



# City of East Grand Forks

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Public Works Department · 1001 2nd St NE · East Grand Forks, MN 56721

## **STORMWATER BMPs – STREET SWEEPING & ROAD MAINTENANCE**

### AFFECTED FACILITIES

These Best Management Practices (BMPs) apply at all municipal roads, streets, medians and rights-of-way where sweeping, repair work, painting, striping or maintenance is performed and at all locations where debris is transferred from sweepers or temporarily stored prior to permanent disposal. These BMPs also cover sweeping and maintenance of municipal parking lots, sidewalks and other municipally-owned, outdoor paved surfaces.

### BACKGROUND

Streets, roads, highways and other large paved surfaces are significant sources of pollutants in storm water discharges. Operation and maintenance practices, if not conducted properly, can contribute to the problem. Street sweepings can contain sediments, organics and oil and grease. Maintenance work like concrete repair, saw cutting, asphalt repair, and painting can also be a source of storm water pollution.

### BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

#### Street Sweeping

- Do not wash down any streets or curbs (fine water spray for dust control is acceptable but it should use as little water as possible).
- Operate all sweepers to get optimal debris removal as recommended by the manufacturer. This includes adjusting sweeper speed, brush alignment and rotation rate, and sweeping pattern.
- Develop a street sweeping schedule including prioritized roads, secondary roads and frequency of sweeping.
- Avoid conducting sweeping operations during rainstorms.
- Schedule sweeping:
  - ✓ In areas where storm drain plugging or high pollutant loadings occur.
  - ✓ Immediately following special events like street fairs, art shows and parades.
  - ✓ Immediately after street repair projects that involve saw cutting, chip sealing or other operations that might have left wastes or debris on road surfaces.
  - ✓ After trees lose their leaves in the fall.
  - ✓ After salt/sand application in the winter.

- ✓ During new construction projects involving temporary storage of construction materials like dirt, sand and road base along the roadway.
- ✓ Immediately following median grass cutting operations.

### Debris Storage and Wastewater Disposal

- Sweeper wastewater must be decanted to the sanitary sewer.
- Ensure that debris from sweeper hoppers is collected and taken to a temporary storage area or directly to a permanent disposal site. Debris should be disposed of regularly and not allowed to accumulate.
- The sweeper debris storage area should be more than 100 feet from and at a lower elevation than any water body, creek, river, ditch, or storm drain inlet.
- Ensure that any temporary storage areas for debris are protected from run-off and run-on.
- Do not empty sweeper hoppers near storm drains or surface water bodies or where wind or rain could re-entrain or scatter the debris.

### Road Maintenance Activities

- Schedule painting, striping, marking, asphalt paving, concrete replacement and concrete cutting activities for dry weather. Do not conduct these activities during or immediately after a rainfall.
- Protect nearby (within 25 feet) storm drain inlets from maintenance work (e.g. preparing the surface for an asphalt cap, chip sealing, concrete breaking or saw cutting). Place covers, rock wattles, straw bales, sand bags, filter fabric or plastic around or over inlets to protect them from entry of wastes, dusts, overspray or slurry.
- Sweep up wastes and dispose of the wastes appropriately.
- Do not sweep or hose down wastes into storm drains.
- When saw cutting concrete, use the minimum amount of water. Let the waste slurry dry and then sweep or vacuum it up before leaving the location. Alternately, a wet vacuum may be used to pick up the wet slurry immediately after cutting is complete.
- Store maintenance supplies including cement bags, sealants and tars under cover (such as a tarp) and away from drainage areas. Secure or cover open cement bags to prevent the wind from spreading cement dust.
- When working on bridges, transport paint and materials to and from the job site in containers with secure lids and tied down to the transport vehicle. Do not transfer or load paint over water.
- Capture waste, scraps, rust or paint from any sandblasting or painting projects. It may be necessary to suspend nets or tarps below the bridge to catch falling debris. If sanding, use a vacuum bag attachment.
- Do not spray herbicides on roadways or along curbs. Use a heat lance or manual methods to control weeds.

### NEW CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION REQUIREMENTS

- During road construction projects, control erosion to the maximum extent possible. Provide permanent erosion control that will remain effective for the life of the street.

- Design the sweeper and vacuum truck debris dumping area to be covered and on an impervious surface or on a concrete-lined area that drains to sanitary sewer.
- Install concrete berms or other containment structures around debris storage areas.

#### REQUIRED TRAINING

- Train all current employees who perform street sweeping or road maintenance on these BMPs, the Spill Clean-up BMP and the importance of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) annually.
- Train all new hires and job transferees who will perform street sweeping or road maintenance on these BMPs, the Spill Clean-up BMP and the importance of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) before they are assigned to their new duties.
- All contracts must stipulate that contracted employees are trained in these BMPs.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Household Hazardous Waste can be disposed of at:

**Polk County Environmental Services Transfer Station**

320 Ingersoll Ave

Crookston, MN 56716

Monday - 7:00am to 7:00pm

Tuesday through Friday - 7:00am to 5:30pm

Used motor oil and other waste automotive fluids can be disposed of at:

**Public Works Department**

1001 Second St. N.E.

East Grand Forks, MN 56721

(218) 773-1313

To report an Illicit Discharge, clogged sewer or for answers to questions regarding these stormwater BMPs please contact:

**Public Works Stormwater/Wastewater Department**

1001 Second St. N.E.

East Grand Forks, MN 56721

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