Stormwater Pollution

The Stormwater Quality Program

Placer County is subject to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal regulations for stormwater quality protection. In addition certain businesses may also be subject to individual State Water Board permitting requirements if they fall under standard industrial classifications. A list of these regulated industries are available on the internet. The website address is provided on the back of this brochure under Additional Resources. Follow the link to the State Water Quality Control Boards Industrial Permit site. All Industrial and Commercial sites must control potential sources of pollution including preventing long term pollution from leaving developed sites to comply with both Federal and State Regulations. This Brochure provides tips on Best Management Practices (BMPs) to comply with these regulations. In addition to State and Federal Regulations the county has adopted a Stormwater Quality ordinance, which includes the following:

Discharge of pollutants into the storm drainage system or surrounding water bodies is prohibited. Release of any 'non-stormwater'

You would never pour oil, chemicals, or other pollutants into lakes or streams, so don't let them enter the storm drain system. Follow these easy tips to help prevent water pollution while operating and maintaining your Business.

COUNTY OF Placer

TO REPORT A WATER QUALITY PROBLEM

Call Placer County Stormwater Quality at (530) 745-7555

Or Email: stormwtrquality@placer.ca.gov

Placer County Department of
Public Works and Facilities
Stormwater Quality Division

3091 County Center Drive, Suite 220
Auburn CA, 95603

Phone: **(530) 745-7557**
Or visit us on the web at
http://www.placer.ca.gov/Stormwater

Additional Resources

State Water Quality Control Board– Industrial Permit Information
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/gen_indus.shtml

California Stormwater Quality Association
www.casqa.org/

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board
www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/

Lake Tahoe Best Management Practices
www.tahoebmp.org

Industrial and Commercial Best Management Practices

Tips to Help Your Business Prevent Pollutant Discharges

Placer County
Stormwater Quality Division

December 2015

Tips for Industrial & Commercial Businesses for Protecting Surface Water

Non-Stormwater Discharges/Spill Prevention, Control & Cleanup

Non-storm water discharges are those flows that do not consist entirely of storm water and pose environmental

concerns. These discharges (which may include process waste waters, vehicle and equipment wash waters and sanitary wastewater) can carry substances such as paint, oil, fuel and other automotive fluids, construction debris, chemicals, and other pollutants into storm drains. The ultimate goal is to effectively eliminate non-storm water discharges to the storm water drainage system through implementation of measures to detect, correct, and prevent illicit connections and illegal discharges of pollutants on streets and into the storm drain system and natural waterways.

Many activities that occur at an industrial or commercial site have the potential to cause accidental or illegal spills. Spills and leaks are one of the largest contributors of storm water pollutants. Store and contain liquid materials in such a manner that if the container is ruptured, the contents will not discharge, flow, or be washed into the storm drainage system, surface waters, or ground waters. Clean up leaks and spills immediately. Place a stockpile of spill cleanup materials where it will be readily accessible. On paved surfaces clean up spills with as little water as possible. Use a rag for small spills, a damp mop for general cleanup, and absorbent material (such as kitty litter) for larger spills. Sweep up the material and dispose of properly. Educate employees about spill prevention and cleanup.

Outdoor Liquid Container Storage

Accidental releases of materials from above ground liquid storage tanks, drums, and dumpsters present the potential for contaminating storm water with many different pollutants. Materials spilled or leaked from storage containers may accumulate in soils or on other surfaces and be carried away by rainfall runoff. Try to keep chemicals in their original containers, properly sealed, and keep them labeled. Cover storage areas with a roof. Minimize storm water run-on by diverting storm water around the area. Raise the containers off the ground by use of pallet or similar method and contain the material in such a manner that if the container leaks or spills, the contents will not discharge, flow, or be washed into the storm drainage system, surface waters, or groundwater. Inspect storage areas regularly for leaks or spills. Sweep and clean the storage area regularly. Do not hose down or pressure wash the areas to a storm drain.

Waste Handling and Disposal

Improper storage and handling of solid wastes can allow toxic compounds, oils and greases, heavy metals, nutrients, suspended solids, and other pollutants to enter storm water runoff. Garbage dumpsters should be kept covered at all times. Check containers weekly for leaks and to ensure that lids are on tightly. Replace any if they are deteriorating or corroding to the point where leakage is occurring. Sweep and clean the storage area regularly. If it is paved, do not hose down or pressure wash the area to a street or storm drain.

Parking/Vehicle and Equipment Storage and Maintenance areas.

Parking lots and storage areas can contribute a number of substances, such as trash, suspended solids, oil and grease that can enter receiving waters through storm water runoff or non-storm water discharges. Keep parking and storage areas clean, use dry cleaning methods (like sweeping and vacuuming) to prevent the discharge of pollutants into the storm water conveyance system. Clean oily spots with absorbent material and dispose of properly. Clean drain inlets, driveway slot drains, and storm water vaults at regular maintenance intervals.

Snow Storage

Snow that collects on roads and parking lots is often full of contaminants such as sand, gravel, oil, antifreeze, broken pavement and garbage. Dumping contaminated snow into lakes, rivers and other water bodies is the same as discharging contaminated rainwater into those waterways. Do not plow unpaved roads, parking or vehicle traffic areas. Plan ahead for snow storage by storing on a flat, well vegetated areas or upslope of infiltration systems. Plan abrasive and deicer operations to prevent over application. Remove debris after the snow has melted around the property.