

**KNOWLTON TOWNSHIP
COUNTY OF WARREN
ORDINANCE 2023-07**

**AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING THE RETROFITTING
OF EXISTING STORM DRAIN INLETS**

WHEREAS, in order to prevent pollutants from being transported to local water bodies from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s), federal stormwater regulations require MS4 operators to obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and implement a stormwater management program; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to NJPDES Master General Permit No. NJ0141852, as of January 1, 2023, all 101 New Jersey municipalities previously assigned to Tier B, such as Knowlton Township, have now been assigned to Tier A, in order to help better manage stormwater discharges and resulting pollutant and nutrient impacts to waterways.

WHEREAS, this reassignment requires Knowlton (and all former Tier B municipalities) to update their ordinances to be consistent with Tier A standards.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Knowlton, in the County of Warren and State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 161, Article II of the Code of the Township of Knowlton, entitled “Retrofitting of Storm Drain Inlets” is hereby added as follows:

Article II. Retrofitting of Storm Drain Inlets.

§161-7 Purpose.

An ordinance requiring the retrofitting of existing storm drain inlets which are in direct contact with repaving, repairing, reconstruction, or resurfacing or alterations of facilities on private property, to prevent the discharge of solids and floatables (such as plastic bottles, cans, food wrappers and other litter) to the municipal separate storm sewer system(s) operated by the Township of Knowlton so as to protect public health, safety and welfare, and to prescribe penalties for the failure to comply.

§161-8. Definitions:

For the purpose of this ordinance, the following terms, phrases, words, and their derivations shall have the meanings stated herein unless their use in the text of this Chapter clearly demonstrates a different meaning. When not inconsistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future, words used in the plural number include the singular number, and words used in the singular number include the plural number. The word “shall” is always mandatory and not merely directory.

- a. Municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4)– a conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, manmade channels, or storm drains) that is owned or operated by [insert name of municipality] or other public body, and is designed and used for collecting and conveying stormwater. **NOTE:** In municipalities

with combined sewer systems, add the following: “MS4s do not include combined sewer systems, which are sewer systems that are designed to carry sanitary sewage at all times and to collect and transport stormwater from streets and other sources.”

- b. Person – any individual, corporation, company, partnership, firm, association, or political subdivision of this State subject to municipal jurisdiction.
- c. Storm drain inlet- an opening in a storm drain used to collect stormwater runoff and includes, but is not limited to, a grate inlet, curb-opening inlet, slotted inlet, and combination inlet.
- d. Waters of the State – means the ocean and its estuaries, all springs, streams and bodies of surface or ground water, whether natural or artificial, within the boundaries of the State of New Jersey or subject to its jurisdiction.

§161-9. Prohibited Conduct:

No person in control of private property (except a residential lot with one single family house) shall authorize the repaving, repairing (excluding the repair of individual potholes), resurfacing (including top coating or chip sealing with asphalt emulsion or a thin base of hot bitumen), reconstructing or altering any surface that is in direct contact with an existing storm drain inlet on that property unless the storm drain inlet either:

- 1. Already meets the design standard below to control passage of solid and floatable materials; or
- 2. Is retrofitted or replaced to meet the standard in Section IV below prior to the completion of the project.

§161-10. Design Standard:

Storm drain inlets identified in Section III above shall comply with the following standard to control passage of solid and floatable materials through storm drain inlets. For purposes of this paragraph, “solid and floatable materials” means sediment, debris, trash, and other floating, suspended, or settleable solids. For exemptions to this standard see Section V.3 below.

- 1. Design engineers shall use either of the following grates whenever they use a grate in pavement or another ground surface to collect stormwater from that surface into a storm drain or surface water body under that grate:
 - a. The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) bicycle safe grate, which is described in Chapter 2.4 of the NJDOT Bicycle Compatible Roadways and Bikeways Planning and Design Guidelines (April 1996); or
 - b. A different grate, if each individual clear space in that grate has an area of no more than seven (7.0) square inches, or is no greater than 0.5 inches across the smallest dimension.

Examples of grates subject to this standard include grates in grate inlets, the grate portion (non-curb-opening portion) of combination inlets, grates on storm sewer manholes, ditch grates, trench grates, and grates of spacer bars in slotted drains.

Examples of ground surfaces include surfaces of roads (including bridges), driveways, parking areas, bikeways, plazas, sidewalks, lawns, fields, open channels, and stormwater basin floors.

2. Whenever design engineers use a curb-opening inlet, the clear space in that curb opening (or each individual clear space, if the curb opening has two or more clear spaces) shall have an area of no more than seven (7.0) square inches, or be no greater than two (2.0) inches across the smallest dimension.

3. This standard does not apply:

a. Where the municipal engineer agrees that this standard would cause inadequate hydraulic performance that could not practicably be overcome by using additional or larger storm drain inlets that meet these standards;

b. Where flows are conveyed through any device (e.g., end of pipe netting facility, manufactured treatment device, or a catch basin hood) that is designed, at a minimum, to prevent delivery of all solid and floatable materials that could not pass through one of the following:

i. A rectangular space four and five-eighths inches long and one and one-half inches wide (this option does not apply for outfall netting facilities);
or

ii. A bar screen having a bar spacing of 0.5 inches.

c. Where flows are conveyed through a trash rack that has parallel bars with one-inch (1") spacing between the bars; or

d. Where the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection determines, pursuant to the New Jersey Register of Historic Places Rules at N.J.A.C. 7:4-7.2(c), that action to meet this standard is an undertaking that constitutes an encroachment or will damage or destroy the New Jersey Register listed historic property.

§161-11. Enforcement:

This ordinance shall be enforced by the Township Zoning Officer, County Health Department, or New Jersey State Police, Knowlton Township.

§161-12. Penalties:

Any person(s) who is found to be in violation of the provisions of this ordinance shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$100 and not to exceed \$2,000 for each storm drain inlet that is not retrofitted to meet the design standard. Every day in which a violation of this article exists shall constitute a separate violation.

SECTION 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict or inconsistent with any part of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent that they are in conflict or inconsistent.

SECTION 3. If any section, provision, or part of provision of this Ordinance shall be held to be unenforceable or invalid by any court, such holding shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance, or any

part thereof, other than the part so held unenforceable or invalid.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall take effect after passage and publication in the manner provided by law.

Introduction: July 10, 2023

Motion: Shipps

Second: Van Horn

AIF: Bates- yes, Cuntala- yes, Mazza- yes, Shipps- yes, Van Horn- yes

Adoption: August 24, 2023

Motion: Cuntala

Second: Mazza

Roll Call: Bates-no, Cuntala-yes, Mazza-yes, Shipps-yes, Van Horn-yes