

Resources

San Diego Regional Water
Quality Control Board - Region 9
9771 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., Suite A
San Diego, CA 92124
(858) 467-2952
www.swrcb.ca.gov/~rwqcb9/

Santa Ana Regional Water
Quality Control Board - Region 8
3737 Main Street, Suite 500
Riverside, CA 92501-3348
(909) 782-4130
www.swrcb.ca.gov/~rwqcb8/

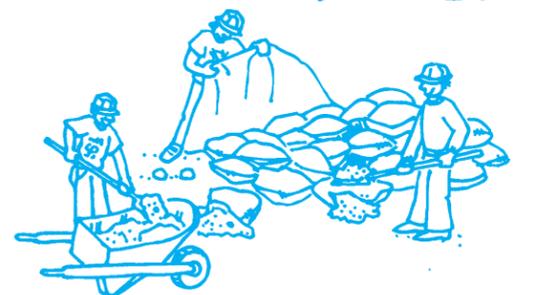
Colorado River Basin Regional Water
Quality Control Board - Region 7
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260
(760) 346-7491
www.swrcb.ca.gov/~rwqcb7/

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Quality
1001 I Street
Sacramento CA 95814
(916) 341-5455
www.swrcb.ca.gov/stormwtr/

STORMWATER POLLUTION FROM CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

The two most common sources of stormwater pollution problems associated with construction activities are **erosion** and **sedimentation**. Failure to maintain adequate erosion and sediment controls at construction sites often results in sediment discharges into the storm drain system, creating multiple problems once it enters local waterways.

Construction vehicles and heavy equipment can also track significant amounts of mud and sediment onto adjacent streets. Additionally, wind may transport construction materials and wastes into streets storm drains, or directly into our local waterways.



The StormWater/CleanWater Protection Program gratefully acknowledges the Santa Clara Valley Nonpoint Pollution Control Program, Alameda Countywide CleanWater Program and the City of Los Angeles StormWater Management Division for information provided in this brochure.



To order additional brochures or to obtain information on other pollution prevention activities, please call (909) 955-1200 or visit the StormWater/CleanWater Protection Program website at:
www.co.riverside.ca.us/depts/flood/waterquality/index.asp

To report an illegal dumping or a clogged storm drain, call:
1-800-506-2555

For recycling and hazardous waste disposal, call:
(909) 358-5055

Riverside County Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Team
(909) 358-5055 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
(909) 358-5245 after 5:00 p.m.
In an emergency call: 911

To report a hazardous materials spill, call:

StormWater Pollution . . . What You Should Know

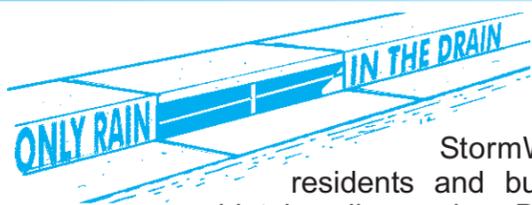
Riverside County has two drainage systems - sewers and storm drains. The storm drain system was designed to reduce flooding by carrying excess rainwater away from streets and developed areas. Since the storm drain system does not provide for water treatment, it also serves the *unintended* function of transporting pollutants directly to our local waterways.

Unlike sanitary sewers, storm drains are not connected to a wastewater treatment plant – they flow directly to our local streams, rivers and lakes.

Stormwater runoff is a part of the natural hydrologic process. However, land development and construction activities can significantly alter natural drainage processes and introduce pollutants into stormwater runoff. Polluted stormwater runoff from construction sites has been identified as a major source of water pollution in California. It jeopardizes the quality of our local waterways and can pose a serious threat to the health of our aquatic ecosystems.



The Cities and County of Riverside StormWater/CleanWater Protection Program



Because preventing pollution is much easier and less costly than cleaning up “after the fact,” the Cities and County of Riverside StormWater/CleanWater Protection Program informs residents and businesses on pollution prevention activities. This pamphlet describes various Best Management Practices (BMPs) that construction site operators can use to prevent stormwater pollution.

In accordance with applicable federal and state law, the Cities and County of Riverside have adopted ordinances for stormwater management and discharge control that **prohibit** the discharge of pollutants into the storm drain system or local surface water. This includes discharges from construction sites containing sediment, concrete, mortar, paint, solvents, lubricants, vehicle fluids, fuel, pesticides, and construction debris.

PLEASE NOTE: The Federal, State and local regulations strictly prohibit the discharge of sediment and pollutants into the streets, the storm drain system or waterways. As an owner, operator or supervisor of a construction site, you may be held financially responsible for any environmental damage caused by your subcontractors or employees.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) for:

- Developers
- General Contractors
- Home Builders
- Construction Inspectors
- Anyone in the construction business



What you should know for...

StormWater Pollution

What Should You Do?

Advance Planning to Prevent Pollution

- Remove existing vegetation only as needed.
- Schedule excavation, grading, and paving operations for dry weather periods, if possible.
- Designate a specific area of the construction site, well away from storm drain inlets or watercourses, for material storage and equipment maintenance.
- Develop and implement an effective combination of erosion and sediment controls for the construction site.
- Practice source reduction by ordering only the amount of materials that are needed to finish the project.
- Educate your employees and subcontractors about stormwater management requirements and their pollution prevention responsibilities.
- Control the amount of surface runoff at the construction site by impeding internally generated flows and using berms or drainage ditches to direct incoming offsite flows to go around the site. **Note: Consult local drainage policies for more information.**

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The following Best Management Practices (BMPs) can significantly reduce pollutant discharges from your construction site. Compliance with stormwater regulations can be as simple as minimizing stormwater contact with potential pollutants by providing covers and secondary containment for construction materials, designating areas away from storm drain systems for storing equipment and materials and implementing good housekeeping practices at the construction site.

- Protect all storm drain inlets and streams located near the construction site to prevent sediment-laden water from entering the storm drain system.
- Limit access to and from the site. Stabilize construction entrances/exits to minimize the track out of dirt and mud onto adjacent streets. Conduct frequent street sweeping.
- Protect stockpiles and construction materials from winds and rain by storing them under a roof, secured impermeable tarp or plastic sheeting.
- Avoid storing or stockpiling materials near storm drain inlets, gullies or streams.
- Phase grading operations to limit disturbed areas and duration of exposure.
- Perform major maintenance and repairs of vehicles and equipment offsite.
- Wash out concrete mixers only in designated washout areas at the construction site.
- Set-up and operate small concrete mixers on tarps or heavy plastic drop cloths.
- Keep construction sites clean by removing trash, debris, wastes, etc. on a regular basis.
- Clean-up spills immediately using dry clean-up methods (e.g., absorbent materials such as cat litter, sand or rags for liquid spills; sweeping for dry spills such as cement, mortar or fertilizer) and by removing the contaminated soil from spills on dirt areas. .
- Prevent erosion by implementing any or a combination of soil stabilization practices such as mulching, surface roughening, permanent or temporary seeding.
- Maintain all vehicles and equipment in good working condition. Inspect frequently for leaks, and repair promptly.
- Practice proper waste disposal. Many construction materials and wastes, including solvents, water-based paint, vehicle fluids, broken asphalt and concrete, wood, and cleared vegetation can be recycled. Materials that cannot be recycled must be taken to an appropriate landfill or disposed of as hazardous waste.
- Cover open dumpsters with secured tarps or plastic sheeting. Never clean out a dumpster by washing it down on the construction site.
- Arrange for an adequate debris disposal schedule to insure that dumpsters do not overflow.

GENERAL CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES STORMWATER PERMIT (Construction Activities General Permit)

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) adopted a new Construction Activities General Permit (WQ Order No. 99-08DWQ) on August 19, 1999, superseding the now expired SWRCB statewide General Permit (WQ Order No. 92-08DWQ). This permit is administered and enforced by the SWRCB and the local Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB). The updated Construction Activities General Permit establishes a number of new stormwater management requirements for construction site operator.

NOTE: Some construction activities stormwater permits are issued on a regional basis. Consult your local RWQCB to find out if your project requires coverage under any of these permits.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Does my construction site require coverage under the Construction Activities General Permit?

Yes, if construction activity results in the disturbance of five or more acres of total land area or is part of a common plan of development that results in the disturbance of five or more acres.

How do I obtain coverage under the Construction Activities General Permit?

Obtain the permit package and submit the completed Notice of Intent (NOI) form to the

SWRCB prior to grading or disturbing soil at the construction site. For ongoing construction activity involving a change of ownership, the new owner must submit a new NOI within 30 days of the date of change of ownership. The completed NOI along with the required fee should be mailed to the SWRCB.

What must I do to comply with the requirements of the Construction Activities General Permit?

- Implement BMPs for non-stormwater discharges year-round.
- Prepare and implement a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) prior to commencing construction activities.
- Keep a copy of the SWPPP at the construction site for the entire duration of the project.
- Calculate the anticipated stormwater runoff.
- Implement an effective combination of erosion and sediment control on all soil disturbed areas.
- Conduct site inspections prior to anticipated storm events, every 24-hours during extended storm events, and after actual storm event.
- Perform repair and maintenance of BMPs as soon as possible after storm events depending upon worker safety.

- Update the SWPPP as needed, to manage pollutants or reflect changes in site conditions.
- Include description of post construction BMPs at the construction site, including parties responsible for long-term maintenance.

NOTE: Please refer to the Construction Activities General Permit for detailed information. You may contact the SWRCB, your local RWQCB, or visit the SWRCB website at www.swrcb.ca.gov/stormwtr/ to obtain a State Construction Activities Stormwater General Permit packet.

How long is this Construction Activities General Permit in effect?

The Permit coverage stays in effect until you submit a Notice of Termination (NOT) to the SWRCB. For the purpose of submitting a NOT, all soil disturbing activities have to be completed and one of the three following criteria has to be met:

1. Change of ownership;
2. A uniform vegetative cover with 70 percent coverage has been established; or,
3. Equivalent stabilization measures such as the use of reinforced channel liners, soil cement, fiber matrices, geotextiles, etc., have been employed.