

Storm Water Pollution Prevention Guide for Small Construction Sites



A storm water pollution prevention guide for construction activities which disturb less than 1 acre of land or are considered low-risk, and which are not part of a common plan of development that disturbs more than 1 acre of land surface.

The Federal Clean Water Act requires the City of Shasta Lake to establish programs to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff and prohibit non-storm water runoff from entering a storm drainage system or any surface water body.

This pamphlet provides guidelines for preventing storm water pollution associated with construction activities on typical small construction sites.

TYPICAL CONSTRUCTION SITE BMPs:

1. Conduct daily site inspections and clean areas as necessary.
2. Develop spill response and containment procedures. Keep spill kits onsite.
3. Educate all employees, consultants and subcontractors about your site BMPs.
4. Develop a plan triggered by wind or rain storms to prevent pollutants from leaving the construction site.
5. Maintain all BMPs at the project site.

TIPS TO SUPPORT BMPs:

- Do not allow concrete, paints, chemicals, sediment, yard debris, etc. to enter the storm drain system (gutter, sidewalk, street, drain or inlet).
- Store products out of the rain and in secure place to prevent seepage & spillage.
- Provide erosion and sediment controls to prevent soil and other contaminants from leaving the site.
- Provide a stabilized entrance/exit for vehicles to prevent tracking dirt offsite.
- Place portable toilets on level surface away from any storm drain inlet. Anchor during strong winds.
- Properly dispose of all materials. Do not dump unused or waste products on the ground, where water can carry them to the storm drain.
- Sweep-up surface areas regularly and place the waste in a dumpster. Don't use hose water to clean.
- Do not let washwater or wastewater leave the site. Establish and use an adequately sized washout area to contain all liquids onsite.

Online Resources:

www.dot.ca.gov/hq/construc/stormwater
www.waterboards.ca.gov
www.bmpdatabase.org

The property owner is ultimately responsible for preventing water pollution resulting from construction activities, but everyone involved during construction has a role. Developers, contractors, and property owners are all expected to ensure best management practices (BMPs) are used to keep pollution out of storm drains and waterways. Typical pollutants generated and not properly controlled at construction sites include sediment, concrete, paints, chemicals, and trash.

Prevent Pollution and Avoid Fines

Remember the 3 Cs

Contain - Isolate your work area to prevent discharges from leaving the site.

Control - The best line of defense is to prevent materials and debris from entering the storm drain via procedural methods or "good housekeeping."

Capture - Clean up the work area by sweeping or vacuuming up any residue that has the potential to be discharged. Properly dispose of the residue, and check with the manufacturer, as needed, for disposal requirements.



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CONSTRUCTION SITE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The following Best Management Practices (BMPs) must be properly used at all construction sites in the City to protect storm drains and minimize pollution of waterways.

The City of Shasta Lake Municipal Code prohibits pollutant discharges at work sites from flowing into storm drains which discharge into our neighborhood creeks and the Sacramento River. To remain in compliance with the law, keep your project on schedule, and avoid fines, make sure BMPs are in place and functioning.

Sites must be checked and maintained daily. The following BMPs are not all inclusive.

Paint and Stucco

Contain and cover all paint and stucco materials stored on the site. It is illegal to dump unused paint or stucco in the sewer or storm drain system. Do not wash out paint brushes, sprayers, or buckets in the street or dump any residues in the storm drain. Wash water from cleanup of latex paint ONLY may be poured down the sink drain. For questions regarding the disposal of leftover paints, contact the City of Redding Transfer Station at 530-224-6201.

Perimeter Controls

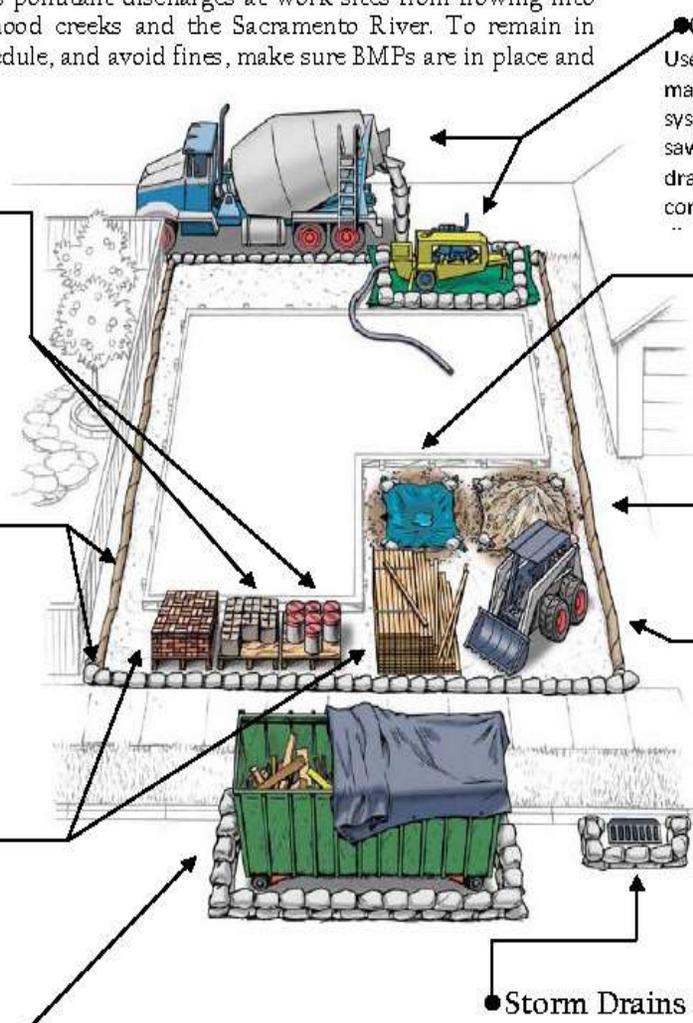
Gravel bags, silt fences and fiber rolls (weighted down) are acceptable perimeter controls to keep sediment contained on the site and must be installed before any clearing occurs. When possible, schedule construction activity during the dry season. Avoid running over perimeter controls with vehicles or heavy equipment as they can damage the materials. Keep extra absorbent materials and/or a wet-dry vacuum onsite to quickly pick up unintended spills.

Building Materials/Staging Areas

Store onsite construction materials properly at all times. Cover building materials when not in use to prevent runoff caused by wind or rain. Prevent flooding by monitoring your site before, during and after rain events. Ensure BMPs are functioning and there are no safety issues.

Dumpsters

Always cover dumpsters with a rollback trap at the end of the workday or during rain events. Sweep areas around dumpsters daily. Provide perimeter controls around dumpster areas if pollutants are leaking or discharging from the dumpster.



Concrete Trucks / Pumpers / Finishers

Use BMPs such as tarp and gravel bags to prevent materials and residue from entering the storm drain system. Capture water runoff from exposed aggregate, sawing, coring, or mortaring before it reaches the storm drain. If necessary, collect washwater in a portable containment device and then haul it to an approved disposal site.

Washout Area

Handle the disposal of "wet" construction materials in the washout area; this includes paint, grout, stucco and concrete. Use a washout trailer or a berm and prevent runoff into nearby areas. Check and maintain the washout area daily to ensure compliance. Do not dump washwater into the street or storm drains. Dispose of all dried materials at the landfill.

Dirt and Grading

Store mounds of dirt or gravel onsite and spray with water as necessary to prevent dust. Cover these materials during the rainy season (October 1 – May 15). For those areas that are active and exposed, have a wet weather action plan that includes additional BMPs such as spreading and anchoring straw, to protect the site during a rain event. Provide sites with adequate tracking control to prevent the transport of dirt/gravel from the site. Remove dirt/gravel tracked onto the street daily using only dry methods (vacuum or sweep).

Storm Drains

Protect storm drain inlets that are subject to runoff from the project's construction activities at all times with perimeter controls, such as gravel bags (sand bags are typically not used for inlet protection because they do not permit flow-through). Replace ruptured or damaged gravel bags, cleanup accumulated sediment/debris, and maintain as needed.

Earthmoving Equipment

Store all earthmoving equipment properly onsite. Regularly maintain equipment and conduct maintenance activities offsite when possible. Use drip pans or plastic to catch drips. Clean up all oil and grease spills immediately.