or drainage patterns from those present prior to the project. Utility tie-ins extending beyond the project site are excluded.
- Staging areas that do not permanently alter the terrain, ground cover, or drainage patterns from those present prior to the project.
- Stream stabilization projects
- Trails (not including bike lanes for roadways or sidewalks)
- Stormwater facilities, including maintenance roads

Excluded areas are not counted toward the one acre of disturbance. Unless covered under an exclusion above, runoff from all disturbed areas must be treated under the 4 Step Process.

Engineers may choose to not treat up to 5 percent, not to exceed 1 acre, of the applicable disturbance area if they show that it is not practicable to capture runoff from portions of the site that will not drain towards permanent control measures. Not treated areas must be clearly documented in the applicable drainage report.