

- The samples must be collected and the four geometric means calculated each year for the permit term. In the event that two years of data demonstrate that the level of bacteria is consistently below numeric criteria, then the permittee must prepare a Sampling Quality and Assurance Plan (SQAP). The SQAP must be submitted to EPD for approval.
- In the event the monitoring is performed in accordance with an EPD-approved SQAP, then the results must be submitted in the annual report, but also submitted separately to EPD's Watershed Planning & Monitoring Program (<https://epd.georgia.gov/watershed-protection-branch/watershed-planning-and-monitoring-program>). EPD will use the permittee's data, along with data obtained from other sources, to evaluate the possible removal of the waterbody from the 303(d) list.

A permittee can voluntarily prepare a SQAP at any time. Sampling conducted in accordance with a SQAP may result in a water being removed from the 303(d) list of impaired waters. When the water is delisted, then monitoring conducted under the MIP may cease.

Each Annual Report shall include

- Any monitoring data collected during the reporting period;
- An assessment of the data trends over time for each pollutant of concern. The assessment shall initially include a characterization of baseline conditions. The data assessment must include a written evaluation of whether water quality is improving, declining, fluctuating, or remaining constant. This assessment can be provided in the method chosen by the permittee (e.g. line graphs, narrative text, or combination of both). If monitoring identifies that an upstream MS4 is the source of the pollutant of concern, then the permittee must notify the immediately upstream MS4.
- An assessment to determine the effectiveness of the BMPs employed and what, if any, additional adaptive BMP measures may be necessary to return the waters to compliance with State water quality standards. If BMP revisions and/or additional BMPs are necessary, then the revised MIP must be submitted to EPD for review.

4.4.3 The requirements of Part 4.4.3 apply to all permittees, regardless of population:

Following review and comment on the IWP or MIP by EPD, the permittee will incorporate necessary revisions into the IWP or MIP. For those waters where the permittee is conducting monitoring, the data must be made available to other MS4 permittees upon request.

Existing permittees must submit a modified IWP or MIP for any newly listed waters with the subsequent annual report. For permittees designated after the issuance date of the permit, the IWP or MIP must be submitted with the annual report due within 4 years of