

Stormwater Best Management Practices

STORM DRAIN MAINTENANCE

STORMWATER PROTECTION

Storm drain system maintenance operations are crucial in preventing pollutants from entering storm drains. Conversely, if not properly maintained, they can be a significant contributor to stormwater pollution. Anything entering a storm sewer system flows untreated into the water bodies we use for swimming, fishing, and drinking water. Any pollutant that might wind up on a street or parking lot can wind up in the storm drain and, ultimately, into creeks or rivers. These pollutants include oil and grease, hazardous chemicals, trash, leaves and other oxygen depleting compounds. Maintaining catch basins, storm water inlets and other storm water conveyance structures on a regular basis will remove pollutants, prevent clogging downstream, restore catch basins' ability to trap sediments, and ensure the system functions properly to avoid flooding.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPS)

The objective in stormwater protection is that **only rainwater and snow melt go down the storm drain**. Best Management Practices (BMPs) are specific steps taken to prevent stormwater pollution as a result of day-to-day activities of street maintenance operations. All employees shall review this information sheet as a training tool, and make every effort to keep pollutants from going down the storm drain by putting the following BMPs into practice.

ACTIVITY	BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not dump any liquids or other materials outside.
Storm Drainage System Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean catch basins on a regular schedule or when they become 40% full of debris. Drain decanted water collected from storm system cleaning into sanitary sewer <u>only</u>. Do not temporarily store collected storm system cleaning debris within 100 feet of any surface water, storm drain inlet, or drainage ditch (unless it's at a lower elevation). Dispose of debris at a landfill. Collect wastes removed from catch basins that are suspected of contamination (such as oil, antifreeze, other industrial wastes) and dispose of these wastes properly¹. Some wastes may be hazardous. Stay alert for any signs of illicit discharges (anything except rain water that is allowed to flow into any storm drain inlet or drainage ditch). This includes "dry weather" flows, pipes or hoses emptying into storm drains, and "threatened discharges" (materials that are no longer contained in a pipe, tank, or other container unless they are actively being cleaned up). Report any suspicious discharges to your supervisor or Storm Water Coordinator promptly. (See back page for allowable discharges.) Mark or stencil storm drain inlets "Warning: Drains to Creek, Do Not Dump" (schedule as per WASH agreement).

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¹Storm drainage maintenance wastes may be either non-hazardous or hazardous. Solid non-hazardous waste may be disposed in a sanitary landfill or recycled. Liquid non-hazardous wastes must be absorbed before sanitary landfill disposal. Hazardous waste, as defined under Colorado Hazardous Waste Regulations (6 CCR 1007-3), must be transported and disposed of at a RCRA-permitted disposal or treatment facility. Contact the Colorado Dept. of Public Health & Environment, Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division at 303-692-3300 for applicable requirements.

Allowable non-storm water discharges include the following ONLY:

Note: This list may vary per municipality.

- Water line flushing or other potable water sources
- Landscape irrigation or lawn watering irrigation return flows
- Diverted stream flows
- Rising groundwater
- Uncontaminated ground water infiltration to storm drains (as defined by 40 CFR 35.2005 (20))
- Uncontaminated pumped ground water
- Foundation or footing drains
- Crawl space pumps
- Air conditioning condensation
- Natural springs
- Individual residential car washing or car washing of less than two (2) consecutive days in duration for charity or nonprofit fund raising,
- Natural riparian habitat or wet-land flows
- Swimming pools (if de-chlorinated or less than 0.05 PPM chlorine),
- Street wash water and any other water source not containing pollutants
- Discharges approved by the authorized enforcement agency as being necessary to protect public health and safety, such as flows from firefighting, and dye testing, provided the person undertaking such testing provides verbal notification to the authorized enforcement agency 24 hours prior to the time of the test.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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