



City of East Grand Forks

600 DeMers Ave · P.O. Box 373 · East Grand Forks, MN 56721
218-773-2483 · 218-773-9728 fax www.egf.mn

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

STORMWATER BMPs – COLD WEATHER OPERATIONS & SNOW STORAGE AREAS

AFFECTED FACILITIES

These Best Management Practices (BMPs) apply at all municipal facilities where salt, salt/sand mix or liquid magnesium chloride are stored or loaded and areas where snow is stored or disposed of (after transport from its original location).

BACKGROUND

Rock salt, salt/sand mix, or other de-icing products can severely damage surface waters. When stored in large quantities, run-on and run-off from salt storage areas can quickly dissolve large volumes of salt and carry it into surface waters. Rock salt or sand/salt mix spread on streets, parking areas, sidewalks and walking paths can be picked up when snow is removed and dumped in disposal areas. Snow can also pick up debris and sediment. Surface waters must be protected from run off from snow disposal areas.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- Salt/sand mix piles must be covered.
- Sand/salt mixture should be stored on paved areas (asphalt or concrete) and these areas should be bermed to adequately protect the salt from escaping. These areas should be swept regularly.
- Bulk storage structures must be installed around petroleum products and any other liquid chemicals (e.g. liquid deicers) located at municipal facilities. Control measures must be implemented that provide secondary containment or equivalent protection so as to contain all spills and prevent any spilled material from entering state waters. For the scenario of a single containment system serving multiple tanks, the containment system must have sufficient capacity to contain 10% of the volume of containers, or the volume of the largest container plus 10%, whichever is greater.
- Prior to implementation of such controls, the facility shall implement practices, such as spill prevention and response, to prevent or reduce pollutants in runoff associated with bulk storage structures.
- When loading and unloading salt/sand mix or liquid deicer, care should be taken not to overfill the truck or tank. Loading areas and yards should be swept frequently to prevent salt or sand build-up and run-off.
- Snow disposal areas should be located at least 500 feet from any storm drain inlets, drainage ditches, or surface waters. The area should be sited to minimize the transport of pollutants from snowmelt into surface waters.
- Snow storage areas should be maintained to reduce erosion and to ensure easy removal of accumulated pollutants or sediments such as sand, road dirt, trash and salts.

- Avoid snow storage on pavement, concrete or on other impervious surfaces that may run-off to creeks or storm drains.

NEW CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION REQUIREMENTS

- Liquid deicer (Magnesium Chloride) tanks must be surrounded by containment berms large enough to contain 10% of the volume of all containers or the volume of the largest container plus 10%, whichever is greater.
- Snow disposal areas should be located at least 500 feet from any storm drainage, ditches or surface waters (ponds, lakes, rivers and creeks).
- New salt/sand storage facilities must be totally enclosed in structures such as salt domes or fabricated buildings with impervious walls and floors.

REQUIRED TRAINING

Train all current employees who utilize cold weather materials and perform cold weather operations on these BMPs, on the Spill Clean-up BMP and the importance of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) annually.

Train all new hires and job transferees who will utilize cold weather materials and perform cold weather operations on these BMPs, on 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
(218) 773-1313