

GRAND CITIES COMMUNITY BUILDING CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS

Storm Water Management Activities Fact Sheet No. 9

Goal/Purpose

Short Term:

Simple materials may be utilized in order to prevent wash water from leaving the work area. Plastic tarps, supported by cement blocks and secured against the building with PVC pipe, catch the runoff water, which will then be cleaned up and disposed of appropriately.

Long Term:

Minimize the release of potential pollutants, such as sediment, cleaners, paints, fuels, and lubricants generated during building construction, regular maintenance, and minor repair work.

Storm Water Management Activities

To comply with the individual Grand Cities Community Storm Water Pollution Prevention Programs (SWPPPs), specific storm water runoff activities must be implemented at all local municipal facilities as required.

Activity:

1. During general construction and maintenance, it is important to protect storm water inlets, swales, culverts, and other water conveyances from materials generated by site work such as vegetation, sediment, soil, debris, and chemicals. Work-related debris must not be allowed to exit the work site. Protection methods include dikes to prevent material from leaving the work area and storm drain mats to prevent wash water from entering the storm conveyance system.
2. Wash water used to power-wash buildings or clean windows, walls, or sidewalks should be contained and disposed of in the sanitary sewer.
3. Promptly clean up any spill of liquid or solid wastes. Do not hose down an area to clean or handle a spill unless the liquid will be completely contained, cleaned up, and disposed of as appropriate for the waste type. There should be no discharge to storm water inlets, landscape, or onto pavement.
4. Do not use drains without knowing whether they flow to the sanitary sewer, storm system, or a self-contained internal sump. Confirm before using drains to ensure proper disposal. Update facility schematics with any change to the plumbing or storm water drain system.
5. Create a temporary containment structure, such as a pit or bermed area, to hold washout from a concrete truck and other equipment. Any slurry created while cutting concrete or other pavement should be placed in the temporary containment structure and allowed to dry. Dispose of any dried material in accordance with the requirements of the trash hauler's or transfer station's requirements.
6. During preparation of the building surfaces for repair or painting, use a drop cloth to collect the paint chips and dust. After preparation, sweep the area and collect the material at the downspouts. If the paint or construction

- debris contains lead, tributyl tin, or other hazardous compounds, dispose of as hazardous waste or characterize for alternative disposal.
7. Create a designated area to mix paint and keep construction materials away from storm drains or protect the storm drains prior to start of work. To catch spills created by the mixing operation, spread impermeable ground cloths or locate the mixing operation indoors.
 8. The paint should comply with local community painting or coating regulations.
 9. Use drop cloths while painting, wherever possible. Use impermeable material under open paint cans and spray equipment to catch leaks and spills.
 10. When working near roof gutters, line the gutter with rags to catch the paint or sealant. Dispose of the rags appropriately.
 11. Prohibit spray painting or sandblasting in windy conditions, which causes overspray with losses to the ground.
 12. Wash water from cleaning up water-based paints should be discharged to the sanitary sewer. Do not put any wash water in the storm drain.
 13. Consider using drop cloths or draperies to enclose or partially enclose the work area to contain overspray.
 14. Thinners and solvents used to clean up oil-based paints and coatings must be contained and disposed of as a hazardous waste. Never pour oil-based coatings or cleaning compounds down the sanitary sewer, into the storm drain system, or on the ground.
 15. Never dump excess paint on the ground for disposal. Water-based paint and solvent-based paint may be disposed of at local disposal sites.
 16. Empty, dry paint cans 5-gallons and under may be discarded in the general trash.
 17. Use drop cloths to catch abrasives, dust, debris, and paint from blasting or other sanding activities.
 18. Collect spent abrasives and debris as appropriate for proper disposal.
 19. Consider enclosing the work area with drop cloths to block the wind and to collect more of the airborne particles. This also limits the area that must be cleaned up after blasting.
 20. Remove any residual air compressor grease that could be exposed to storm water. Ensure that no oil from air compressor bleed lines is exposed to storm water. Fix any leak promptly and place equipment under cover whenever possible.
 21. Any particulate deposition from air scrubbers should be cleaned up regularly.
 22. Any wet scrubber discharges should be directed appropriately for disposal, usually the sanitary sewer or an off-site facility.
 23. Only storm water from basement sumps should discharge to the storm water conveyance system.
 24. Emergency showers should be connected to the sanitary sewer, with no connections to the storm water system.

25. Filter backflush or backwash water must be discharged to the sanitary sewer. Dry solids can usually be disposed of in the trash.
26. Check the area around grease and oil/water interceptors for residual oil or grease that storm water or snowmelt would remove and carry into the storm water system.
27. Schedule regular system inspections and cleaning as prescribed by usage. After the vendor has completed removal activities, clean up any residual material exposed to storm water.
28. The groundwater-dewatering system should be connected to the sanitary sewer, an infiltration system, or storm water system. Obtain required permits for these discharges.
29. The groundwater and produced water should not come into contact with any pollutants prior to discharge.
30. Condensation lines from HVAC systems, chillers, and refrigerators should only discharge uncontaminated liquid to the storm drain; the condensate should not contact other sources of pollution before discharge to the storm water conveyance system. Any internal flushing liquids must be contained and disposed of appropriately.
31. Greasy roof vents should be regularly cleaned; use catch pans and trays whenever possible to assist with cleanup. Check roof for residuals such as paper dust, sawdust, paint, condensate, and clean up as needed.
32. Backwash water from water softeners, reverse osmosis and deionization units should be discharged to the sanitary sewer with an appropriate backflow control device.
33. All contractors shall provide a copy of their storm water awareness training and procedures for protecting the community storm water conveyance system as required by the Clean Water Act. These procedures should cover all activities from cleaning windows to painting an entire building.

If the above-suggested activities require some modification in order to work efficiently and effectively for you and your staff, or do not cover some aspect of your operations or facility, please contact the appropriate Grand Cities storm water representative:

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 Phone: (701) 746-2713
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Carole McMahan, Grand Forks County
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 Phone: (701) 777-3005
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For additional information on this or the local area community responsibilities under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II federal regulations for storm water discharges, visit the following Grand Cities Community Web sites:

City of Grand Forks:

<http://www.grandforksgov.com/gfgov/EnvironW.nsf/Main+Frameset?OpenFrameset>

City of East Grand Forks:

<http://www.ci.east-grand-forks.mn.us/>

Grand Forks County:

<http://www.co.grand-forks.nd.us/homepage.htm>

University of North Dakota:

<http://www.facilities.und.nodak.edu/stormwater.htm>

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