



Industries and businesses with specified Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Codes may be required to obtain authorization under the Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (AZPDES) Multi-Sector General Permit.

Permit information is available at azdeq.gov/MSGP_Industrial/Non-Mining

The actions of one business might contribute small amounts of pollution, the combined effect of several businesses in a community can have serious environmental impacts.

Stormwater pollution prevention is everybody's business.



Questions?

Visit tempe.gov/stormwater.

Para información en español,
por favor llame a 480-350-4311.



Stormwater Pollution Prevention Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Businesses and Industries

BMPs minimize and mitigate stormwater runoff contamination. BMPs are techniques that reduce the exposure of materials to stormwater, thereby limiting pollutants introduced to the storm system. Significant stormwater pollution may be avoided by removing potential pollutants from the watershed. Planning and implementing these BMPs is an effective way to manage these pollutants.



Municipal Utilities Department
Water Utilities Division
Environment Services Section

One of the best ways to reduce or eliminate pollutants in stormwater runoff is to limit the exposure of materials to rainfall. Provide routine training for all employees regarding the following BMPs to minimize pollution.

Storage

Cover areas where materials are stored outdoors. Keep materials labeled and in appropriate containers. Store hazardous materials (cleaners, paint, oil, etc.) indoors or under cover, away from rain.

Trash

Keep trash container and dumpster lids closed. Preferably keep solid waste containers inside. Ensure all liquids are in sealed containers before disposing in the trash. Request service when trash containers are nearly full. Ensure there is no trash around trash containers. Check waste receptacles for leaks, regularly.

Spills and Site Maintenance

Post procedures to clean up spills. Follow instructions on product labels and Safety Data Sheets (SDS). Keep absorbent pads, cat litter, sawdust, etc., easily accessible to soak up spills. Collect saturated absorbents after use and dispose of in a trash container. Never use a hose to clean up spills that occur outside. In the event of a spill, protect storm drains and inlets.

Practice good housekeeping activities such as regularly cleaning parking lots and property lines. Routinely inspect and maintain private pollution control devices to ensure they are in good working order. Storm grates and inlets should be kept clear to maintain proper function.



Landscaping

Pick up debris, plant trimmings and leaves and dispose of in waste containers. Do not blow them into the street or stormwater structures. Follow labeling instructions to minimize pesticide, herbicide and fertilizer use. Adjust sprinklers to water targeted areas and use timers to avoid over watering causing irrigation runoff.



Identify Areas for Vehicle/Equipment Maintenance and Washing

Regularly maintain equipment and vehicles to prevent leaks. Properly design fueling/other maintenance areas to contain leaks and spills. Use self-contained sinks and tanks when cleaning with solvents. Use an aqueous (or “water based”) cleaning system instead of a solvent-based parts washer.

Designate appropriate areas for washing vehicles and equipment maintenance. If possible, identify an area where water will be collected onsite. Outside water use should be minimized. Never dispose of wash water to stormwater control devices. Wash water should be disposed of into a properly protected wastewater collection system drain (e.g., mop sink, floor drain, etc.).

Consider washing vehicles at a commercial carwash or using a commercial washing company. Commercial carwashes recycle water and are designed to drain to the sanitary sewer.



Copper

It is important to keep excessive copper pollutants out of stormwater. Copper is a naturally occurring chemical element found in the environment and at higher concentrations, it can become toxic. Copper comes from many sources, including industrial and commercial activities, cooling towers, electrical equipment, vehicle brake pads and some pesticides and algaecides. When it rains, the copper in these materials can be carried in stormwater runoff and directed to urban lakes, rivers, parks and groundwater.

These tips keep excess copper out of stormwater:

- Follow directions when using pesticides, fungicides and algaecides and avoid using them when rain is forecast.
- Keep pool, fountain and spa water on your property or discharging it to the sanitary sewer.
- Properly contain and dispose of fluids used for vehicle maintenance. Fluids from radiator repair and flushing contain particularly high concentrations of copper.
- Prevent wash water containing brake dust from entering storm drains by using commercial car wash or designated vehicle washing area.

Other Tips

Recycle used batteries, tires, vehicle fluids and oil filters. Use least toxic substances possible. Ask for a Safety Data Sheet before ordering new products.

