

IC3. BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Best Management Practices (BMPs)

A BMP is a technique, measure or structural control that is used for a given set of conditions to improve the quality of the stormwater runoff in a cost effective manner¹. The minimum required BMPs for this activity are outlined in the box to the right. Implementation of pollution prevention/good housekeeping measures may reduce or eliminate the need to implement other more costly or complicated procedures. Proper employee training is key to the success of BMP implementation.

The BMPs outlined in this fact sheet target the following pollutants:

Targeted Constituents	
Sediment	X
Nutrients	X
Floatable Materials	
Metals	X
Bacteria	X
Oil & Grease	
Organics & Toxicants	
Pesticides	
Oxygen Demanding	

MINIMUM BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping

- Properly collect and dispose of water when pressure washing buildings, rooftops, and other large objects.
- Properly prepare work area before conducting building maintenance.
- Properly clean and dispose of equipment and wastes used and generated during building maintenance.
- Store toxic material under cover when not in use and during precipitation events.

Stencil storm drains

Training

- Train employees on these BMPs, storm water discharge prohibitions, and wastewater discharge requirements.
- Provide on-going employee training in pollution prevention.

Provided below are specific procedures associated with each of the minimum BMPs along with procedures for additional BMPs that should be considered if this activity takes place at a facility located near a sensitive waterbody. In order to meet the requirements for medium and high priority facilities, the owners/operators must select, install and maintain appropriate BMPs on site. Since the selection of the appropriate BMPs is a site-specific process, the types and numbers of additional BMPs will vary for each facility.

1. **Properly collect and dispose of water when pressure washing buildings, rooftops, and other large objects.**
 - If pressure washing where the surrounding area is paved, use a water collection device that enables collection of wash water and associated solids. Use a sump pump, wet vacuum or similarly effective device to collect the runoff and loose materials. Dispose of the collected runoff and solids properly.
 - If pressure washing on a landscaped area (with or without soap), runoff must be dispersed as sheet flow as much as possible, rather than as a concentrated stream. The wash runoff must remain on the landscaping and not drain to pavement.
2. **Properly prepare work area before conducting building maintenance.**
 - Use ground or drop cloths underneath outdoor painting, scraping, and sandblasting work, and properly dispose of collected material daily.
 - Use a ground cloth or oversized tub for activities such as paint mixing and tool cleaning.
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¹ EPA " Preliminary Data Summary of Urban Stormwater Best Management Practices"

3. **Properly clean and dispose of equipment and wastes used and generated during building maintenance.**
 - Clean paint brushes and tools covered with water-based paints in sinks connected to sanitary sewers or in portable containers that can be dumped into a sanitary sewer drain. Brushes and tools covered with non-water-based paints, finishes, or other materials must be cleaned in a manner that enables collection of used solvents (e.g., paint thinner, turpentine, etc.) for recycling or proper disposal.
 - Properly dispose of wash water, sweepings, and sediments.
 - Properly store equipment, chemicals, and wastes.
 - Do not dump any toxic substance or liquid waste on the pavement, the ground, or toward a storm drain.

OPTIONAL:

 - Recycle residual paints, solvents, lumber, and other materials to the maximum extent practicable
4. **Employ soil erosion and stabilization techniques when exposing large areas of soil.**
 - Confine excavated materials to pervious surfaces away from storm drain inlets, sidewalks, pavement, and ditches. Material must be covered if rain is expected.
 - Use chemical stabilization or geosynthetics to stabilize bare ground surfaces.
5. **Store toxic material under cover when not in use and during precipitation events.**
6. **Properly dispose of fluids from air conditioning, cooling tower, and condensate drains.**
7. **Regularly inspect air emission control equipment under AQMD permit.**
8. **Switch to non-toxic chemicals for maintenance when possible.**
 - If cleaning agents are used, select biodegradable products whenever feasible
 - Consider using a waterless and non-toxic chemical cleaning method for graffiti removal (e.g. gels or spray compounds).
9. **Use chemicals that can be recycled.**
 - Buy recycled products to the maximum extent practicable
10. **Maintenance of portable toilets.**
 - Inspect portable toilets frequently (daily during work week) for leaks and have the units serviced and sanitized at time intervals that will maintain sanitary conditions of each toilet (typically weekly).
 - A licensed waste collector should service all portable toilets;
 - Suppliers should carry bleach for disinfection in the event of a spill or leak.
 - Properly store (cover) and handle chemical materials.
 - Train employees on these BMPs, storm water discharge prohibitions, and wastewater discharge requirements.

Training

1. **Train employees on these BMPs, storm water discharge prohibitions, and wastewater discharge requirements.**
2. **Train employees on proper spill containment and cleanup.**
 - Establish training that provides employees with the proper tools and knowledge to immediately begin cleaning up a spill.
 - Ensure that employees are familiar with the site's spill control plan and/or proper spill cleanup procedures.
 - BMP IC17 discusses Spill Prevention and Control in detail.
3. **Establish a regular training schedule, train all new employees, and conduct annual refresher training.**
4. **Use a training log or similar method to document training.**

Stencil storm drains

Storm drain system signs act as highly visible source controls that are typically stenciled directly adjacent to storm drain inlets. Stencils should read "No Dumping Drains to Ocean".

References

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Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington. Volume IV Source Control BMPs. Prepared by Washington State Department of Ecology Water Quality Program. Publication No. 99-14. August 2001.

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