Construction Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Construction projects are required to implement the stormwater best management practices (BMP) on this page, as they apply to your project, all year long.

Materials & Waste Management

- Non-hazardous Materials
  - Store and cover stockpiles of sand, dirt, or other construction material with tarps when rain is forecast or if it actually begins to rain within 14 days.
  - Use (but don’t emulsify) rechlorinated water for dust control.

Hazardous Materials

- Label all hazardous materials and hazardous wastes (such as pesticides, paints, solvents, fuels, fuel oil, and ammonia) in accordance with state and federal regulations.
- Store hazardous materials and wastes in water-tight containers, store in appropriate secondary containment, and cover them at the end of every work day or during wet weather or when rain is forecast.
- Follow manufacturer’s application instructions for hazardous materials and be careful not to use more than necessary. Do not apply chemicals outdoors when rain is forecast within 24 hours.
- Arrange for appropriate disposal of all hazardous wastes.

Waste Management

- Cover waste disposal containers securely with tarps at the end of every work day and during wet weather.
- Check waste disposal containers frequently for leaks and to make sure they are not overloaded. Never leave bags exposed on the construction site.
- Close or replace portable toilets, and inspect them frequently for leaks and spills.
- Dispose of all waste and debris properly. Recycle materials and waste that can be recycled (such as steel, concrete, abrasive base materials, wood, drywall, paper, etc.).
- Dispose of liquids released from paint, thinners, solvents, glues, and cleaning fluids as hazardous waste.

Construction Entrances and Perimeter

- Establish and maintain effective perimeter controls and stabilize all construction entrances and exits to sufficiently control erosion and sediment discharges from site and from trucking off site.
- Swab or vacate any street tracking immediately and secure adjacent sources to prevent further tracking. Never leave down streets to clean up tracking.

Equipment Management & Spill Control

- Maintain and repair or replace vehicles properly equipped with appropriate BMPs, for vehicle and equipment parking and storage.
- Perform regular maintenance, repair jobs, and vehicle and equipment washing off site.
- If refueling or vehicle maintenance must be done, work in a bermed area away from storm drains and keep a dry gap of at least 4 inches between fuel lines or fuel tank and the equipment.
- Dispose of flammable liquids as hazardous waste.
- If vehicles or equipment cleaning must be done, clean with water only in a bermed area that will not allow runoff to enter storm drains, streets, or surface waters.
- Do not clean vehicle or equipment interiors using soaps, solvents, degreasers, or any cleaning equipment.

Earthmoving

- Schedule grading and excavation work during dry weather.
- Buffer all dewatered areas, stabilize and maintain temporary erosion control (such as erosion control fabric, straw, or other erosion control material) until vegetation is established.
- Maintain clear drainage vegetation outside of the作业 area and at all times.
- Do not use water to wash down earthwork concrete pavements.

Paving/Asphalt Work

- Avoid panning and seal coating in wet weather or when rain is forecast. To prevent materials that have not yet been compacted from flowing onto storm drain inlets.
- Cover storm drain outlets and manholes when applying hot mix, back cut, slurry seal, fog seal, etc.
- Cease or reduce appropriately, disposal of excess during severe periods. The owner shall be on site during this process.
- Do not use seawater to wash down earthwork concrete pavements.

Concrete, Grout & Mortar Application

- Store concrete, grout, and mortar away from storm drains or manholes, and on pavers under cover to prevent them from rain, runoff, and wind.
- Wash out concrete equipment/mixers before it is a discharged wastewater area, where the water will flow into a temporary waste pit, and in a manner that will prevent leaching into the underlying soil or onto surrounding areas. Let concrete harden and dispose of as garbage.
- When washing/drying aggregate, prevent wastewater from entering storm drains. Block any inlet and surrounding gutter, hose wastewater onto dirt areas, or drain into a bermed surface to be pumped and disposed of properly.

Sawcutting & Asphalt/Concrete Removal

- Protect nearby storm drain inlets when sawcutting. Use fiber fabric, back bath filter, or grooved bags to keep slurry out of the storm drain system.
- Shovel, absorb, or vacuum saw-cut slurry and dispose of all waste as soon as you finish in one location or at the end of each work day (whichever is sooner).

Landscaping

- After vegetation enters a catch basin, close it immediately.

Dewatering

- Discharge of groundwater or captured runoff from stormwater operations must be properly managed and disposed. When possible, dewatering discharge to the nearest possible and clean with chlorine or sodium or soak with a properly treated filter and sodium chloride solution. Disposal of excess liquids as hazardous waste.
- Paint chips and dust from non-hazardous dry stripping and sandblasting may be swept up or collected in plastic drop cloths and disposed of as trash.
- Chemical paint stripping methods and dust from organic paints or paint removers that contain solvents or emulsifiers may be disposed of as hazardous waste. Lead-based paint removal requires a state-certified contractor.

Storm drain pollutants may be liable for fines of up to $10,000 per day!

Painting & Paint Removal

- Never clean brushes or rinse paint containers into a storm, gutter, storm drain, or sewer.
- For water-based paint, paint out brushes to the extent possible, and rinse into a drain that goes to the sanitary sewer. Never pour paint down a storm drain.
- For oil-based paints, paint out brushes to the extent possible and clean with thinner or solvent in a proper container. Filter and discard thinner and solvents. Dispose of excess liquids as hazardous waste.

Paint chips and dust from non-hazardous dry stripping and sandblasting may be swept up or collected in plastic drop cloths and disposed of as trash.

Chemical paint stripping methods and dust from organic paints or paint removers that contain solvents or emulsifiers may be disposed of as hazardous waste. Lead-based paint removal requires a state-certified contractor.