Pollution Prevention Program

Dumpster and Compactor

The following information can help you identify potential problems that may exist at your facility and Best Management Practices (BMPs) that can minimize or prevent discharges of pollutants from entering storm drainage systems from dumpsters, trash compactors and other behind the scene activities.

Dumpsters and Trash Compactors

POTENTIAL PROBLEM:

Liquid waste, hydraulic fluid, litter, and garbage can flow or wash away with rainwater to the stormwater system.

Follow these BMPs to reduce the likelihood of this occurrence:

- Minimize the amount of liquid placed in dumpsters or compactors by:
  - draining liquid food wastes to the sanitary sewer
  - placing only the empty containers in the dumpster or compactor, or
  - using a screen or colander to remove solids from liquid waste (liquid waste goes to the sanitary sewer, and solid waste goes to the trash)
- Keep dumpster lids closed to keep out rainwater
- Route leaks and other wastewaters from dumpsters and compactors to the sanitary sewer system
- Control litter:
  - Make sure waste is contained in dumpsters and compactors
  - Sweep dumpster and compactor area regularly
- Regularly inspect dumpsters, trash compactors, and disposal area for:
  - Leaks or stains. If leaks or stains are found, immediately replace leaking dumpsters and compactors or repair the problem.
  - Litter
- Train employees on proper methods of handling and disposing of waste, and other applicable BMPs.

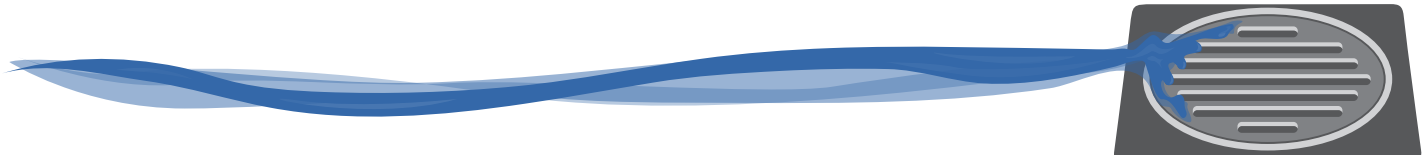
Cleaning and Washing Activities

POTENTIAL PROBLEM:

Washwater with contaminants (soap, dirt, grease, oil, or food) dumped or washed into the storm system.

Follow these BMPs:

- Clean equipment (carts, floor mats, garbage cans, tray racks) in a designated wash area that allows no discharge to the storm drains.
- If designated wash area is outdoors, collect and pump the washwater to sanitary sewer.
- Temporary cleaning areas must be adequate to contain all washwater.
- Discharge washwater to the sanitary sewer system when cleaning flat surfaces only (e.g., loading docks, parking lots, etc.). Follow these steps, if applicable:
  - Sweep the area before washing.
  - If wet cleaning is required, block the storm drain or contain all washwater, and discharge to the sanitary sewer system.
  - If no soap is used, washwater from the following types of surfaces may be discharged to landscaping: sidewalks; plazas; building surfaces; etc.



Other Maintenance Practices

POTENTIAL PROBLEM:

Oil, hydraulic fluids, grease, coolant, and other fluids on the ground from storage or maintenance of heavy equipment (e.g., forklifts, vehicle equipment, refrigerator units, etc.) can wash away with rainwater to storm drains, detention systems, ponds, or swales.

Follow these BMPs:

- Maintain equipment regularly: Check for leaks or stains, and fix leaks immediately.
- Capture leaks and drips during maintenance activities with a drip pan.
- If equipment is stored outside, provide a tarp or roof to protect the equipment from rainfall.

Spill Control Measures

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS:

- Waste foods and garbage being dumped, washed, or allowed to flow to parking lots, storm drains, detention basins, or washes.
- Allowing spillage from grease bins to flow or wash away with rainwater to parking lots, storm drains, detention systems, ponds, or swales.

Follow these BMPs:

- Dispose of waste food and garbage in the dumpster or trash compactor.
- Be prepared for spills:
  - Develop spill procedures for different types of liquid spills (e.g., garbage, liquid food wastes, fuel, etc.)
  - Train employees on cleanup procedures
  - Keep spill kits in well-marked, easily accessible areas
  - If you mop up a spill, dispose of mop/washwater appropriately in indoor sinks for discharge to the sanitary sewer

Your facility is responsible for the contractors you hire – be sure to:

Confirm the contractor has received the proper training.

Know how your contractor will be cleaning your equipment and disposing of the washwater.

SPOKANE REGIONAL HEALTH DISTRICT
Pollution Prevention Program
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