

Stormwater Best Management Practices

What YOU do matters

The water that drains down a sink or toilet flows to the sanitary sewer and is treated at a wastewater treatment plant. The storm drain, on the other hand, is designed to carry rainwater away from streets, parking lots and driveways to prevent flooding. As rainfall flows over the ground it picks up a variety of pollutants. This water does not receive any treatment and flows directly into our creeks, lagoons and oceans.

Pollutants of concern include:

- Sediments
- Fertilizers
- Metals
- Detergents
- Pesticides
- Organic Compounds
- Trash and Debris
- Oil and Grease
- Bacteria and Viruses

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are procedures and practices you can implement to prevent pollutants and other hazardous materials from entering our storm drains.

Once potential and existing sources of pollution have been identified, the next step is to select proper BMPs to eliminate or reduce stormwater pollution. Each of us can do our part to keep stormwater clean. Using BMPs adds up to a pollution solution!

Waste Management

- Sweep up around dumpsters and other areas frequently to prevent trash from accumulating.
- Place all trash inside dumpsters or containers until it can be hauled away. Do not leave trash outside of the dumpster.
- ***Dumpsters should always be kept closed to prevent rainwater from entering.*** Never place liquid waste, leaky garbage bags and hazardous waste in a dumpster or trash bin.
- Recycle cans, bottles, newspaper, office paper and cardboard. We have single stream recycling containers all over campus. Single stream means the recyclables all go into the same container. No sorting required but also ***NO TRASH ALLOWED.***

Spill Response

- Use absorbents and/or neutralizers to clean up small spills. If it's a small spill on the grass/dirt, dig up the spill plus 2 inches around and below it, double bag it (one trash bag inside another), and contact the EHS office@ 812-941-2989 for further guidance. Report significant spills to the Physical Plant and EHS immediately. A significant spill is one that you do not have the capability of cleaning up yourself (you don't have enough absorbent/neutralizer, the wrong type of spill kit, no spill response training) or the spill went down the storm drain or onto the grass/dirt and is either too large for you to clean up or you don't know how long it has been soaking into the dirt for regardless of the size of the spill. Although unlikely outside of the Labs, if it is an immediate threat to life contact the Campus Police Department and evacuate the area. EHS and/or the Campus Police will make any required notifications to Bloomington and/or outside agencies as applicable.
- Do **NOT** wash a spill down the drain. Dilution is not the solution.
- Keep spill kits readily accessible and marked for easy identification. Spill kits that locked up or buried in a storeroom are useless in an emergency. Inspect kits periodically for missing items and replace used or missing items. When you need them is not the time to find out they are empty.

Employee Training and Student Awareness

- Discuss and distribute information on stormwater pollution prevention during employee training sessions and at employee meetings. Distribute information during student in-processing.
- Post good housekeeping tips and reminders on employee and housing bulletin boards.

Good Housekeeping

- Instead of using a hose or pressure washing system try a dry clean up method. Use mops, brooms or wire brushes to clean dumpsters, sidewalks, buildings, equipment, pavement, driveways and other impervious surfaces. Wash water should be disposed to the sanitary sewer, **NEVER** to the storm drain.
- Minimize the use of cleaning solutions and agents and use less hazardous, more environmentally friendly chemicals whenever possible.
- Keep areas free of litter and debris. Place trash cans and recycling receptacles around your area to minimize litter. Contact the Physical Plant if you need additional receptacles.
- Keep all areas cleaned up and in good condition. Set aside dedicated time to conduct cleaning/housekeeping activities. If you make the mess you need to clean it up.

Preventive Maintenance

- Keep equipment and vehicles in good working condition. Inspect frequently for leaks and repair as needed. Clean up leaks and spills immediately and dispose of clean up material appropriately.
- Use absorbent socks or booms to block off storm drains in maintenance areas when there is a potential for a larger spill entering the drain (changing engine oil, transmission fluid, hydraulic fluid, etc.).

- Gutters, storm drains, catch basins and other storm drainage features around campus should be regularly inspected and cleaned so that pollutants do not accumulate or hide evidence of illicit discharges (anything other than stormwater going into them).
- IUS storm drains are labeled to remind everyone that discharge to these drains flows directly to our waterways. Notify the Physical Plant if the label buttons are damaged.

Materials Storage and Handling

- When possible, store Potential Pollutant Materials (PPMs) indoors or under covered areas not exposed to rain. If materials cannot be stored under cover, place materials on pallets and cover with a tarp to avoid contact with stormwater run-on and run-off.
- Do not store metal containers (cans/drums) outside in direct contact with the ground. Direct contact with the ground allows moisture to build up underneath which will cause rust to form on the bottom of the container. This can eventually cause the container to fail. Additionally, the weight of the material in the container, especially if stored directly on dirt, can cause the drum to form a seal with the ground that can hide a leak and end up requiring more extensive/expensive remediation to be done.
- Drums that are stored outside should be stored horizontally on racks with the bungs at 3 and 9 o'clock. If outside drums are stored vertically they should have a drum cover to minimize the potential for becoming contaminated from drum "breathing" due to temperature variations. Drums in use, inside or outside that are on racks, need to have a drip pan under the spigot. Regardless of where they are used or what they are used for, all PPM containers with dispenser hoses need to have a drip pan or other method of containment to contain the end of the dispenser hose.
- Store hazardous waste and other chemicals in a designated area with secondary containment.