McKinley Paper – Wisconsin, Combined Locks Mill
WIPDES WI-0000990
6/1/2023 ~9:30pm
Process water discharged to storm sewers
Initial estimate of 300 gallons of water and 1.251 pounds of fiber reached the Fox River via storm water outfalls
6/5/2023 5:10 pm contacted the DNR spill hotline
6/5/2023 5:20 pm VM for Laura Gerold notifying of spill

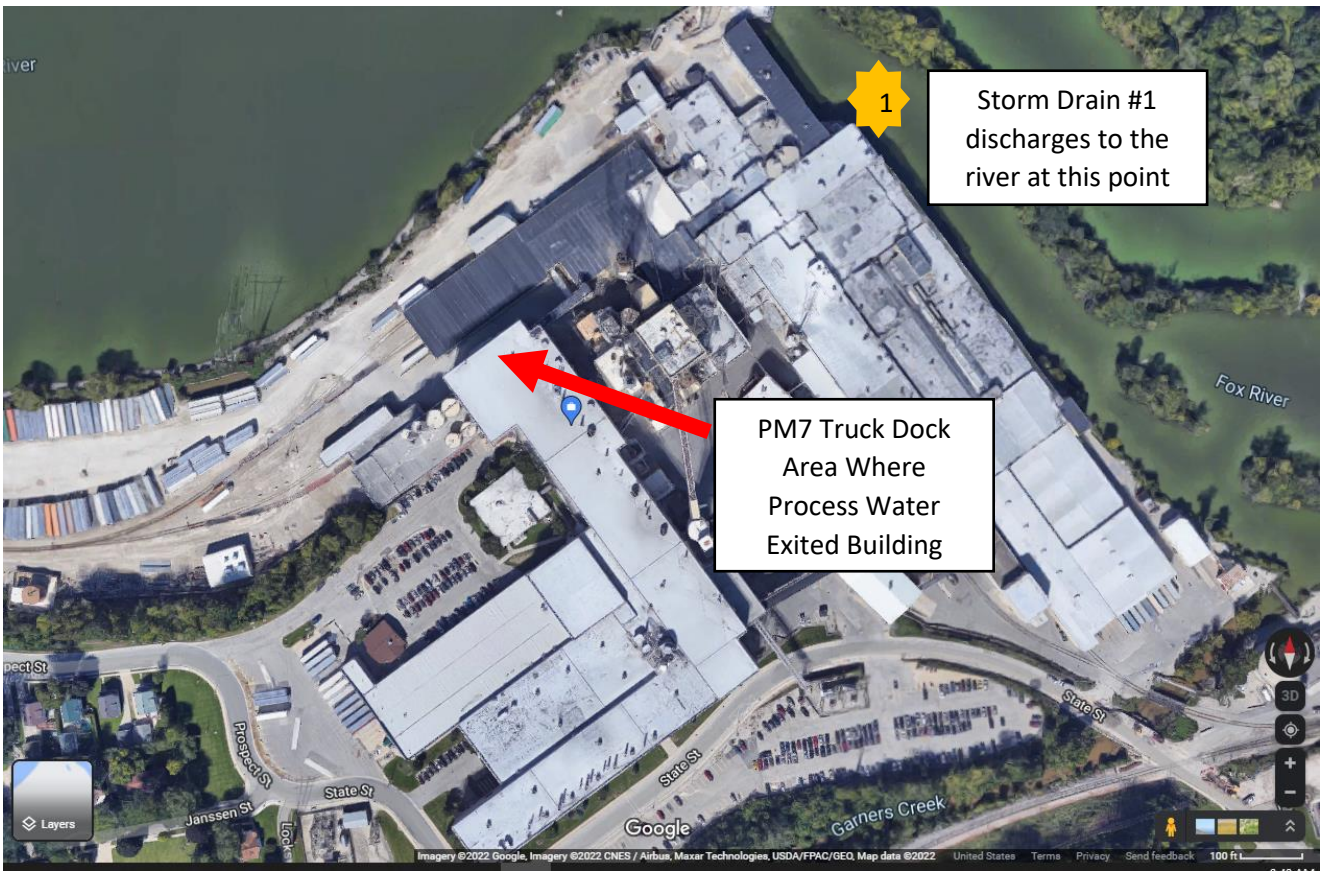
On 6/1/2023, road construction was occurring on Prospect Street next to the Mill. Around 8:00am an excavator contacted a high voltage line resulting in a Mill-Wide Power Outage. After power had been restored, the mill began restarting operations slowly, working through problems as a result of the unexpected outage. This led to unique and challenging circumstances as we were attempting to bring the mill back online. Among the many challenges in restarting a mill, these circumstances created excess process water which resulted in the overflowing of white water chests in the PM7 tank farm at about 9:30 PM. This caused process water to fill the internal tank farm u-drains and exceed the capacity of the tank farm process water collection pit sump pumps. The process water ran out of the tank farm area, filling the PM7 truck dock area and overflowing out the doors into the nearby storm drains.

Once the spill was detected, storm drain covers were deployed. Most of the water remained in place in the inside truck dock and was drained to our waste water collection system after the excess process water and overflowing tank situation was resolved. Some water drained under the man door and truck door at the east end of the truck dock as that is the low point. Once the cover was placed at Storm drain #1 (see maps), the water ponded. This water was then pumped back into the mill buildings using a sump pump. Water that left the west doors trickled down an extended path to storm drains #2, #3.

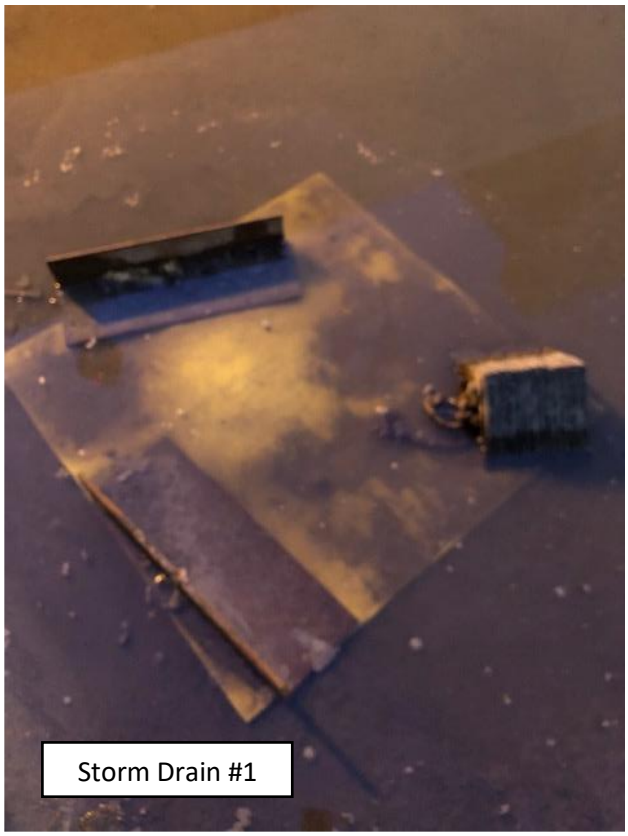
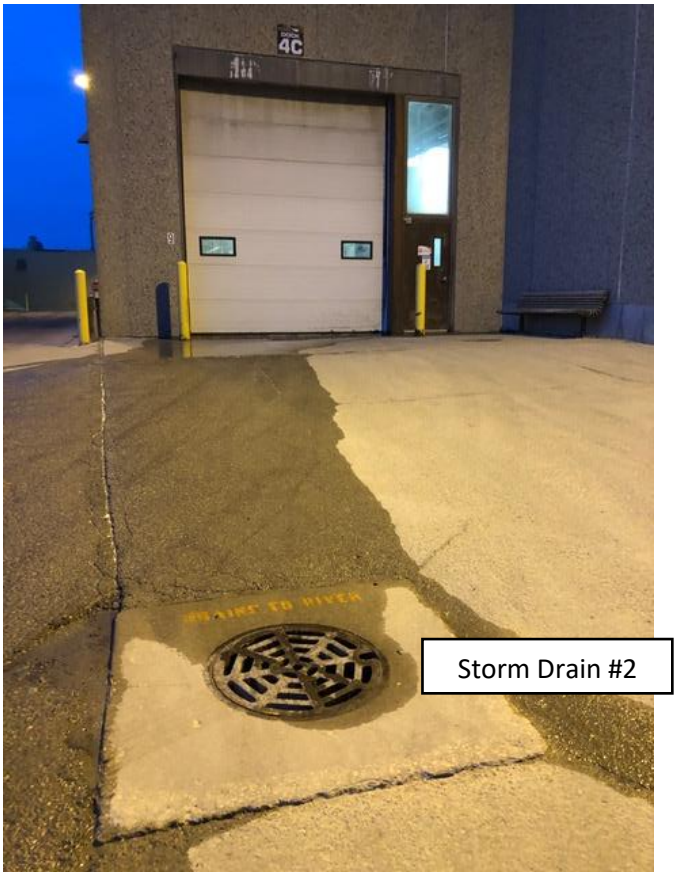
Water from the overflowing white water chest was internal mill water recovered for reuse, so it had a brown color due to bits of fiber. This water source is approximately 0.05% paper fiber. We do add some biocides to the process, but there are no measurable chlorine residuals in our mill water loop while we are running brown paper grades; all chlorine is consumed in the process. There could be some residual starch that did not stay with the sheet of paper in the manufacturing process, but we do our best to make sure the starch is bound up in the sheet or surface applied as it is added cost when it washes through**.** It is estimated that 300 gallons of water reached storm drain #2 at dock 4C and 1.251 pounds of fiber was contained in it. Typically we see fiber stick to the concrete and mat up so it doesn't all reach the full distance. We cleaned up any fiber remaining on the ground.

The following pages contain maps of the mill site and then an inset to show the storm drains. Pictures and descriptions are also attached.

Site Map – McKinley Paper – Wisconsin, Combined Locks



Dock 6B storm drain #1 after the drain cover was quickly placed.



An estimated 300 gallons of water entered Storm drain #2 (on the map). Storm drain #3 was covered to prevent water from entering it. Any water that entered the storm drain, is diverted to the wood yard storm water pond where fiber will settle out.