

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 480-350-4311.

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



Why Does the City of Tempe Perform Industrial/Commercial Facility Inspections?



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What Gives the City the Authority?

The City of Tempe and the users of the sanitary sewer system have invested millions of dollars to design, build and operate the system. 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). To assure the POTW and its users investment is properly protected the City administers a pretreatment program. This program is designed to prevent the introduction of pollutants into the POTW that will cause interference or cause pass-through.

According to the City of Tempe Code Section 27 – Sewers and Disposal Sec. 27-71. Right of entry: inspection and sampling.

Tempe shall have the right to enter the premises of any user to determine whether the user is complying with all requirements of this article and any wastewater discharge permit or order issued hereunder. Users shall allow the public works director ready access to all parts of the premises for the purposes of inspection, sampling, records examination and copying, and the performance of any additional duties.

(1) Where a user has security measures in force which require proper identification and clearance before entry into its premises, the user shall make necessary arrangements with its security guards so that, upon presentation of suitable identification, the public works director will be permitted to enter without delay for the purposes of exercising all inspection and review authorities under this article.

(2) The public works director shall have the right to set up on the user's property, or require installation of, such devices as are necessary to conduct sampling and/or metering of the user's operations.

(3) The public works director may require the user to install monitoring and/or measuring equipment as necessary. The facility's sampling and monitoring equipment shall be maintained at all times in a safe and proper operating condition by the user at its own expense. All devices used to measure wastewater flow and quality shall be calibrated annually to ensure their accuracy.

(4) Any temporary or permanent obstruction to safe and easy access to the facility to be inspected and/or sampled shall be promptly removed by the user at the written or verbal request of the public works director and shall not be replaced. The costs of clearing such access shall be born by the user.

(5) Unreasonable delays in allowing the public works director access to the user's premises shall be a violation of this article.

For the complete City of Tempe Code see https://library.municode.com/az/tempe/codes/city_code?nodeId=CH27SESEDI

The Pretreatment Program Staff carry out these requirements and conduct facility inspections, surveillance, and monitoring of industrial/commercial wastewater sources discharging to the City's wastewater collection system and treatment plants. The monitoring and inspections are performed in order to independently verify compliance with all applicable pretreatment standards. Monitoring/sampling of industrial discharges is performed according to 40 CFR136.3 (e). Inspections are conducted at facilities that may have a potential to impact the POTW. Monitoring is conducted to determine

compliance with Tempe City Code and to establish the user's sewer rate. The purpose and objective of the compliance monitoring program (including inspections and sampling) are to:

Determine compliance with pretreatment permit conditions; Support enforcement actions taken by the City against noncompliant Commercial and Industrial Users (IUs); Generate data which can be used by Water Utilities in its annual report to the ADEQ and EPA; Ensure that self-monitoring data from the IU are complete, accurate and representative; Determine if the IU has corrected problems identified in the previous inspection; Evaluate Best Management Practices and pollution prevention measures; Identify IUs which influence the quality of the POTW's influent, effluent, and sludge quality; Evaluate, the need for revised local limits; Inform the regulated community of pretreatment requirements; Evaluate the adequacy of the IU's operation and maintenance activities on its pretreatment system; Assess the potential for spills and slug discharges; Evaluate the effectiveness of slug discharge control measures; Evaluate the adequacy of the IU's hazardous waste management and disposal; and Determine potential problems with other statutes or regulations (e.g. RCRA). Inspection and monitoring may also be a part of an investigation initiated subsequent to reports of suspicious activity, illegal dumping, or service interruptions. If you have any questions about any suspicious discharge to the sanitary sewer, please contact:
Pretreatment Program at: (480) 350-2678.