



PACE
PARTNERS FOR A
CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

Storm Drain Maintenance

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.

Storm Drainage System Maintenance

- 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 only.
- Do not flush or jet storm drain systems unless flush water is de-chlorinated and/or the wastewater/debris is collected down gradient (before it reaches an outfall).
- Do not store 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.
- Separate wastes removed from catch basins that are suspected of contamination (such as oil, antifreeze, other industrial wastes) and dispose of these wastes properly.¹ 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).

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



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 Discharges include the following ONLY:

*Note: This list may vary per municipality and some discharges may require a State of Colorado Discharge Permit. **

- 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.

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