

# Best Management Practices For Maintenance Yards

Water flowing into storm drains travels directly to local creeks and then to San Francisco Bay (Bay) without any treatment to remove pollutants. This fact sheet identifies typical activities conducted at maintenance and corporation yards, along with associated potential rainwater pollutants. Following Best Management Practices (BMPs) such as the ones listed on this poster can reduce or eliminate discharges of pollutants in stormwater.

## Best Management Practices (BMPs)

### General

- ✓ Pick up litter daily.
- ✓ Do not discharge waste to the storm drain system.
- ✓ Label drains to indicate whether the drain flows to the sanitary sewer or to a storm drain.
- ✓ Select and implement BMPs based on pollutant risks associated with your facility.
- ✓ Establish a regular training schedule. Train all new employees on BMPs and conduct annual refresher training. Document all training sessions.
- ✓ Conduct regular inspections to determine if appropriate BMPs are being followed. Record inspections on a facility log and make available to inspectors upon request.
- ✓ Repair damaged or insufficient BMPs within 10 days, or prior to the next rain event, whichever comes first.

### Housekeeping

- ✓ Use dry cleaning methods such as sweeping or vacuuming to clean facility surfaces instead of using water.
- ✓ If water is needed for cleaning, temporarily block off nearby storm drains. Contain and collect wash water and dispose in the sanitary sewer.
- ✓ If wash water contains solvents or other cleaning agents, it may be classified as hazardous waste which is prohibited from discharge to the sanitary sewer. Check with Dublin San Ramon Services District prior to discharging (dsrsd.com or 925-828-0515).

### Vehicle Fueling

- ✓ Post signs to discourage topping-off fuel tanks.
- ✓ Prevent run-on and run-off from fueling areas using berms, grading, overhead coverage, and/or sumps.
- ✓ Pave fueling area with concrete.
- ✓ Install fuel pump automatic shut-off valves.

### Vehicle & Equipment Servicing

- ✓ Conduct all repair activities indoors or under a covered and contained area.
- ✓ Use a drip pan under vehicles while unclipping hoses, unscrewing filters, or removing other parts.
- ✓ Inspect vehicles frequently for leaks and perform necessary repairs. Use a drip pan until leaks are repaired.
- ✓ Store and dispose of vehicle fluids properly (e.g., as hazardous waste).
- ✓ Use self-contained sinks and tanks when working with solvents.



### Vehicle Washing

- ✓ Use off-site commercial car wash.
- ✓ Or, designate an impervious area to be used solely for vehicle washing. Dispose of wash water to sanitary sewer or to a landscape area.
- ✓ Or, install a vehicle wash pad connected to the sanitary sewer. Contact Dublin San Ramon Services District (dsrsd.com or 925-828-0515) for approval.
- ✓ Use a hose nozzle or pressure washer with an automatic shut-off to reduce the volume of water generated



**Remember: Only rain down the storm drain! Keep all wash waters, wastes materials, and sediments OUT of the storm drains.**

### Sanitary Sewer versus Storm Drains

The sanitary sewer system collects and treats wastewater from homes and businesses before discharging it into San Francisco Bay (Bay).

The storm drain system conveys rainwater and discharges it to local creeks before it flows to the Bay. Rainwater that enters the storm drain system **IS NOT** treated prior to flowing to local waterways. Therefore, any pollution in rainwater flows directly to waterways where it can impact wildlife and potentially human health.

### Outdoor Storage of Material

- ✓ Enclose or cover materials, stockpiles and waste materials to reduce exposure to rain.
- ✓ Protect erodible stockpiles from stormwater run-on.
- ✓ Store stockpiles off paved surfaces and in such a way to prevent rainwater contact with material. Use barriers to keep stockpiles in place.
- ✓ Keep lids closed on all outdoor containers, including dumpsters.
- ✓ Store chemical containers under cover and in proper secondary containment.



### Waste Handling

- ✓ Label, inspect and manage all hazardous waste according to Federal and State laws and regulations.
- ✓ Store liquids within secondary containment.
- ✓ Store wastes in enclosed, covered containers.
- ✓ Do not leave open containers outdoors.



### Spill Control & Clean Up

- ✓ Develop a spill response plan.
- ✓ Place an adequate supply of spill cleanup materials where they can be easily accessed. Post notices identifying the location of the materials.
- ✓ Clean spills and leaks promptly using dry cleaning methods. Properly dispose of clean-up materials.
- ✓ Contain spills so that they do not leave your property or enter a storm drain inlet.
- ✓ Report spills that pose an immediate threat to human health or the environment to the fire department dispatch at 925-447-4257.



### Erosion and Sediment Discharge Control

If there are unpaved areas on-site, the following BMPs must be used:

- ✓ Erosion and sediment control BMPs.
- ✓ Protect storm drain inlets.
- ✓ Stabilize all entrances and exits with aggregate, rumble plates or other sediment controls to reduce tracking-out dirt or building materials onto the street.
- ✓ Use a street sweeper or manual methods to clean track-out, sand and gravel off paved roads.