



PACE
PARTNERS FOR A
CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

Outdoor Special Events *Stormwater Protection*

Spring 2009

What is Stormwater?

Stormwater is rainwater and snowmelt. When stormwater flows across our parking lots and streets, it can pick up pollutants that are discharged directly into our rivers and streams through the storm drains located on streets and in parking lots. Any pollutants entering these drains flows untreated to the water bodies we use for drinking water, swimming, and fishing.

What is Stormwater Protection?

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.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs)

General

- Do not dump any liquids or other materials outside. Materials that are no longer contained in a pipe, tank, or other container are considered to be “threatened discharges” to stormwater unless they are actively being cleaned up. Direct flow of pollutants, as well as threatened discharges to storm drains, gutters, or waterways are illegal.

Contracts & Leases

- If you have contracts with vendors participating in your event or companies hired to help with cleanup, include language requiring them to be educated and responsible for proper stormwater management.
- Put this language in any contract you enter into.

Waste Management & Disposal

- Be sure adequate receptacles are provided for use by vendors and guests to prevent litter.
- All waste receptacles (dumpsters) must be sturdy, leak-tight, and equipped with lids or covers. Keep all outdoor receptacles closed unless adding or removing wastes.
- Do not wash out any receptacles outdoors unless wastewater is collected or discharged to sanitary sewer.
- Be sure containers are emptied as needed to prevent overflow. It is also important they are emptied at the end of each day.
- Never place liquids or liquid containing wastes in an outdoor waste receptacle.

Portable Toilets

- Be sure they are serviced frequently to prevent any overflows or leaks.
- Require your vendor to stake down the portable toilets to prevent them from blowing over in high winds or from being tipped over.

Grease Management

- Have spill cleanup material on hand at all times. Clean up spills immediately.
- Protect the ground under and around your deep fryer using cardboard or a tarp.
- Properly dispose of all grease into an approved tallow bin.
- Have regular collection service for tallow bins to prevent grease from overflowing.

Pressure Washing

- Use dry cleanup methods to collect litter and absorb any liquid wastes prior to any pressure washing. These include using absorbents (e.g. kitty litter, rags, sand, etc.), sweeping, and scraping off dried debris.
- If you are not using any detergents or chemicals and are only cleaning surfaces of ambient dirt or dust, then this wastewater can be directed to landscape or contained onsite and allowed to evaporate. However, if there is any food residue or oils on areas that are going to be washed, this method is NOT acceptable.
- Prior to pressure washing, identify where all storm drains are located. Storm drains may be located in the gutter at the end of a block or in landscaping hidden from view. Wash water must not be allowed to flow down gutters or to enter storm drains.
- Determine where water will pool for collection.
- Use the following types of equipment to protect storm drains and to contain and collect wash water: vacuum pumps, booms / berms, portable containment areas, weighted storm drain covers, inflatable plumber's plugs, oil/water separators, holding tanks, portable sump pumps, hoses, and absorbents. Using wet vacs in areas near creeks, storm drains, and ditches is the recommended BMP.
- Once water is collected, dispose of it properly. Collected wash water may be disposed of into a sanitary sewer drain at the job site or at the contractor's place of business. (FIRST ask for permission from property owner and the wastewater treatment plant. DO NOT dispose of wastewater to a septic system.)
- A permit may be required prior to disposal to the sanitary sewer. Check first with your local wastewater treatment plant for authorization. Ensure that contracted pressure washers follow these BMPs.

Waste Water Management

- Provide disposal containers for waste water generated by your vendors to prevent having this water discharged to the environment.
- Keep these disposal containers out of sight of the guests to prevent them from using containers as trash cans.
- Never place liquids or liquid containing wastes in an outdoor waste receptacle.

Illicit Discharge Reporting

- Stay alert for any signs of illegal discharges. Only rainwater and snow melt are allowed to flow into any storm drain inlet or drainage ditch.
- Report any suspicious discharges to your supervisor or storm water coordinator promptly.

Helpful Resources

See the PACE website for a list of helpful resource sheets
www.pacepartners.com

Keep It Clean Partnership

KICP is a collaborative approach in creating cost-effective solutions to implement a regional stormwater management program, not only to comply with Phase II regulations, but also to address broader water quality and watershed issues.

www.keepitcleanpartnership.org



PACE Contacts

Bonnie Greenwood

bsgreenwood@bouldercounty.org
303.441.1174

Erin Dodge

edodge@bouldercounty.org
303.441.1241

PACE Hotline

303-786-PACE (7223)

KICP Program Coordinator:

Janice Buswell-Lopitz
(303) 441-1439
www.keepitcleanpartnership.org