



Tempe Environmental Bulletin

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What to Expect During an Inspection

In order to protect what the EPA terms the, “Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW)”, the City is required to comply with all applicable state and federal laws, including the Clean Water Act and the General Pretreatment Regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 403.8). POTWs are required to establish a Pretreatment Program if the POTW has design flow greater the 5 million gallons per day and receives flow from industrial users (IU), which Pass Through or Interfere with operations of the POTW or are otherwise subject to Pretreatment Standards.

The City of Tempe has defined all non-domestic users as Industrial Users (IU). In accordance with 40 CFR 403.8(f)(2) (v) the effluent from IUs are to be randomly sampled and analyzed to identify, independent of information supplied by IUs, whether they are in compliance with the Pretreatment Program requirements. If your facility discharges 25,000 gallons or more per day of process wastewater or is conducting an operation classified by EPA as a categorical process (i.e. metal finishing, semi-conductor, etc.), your facility is classified as a Significant Industrial User (SIU). The City is required to inspect (which includes effluent sampling) all SIUs at least once per year. In order to assure all permits IUs are in compliance with their discharge permits all IUs are inspected twice per year.

In addition to conducting Pretreatment Program Inspections, the Environmental Compliance Inspectors are charged with the responsibility to ensure that IUs are in compliance with the requirements of the City’s Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (AZPDES) Stormwater Permit, Arizona Administrative Code R18-4-215 Backflow Prevention and Dust Control as identified in Article III of Chapter 13A of the Tempe Code (TCC). By combining the inspections into a single trip better customer service is provided and efficiencies are created which equal cost savings for rate payers.



What Is Stormwater Smart?

“Be Stormwater Smart” and visit our website for Best Management Practices you can use to reduce the risk of adding pollutants to stormwater. <http://www.tempe.gov/stormwater>

You can also use this website to learn more about Tempe’s Stormwater Management Program, to report illicit discharges to storm drains, or to file a stormwater related complaint.

Remember that it is a violation of the City of Tempe Code to cause or allow a non-stormwater discharge to a stormwater drain!

As required by Tempe’s stormwater permit, Environmental Compliance Inspectors have significantly increased commercial and industrial stormwater inspections. If you would like to schedule an inspection at your facility, please call: (480) 350-2678.

