CONSTRUCTION SITE WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Building materials and other construction site wastes must be properly managed and disposed of to reduce the risk of pollution from sources such as surplus or refuse building materials or hazardous wastes. Practices such as trash disposal, recycling, proper materials handling and spill prevention and cleanup measures can reduce the potential for stormwater runoff to contaminate surface waters or groundwater.

The proper management and disposal of wastes should be practiced at every construction site to reduce the potential for stormwater pollution. Use waste management practices to properly locate refuse piles, to cover materials that might be displaced by rainfall or stormwater runoff and to prevent spills and leaks from hazardous materials that were improperly stored.

DESIGNATE A CONCRETE WASHOUT AREA

Concrete washout areas are used to contain concrete spoil when the chutes of concrete mixers and hoppers of concrete pumps are rinsed out after delivery. The washout facilities consolidate solids for easier disposal and prevent runoff of liquids. The wash water is alkaline and contains high levels of chromium, which can leach into the ground and contaminate groundwater. It can also migrate to the stormwater system, which can increase the pH of area waters and harm aquatic life. Solids that are improperly disposed of can clog storm drain pipes and cause flooding. Installing concrete washout areas not only prevents pollution but also is a matter of good housekeeping at your construction site.

SOLID WASTE

- Designate a waste collection area on the site that does not receive a substantial amount of runoff from upland areas and does not drain directly to a water body.
- Ensure that containers have lids so they can be covered before periods of rain, and keep containers in a covered area whenever possible.
- Schedule waste collection to prevent the containers from overfilling.
- Clean up spills immediately. For hazardous materials, follow cleanup instructions on the package. Use an absorbent material such as sawdust or kitty litter to contain the spill.
- During the demolition phase of construction, provide extra containers and schedule more frequent pickups.
- Collect, remove, and dispose of all construction site wastes at authorized disposal areas. Contact a local environmental agency to identify these disposal sites.
- To minimize the generation of waste, every effort should be made to recycle materials for which viable markets exist.

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL

- Consult with local waste management authorities about the requirements for disposing of hazardous material.
- To prevent leaks, empty and clean hazardous waste containers before disposing of them.

- Never remove the original product label from the container because it contains important safety information. Follow the manufacturer's recommended method of disposal, which should be printed on the label.
- Never mix excess products when disposing of them, unless specifically recommended by the manufacturer.

To ensure proper disposal of contaminated soils that have been exposed to and still contain hazardous substances, consult with State or local solid waste regulatory agencies or private firms. Some landfills might accept contaminated soils, but laboratory tests may be required.

Paint and dirt are often removed from surfaces by sandblasting. Sandblasting grits are the byproducts of this procedure and consist of the sand used and the paint and dirt particles that are removed from the surface. These materials are considered hazardous if they are removed from older structures because they are more likely to contain lead-, cadmium-, or chrome-based paints. To ensure proper disposal of sandblasting grits, contract with a licensed waste management provider.

PESTICIDES AND FERTILIZERS

- Follow all Federal, State, and local regulations that apply to the use, handling, or disposal of pesticides and fertilizers.
- Store pesticides and fertilizers in a dry, covered area.
- Construct berms or dikes to contain stored pesticides and fertilizers in case of spillage.
- Follow the recommended application rates and methods.
- Have equipment and absorbent materials available in storage and application areas to contain and clean up any spills that occur.

PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

- Store new and used petroleum products for vehicles in covered area with berms or dikes in place to contain any spills.
- Immediately contain and clean up any spills with absorbent materials.
- Have equipment available in fuel storage area and in vehicles to contain and clean up any spills that occur.

DETERGENTS

Detergents containing phosphorus and nitrogen are used in wash water for cleaning vehicles. Excesses of these nutrients can be a major source of water pollution. Use detergents only as recommended, and limit their use on the site. Do not dump wash water containing detergents into the storm sewer system; instead direct it to the sanitary sewer system so that it will be treated at a wastewater treatment plant.

TRAINING AND SIGNAGE

An effective waste management system requires training and signage to promote awareness of the hazards of improper storage, handling, and disposal of wastes. The only way to be sure that waste management practices are being followed is to be aware of worker habits and to inspect storage areas regularly. Extra management time may be required to ensure that all proper procedures are followed.

INSPECTIONS

Inspect storage and use areas and identify containers or equipment that could malfunction and cause leaks or spills. Check equipment and containers for leaks, corrosion, support or foundation failure, or any other signs of deterioration. Immediately repair or replace any that are found to be defective.

NUISANCE CONTROL

Blowing construction trash (insulation, plastic bags, water bottles, lunch bags, etc.) is routinely captured by both permanent and temporary sediment control measures. Inspect and remove both trash and construction debris from sediment basins, diversion ditches, stone check dams and stormwater inlet protection devices on a weekly basis. Provide monthly grass/weed cutting in and around all sediment basins and diversion ditches and in all general site locations that are near the right-of-way or are adjacent to existing/completed homes.