

COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE BULLETIN

News You Can Use

STORMWATER COMPLIANCE AT *GENERAL PERMIT FACILITIES*

Purpose	This Compliance Assistance Bulletin will help operators of facilities that are, or should be, covered by the State's General Industrial Stormwater Permit, comply with local Stormwater Ordinance requirements, and prepare for compliance inspections.
Issue	Industrial activities and outdoor storage of equipment, materials, or wastes can introduce pollutants into the storm drainage system and local waterways. When these pollutants enter the storm drainage system, they flow directly into our local waters untreated. These pollutants degrade water quality and harm aquatic life. Facility operators must prevent prohibited discharges to the storm drainage system and implement measures to reduce pollutant sources associated with their operations.
General Industrial Stormwater Permit	<p>The State of California requires businesses engaged in manufacturing, mining, concrete production, transportation (if fueling or maintenance is performed on-site), auto wrecking, recycling, scrap, hazardous waste storage and treatment facilities, and other industrial activities, to gain coverage under the General Industrial Stormwater Permit.</p> <p>Permit coverage is obtained by submitting a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), along with a fee and facility site map. For more information, contact the SWRCB at (916) 341-5536, or visit the State's website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/indusfaq.shtml</p>
General Permit Requirements	<p>General Permitted businesses are required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that identifies pollutant sources at the facility and describes measures to control those sources. • Implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) identified in the SWPPP. • Conduct monitoring and sampling to evaluate effectiveness of pollutant control measures. • Submit Ad Hoc Reports and Annual Report to the State using Stormwater Multiple Application and Report Tracking System (SMARTS). • Upload SWPPP revisions and any Exceedance Response Actions (ERAs) into SMARTS.
Inspection Frequency	As required by the State of California, Environmental Management Department (EMD) conducts triennial stormwater compliance inspections at General Permit facilities to ensure compliance with local Stormwater Ordinances.
Typical Areas of Concern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment and vehicle washing must be conducted in a manner that prevents wash water, sediment, grease, oil, fuel and other associated pollutants from entering the storm drainage system, or flowing off-site.

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Typical Areas of Concern

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- **Equipment and vehicle repair/maintenance** should be conducted indoors, if possible. If done outdoors, care must be taken to promptly clean leaks and spills, and greasy, oily parts should not be left outdoors without some form of coverage to prevent stormwater contact.
- **On-site fueling** should be conducted in designated areas away from storm drainage inlets. A trained attendant shall be present during fueling operations. Spill kit and absorbent material should be readily available to address any leaks or spills. Regularly inspect fueling equipment for leaks.
- **Dumpsters and waste containers** should be sound and leak free. Lids should always be closed when not in use and avoid overfilling.
- **Equipment located or stored outdoors** must be checked for fluid leakage. Drip pans may be used to catch leaks on a temporary basis until repairs are made. Equipment covered with mud, tar, or other pollutants should be cleaned as described above or stored indoors. If stored outdoors, contaminated equipment should be covered with fastened tarps and elevated off ground to reduce storm water contact during winter months.
- **Waste and materials** must be managed and stored in a manner preventing leaks, spills, and exposure to stormwater contact, and which prevents discharge of wastes and materials to the storm drainage system or off-site areas.
- **Sediment Control!** Access points to unpaved areas used by vehicles should be stabilized by paving, covering with one inch or larger rock, or other appropriate materials to control sediment track-out to paved surfaces. You should also conduct regular sweeping.
- **Spills and leaks** must be properly cleaned up in a timely manner. Spill clean-up materials, such as absorbent sweep, hazmat pillows/socks, containment berms, and other similar items, should be available onsite.
- **Surface cleaning and pressure washing** wash water must be contained, collected and discharged to the sanitary sewer, private sewage or serviceable sump or, if hazardous, lawfully disposed of as hazardous waste. For more information, refer to Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Pressure washing booklet at EMD.SACCOUNTY.GOV .
- **Stormwater Treatment devices** should be regularly serviced and maintained to effectively remove pollutants prior to discharging to the storm drainage system

Corrective Action

Stormwater violations will result in a **Notice of Violation** requiring corrections and submission of proof of compliance within a given time frame. Extensions may be granted on a case-by-case basis. Failure to comply may result in progressive enforcement action based on the severity and duration of the violation. Fines of up to a maximum of \$5000 per violation are authorized by local ordinance.

Questions and Answers

What is the difference between storm drains and sanitary sewers?

The storm drainage system directs untreated stormwater into our creeks and rivers. The sanitary sewer system directs water to a plant where it is treated prior to discharge. Drains located in streets and parking lots are storm drains. Outdoor drains rarely lead to the sanitary sewer.

Why should I be concerned about stormwater and storm drains?

Water pollution is everyone's business and should be a major concern for all residents. Polluted stormwater is a major source of contamination in our creeks and rivers.

For More Information

Call (916) 875-8440 or refer to Department website, EMD.SACCOUNTY.GOV