



PACE
PARTNERS FOR A
CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

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.

Universal BMPs for *Stormwater Protection*

Spring 2009

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

- All service contracts and property leases must stipulate that contractors and lessees comply with applicable storm water BMPs in the conduct of their services or occupancy.

Dewatering

- Do not discharge water collected from any secondary containment structure to any storm drain unless the water is determined to be free of contamination (no visible “sheen”, floatables, sediments, turbidity, color or odor).
- Water removed from secondary containment structures that is determined to have only sediments or solids may be filtered or allowed to settle and then the clean water can be discharged to storm drainage. This must be done under supervision and a record made of the event.

Employee & Contractor Training

- Ensure that all applicable employees and contractors are trained on Stormwater Pollution Prevention. (PACE will provide training materials).

Good Housekeeping

- Keep all outdoor work areas neat and tidy. Sweep around work areas after each shift and properly dispose of all wastes.
- Do not handle, use, transfer or pour any materials near a storm drain inlet or drainage ditch.

Illicit Discharge Reporting

- 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”.
- Report any suspicious discharges to your supervisor or Storm Water Coordinator promptly.

Spill Clean-up

- Develop a formal Spill Response Plan and post near clean up materials.
- Ensure that adequate spill kits are located near all outdoor work areas where materials or supplies are used, stored, loaded, off-loaded or transferred.
- Clean up any spills or leaks quickly and thoroughly.
- Use only “dry” clean up methods. Never hose down a spill!
- For spills of liquids, use the “3-Step Method”:
 1. Spread absorbents (loose, sheets or pigs) on the spill.
 2. Sweep up the absorbed material and dispose of the wastes properly.
 3. If residues remain, mop up and dispose of mop water into a sanitary sewer.
- If a spill threatens to enter a storm drain, place absorbents, earth or other impervious material to block its’ entry before starting clean-up.
- If a spill or leak threatens to escape the facility boundaries or enter any surface water body, call 911 and the State’s spill notification hotline at (877-518-5608) immediately.

Waste Management & Disposal

- Never dispose of any wastes or other materials in or near any storm drain inlet or drainage ditch.
- All waste receptacles must be sturdy, leak-tight, and equipped with lids or covers. Keep all outdoor waste receptacles closed unless adding or removing material.
- Do not wash out waste receptacles outdoors unless wastewater will be discharged to a sanitary sewer.
- Never place liquids or liquid containing wastes in an outdoor waste receptacle.

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



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