

## How Can You Help Keep the Environment Clean?

Having a clean environment is important to everyone. It impacts both our health and our economy.

Making sure that only rain goes to storm drains is something that everyone can do to make a difference in the quality of our environment.

Best management practices, or BMPs, are procedures that help to prevent pollutants like oil, gasoline, and antifreeze from entering our storm drains. Each of us can do our part to keep storm water clean by using the BMPs in this brochure.

## What Else Can You Do?

Questions about what you can do to solve this or other storm water issues in our community? Call us at 480-350-2678.

To report illicit discharges to storm drains, call (480) 350-2811 anytime, or go on line at: <http://www.tempe.gov/stormwater>



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**Industry Best Management Practices**

Environmental Services Division

Storm Water Hotline  
480-350-2811

# Industrial Best Management Practices

## Plan Ahead to Prevent Storm Water Pollution

Best Management Practices (BMPs) minimize and mitigate the contamination of industrial storm water runoff. Preventive measures, sometimes called source controls, are techniques that reduce the exposure of materials to storm water, thereby limiting the amounts of pollutants available to be picked up by storm water. Preventive measures are very cost-effective ways to manage storm water runoff.

## Debris Removal

Storm water control and conveyance structures require frequent debris removal to maintain proper function. Litter and waste can clog inlets, catch basins and outlets, leading to overflows and flooding and making the devices ineffective in storm water pollutant removal. Grates and inlets should be frequently cleaned.

## Education Programs

Education programs for industry employees are a cost-effective way to prevent storm water pollution. Employees can adopt new methods or use alternative materials if they are simply informed of techniques that can reduce the impacts on receiving waters. Industry employees can learn to properly handle and store materials and dispose of wastes.

## Minimization of Pollutants

Significant storm water pollution may be avoided by removing potential pollutants from the watershed, using alternative chemicals and/or practices, and recycling or reducing chemicals and other materials.

Keep areas around dumpsters free of trash, debris, and sediment. Keep lids on dumpsters. Have leaking containers replaced. Clean up spills immediately using absorbent materials. Properly dispose of the used absorbent.

## Exposure Reduction

One of the best, least expensive ways to reduce or eliminate pollutants in storm water is to limit the exposure of materials that are potential pollutants to rainfall and/or runoff. Covering materials is one of the best ways to achieve this goal.

Move or remove materials, products, devices, and outdoor activities that may contribute to storm water pollution. An inventory of items that are exposed to rain may provide useful information and a starting point for exposure-reduction activities. Partial or total physical enclosure of stockpiled or stored material, loading/unloading areas, or processing operations is a very effective preventative measure. Implementation of "Just-In-time" (JIT) management of materials and finished products minimizes materials in stockpiles and at loading docks.

Site cleaning can help reduce the discharge of pollutants to the storm water system. Maintenance of pollution control devices ensures devices are in good working order and available to reduce toxic substances and particulates. Good housekeeping activities including the cleaning of parking lots will also help reduce pollutants in runoff when performed on a regular basis.

## Storage

Store and dispose of wastes properly. Make sure solid waste containers are in good condition and secured. Keep all solid waste containers inside, or otherwise away from water exposure. If it is necessary to keep containers outside, be sure they are covered.



## Recycle

Recycle oil and filters, tires, fluids, and wash water.

## Miscellaneous Tips

Never discharge any waste to a street, ditch, storm sewer, stream, or the ground. Use less toxic substances whenever possible.

While the actions of an individual household might contribute small amounts of pollution, the combined effect of a neighborhood or community can have a serious cumulative effect.

