

# THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY'S GUIDE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs)

# **COMMON POLLUTANTS**

### **Construction Industry**

- Dirt and sedimen
- Trash and debris
- Concrete, stucco, and mortar
- Metal Oil, grease, gasoline, and diese
- Paint
- Sewage
- Fertilizer
- Training

# Take advantage of the following FREE services to you:

Download or print BMF materials.

# Be sure to always:

- Understand onsite drainage patterns
- Identify all onsite storm drain inlets and catch basins or the nearest offsite drain location
- Ensure all onsite storm drain inlets are protected to capture pollutants

# **Training**

Provide BMP training to all new construction personne and offer existing construction personnel an annual refresher on stormwater pollution prevention. Post BMPs within the construction trailer or employee break areas. Keep all training records onsite and available for inspection.

# **ABOUT THIS GUIDE**

Many people in the construction trades don't realize their practices can pollute our local streams, creeks, lakes, river, or the ocean. This guide provides general BMPs for construction projects.

Construction activities generate pollutants that can be picked up while watering or by stormwater runoff and transported to the nearest storm drain inlet and into our waterways. You can help reduce water pollution year-round by implementing BMPs. Included in this guide is a list of typical BMPs utilized in the Construction Industry. These BMPs are required by your project's Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (E&SCP) and/or Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). Additional post-construction stormwater control measures (SCMs) are required for retaining and treating stormwater runoff from completed projects to prevent long-term impacts to water bodies. SCMs are different than active construction BMPs because their function is to capture and lessen pollutants in runoff from the completed project long into the future.

**Do you know?** Stormwater requirements are based on total square feet (SF) of soil disturbance and/or the creation or replacement of impervious surfaces. It's important to check city or county grading/building permit exemptions and requirements to stay compliant with codes and standards.

	PROJECT SIZE	STORMWATER REQUIREMENTS
	Any land disturbing activities that may	No Site Plan is required
	generate pollutants but do not require a Grading/Building Permit	Discharges of pollutants are prohibited under city code
	Refer to city code for Grading/Building Permit Exemptions	Implement Construction BMPs as appropriate to prevent pollutant discharges and violation of city code
	All Projects that require a Grading/Building Permit	Site Plan required     Implement Construction BMPs per city code
	Refer to city code for Grading/Building Permit Requirements	Prepare and get approval for E&SCP by city code
	All Large Projects ≥ 1 Acre Soil Disturbance <u>OR</u> < 1 Acre <u>but</u> Part of a Larger Common Plan of Development (≥ 1 Total Acres of Disturbance)  *Refer to Construction General Permit	Large projects must be permitted before starting any soil disturbances     Implement Construction BMPs specified within an approved SWPPP
	Requirements	SWPPPs developed pursuant to the Construction General Permit may substitute for the E&SCP for those projects where a SWPPP is required, if it contains the requirements of the E&SCP.



# **EROSION CONTROL BMPs**

- Conduct grading activities during the dry months to avoid soil disturbance during the rainy season (October–May).
- Schedule earth moving and construction activities in phases to minimize soil disturbance at any one time
- Mark areas of vegetation to be preserved, install tree protection fencing and/or riparian area barriers where needed.
- Apply temporary mulch, hydroseed and/or soil binders to protect soil from wind or water (rain or irrigation) exposure until permanent stabilization is established. Make sure to follow manufacturer's application instructions, avoid overspray and reapply as needed.





# THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY'S GUIDE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs) (Continued)

# Spill Prevention and Clean Up

- Keep a spill kit on site and available for use Clean spills or drips immediately
- Designate a key employee to monitor the management and cleanup of oil or vehicle fluids
- Use dry methods for cleaning up spills (absorbent, sweep) rather than rinsing down areas

TIP: If you coordinate the implementation of BMPs with each phase of construction, it will help prevent sediment from leaving the site!

# **SEDIMENT CONTROL BMPs**

- Key-in (trench and stake) fiber rolls and silt fences properly.
- Inspect the construction site daily. Remove any sediment accumulation on roadways, driveways, sidewalks, gutters, etc. by sweeping (manual or street sweeper). Do not use hoses to rinse down impervious surfaces!
- Regularly inspect, repair and/or replace storm drain inlet protection (screens, filter fabric, gravel bag berms).
- Install appropriately sized sediment/detention basin(s) to allow fine sediment to settle for up to 48 hours before the runoff is released if appropriate for a project.

# **TRACKING CONTROL BMPs**

- Stabilize all construction entrance(s)/exit(s) by installing rumble plates and/or 3-inch rock to eliminate off-site tracking of dirt and sediment.
- Regularly inspect all stabilized construction entrance(s)/exit(s) and remove sediment accumulation within rumble plates or rock base when 1/3 full.

# **RUN-ON AND RUN-OFF CONTROL BMPs**

- Establish run-on controls (earth dikes or drainage swales) to redirect rainwater away from loose soil in disturbed areas.
- Properly grade the site to contain runoff onsite where it can be managed.

# **GOOD HOUSEKEEPING BMPs**

- Routinely inspect temporary concrete/paint/drywall/plaster/stucco washout areas (WAs) for leaks and coverage at the end of each day and/or prior to rain. Maintain WAs with a minimum freeboard of 4 inches for above grade and 12 inches for below grade facilities. Don't forget to change out when 75% full and cleanup spills when they happen.
- Inspect and remove trash/debris accumulation regularly throughout your site and dispose of properly.
- Cover trash cans, dumpsters and/or roll-offs at the end of each day and/or prior to rain. Empty regularly so trash/debris are not dispersed on or off-site.
- Locate portable toilets a minimum of 50 feet away from drainage facilities (concrete swales etc.) and high traffic areas, when possible. Install secondary containment trays when needed.
- Protect stockpiles (soil, landscaping materials or other loose materials) from wind and water (rain or irrigation) erosion and if non-active 14 days or more.
- Store hazardous materials/wastes within watertight containers, secondary containment, under a tarp or storage shed, to prevent exposure during the rainy season.

# **NON-STORMWATER MANAGEMENT**

- Maintain vehicles to prevent leaks and spills. Keep drip pans and spill kits readily available.
- Designate a vehicle and equipment cleaning/fueling/maintenance area that cannot discharge to street or storm drain.
- Periodically inspect potable water/irrigation sources (water truck or hoses) to ensure no leaks and no excess water irrigation and/or water line discharges.
- Use approved dewatering operations to manage accumulated stormwater and authorized nonstormwater discharges at construction sites (please check local and/or state permit/plan requirements).

# **STABILIZE DISTURBED AREAS**

• Use wet suppression frequently (water truck or hoses) for dust control to stabilize disturbed areas until establishment of permanent vegetation, pavers or completion of asphalt, concrete, or chip and seal.

# POST-CONSTRUCTION BMPs

- Protect post-construction measures such as underground chambers or bioretention basins from sedimentation during construction activities or until site is stabilized.
- Keep post-construction measures off-line until you've stabilized the surrounding areas.

ONLY RAIN DOWN THE STORM DRAIN.

