



City of Long Beach
Department of Development Services
Building and Safety Bureau

Construction Activity Best Management Practices

Information
Bulletin

BU-038

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Long Beach has two drainage systems – the sewers and the storm drains. The storm drain system was designed to prevent flooding by carrying excess rainwater away from city streets out to the ocean. Because the system contains no filters, it now serves the *unintended* function of carrying urban pollution straight to the ocean. This Information Bulletin will describe how to prevent ocean pollution from “stormwater” or “urban runoff” for residential projects.

Best management practices, such as handling, storing and disposing of materials properly prevents construction site pollutants from entering the storm drains.

GENERAL BUSINESS PRACTICES

CD4(2) WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICE

Purpose: To reduce the discharge of pollutants from construction sites by using construction water that does not cause erosion or wash materials off-site.

Standards:

- Discourage washing of equipment on site.
- Avoid using water to clean construction areas. Sweep paved areas where practical.
- Direct construction water run-off to areas where it can soak into the ground.
- Apply water for dust control moderately so run-off does not occur.

CA10 MATERIAL DELIVERY AND STORAGE

Purpose: To reduce the discharge of pollutants during the delivery and storage process by minimizing the contact of materials with run-off.

Standards:

- Designate storage areas at the project site.
- Prevent spills or leakage of liquid materials from contaminating soil or soaking into the ground by placing storage areas on impervious surfaces. Do not store hazardous chemicals, drums, or bagged materials directly on the ground.
- Provide curbs or dikes around the perimeter of material storage areas.
- Store materials indoors when available.
- Minimize hazardous material storage on-site.
- Keep hazardous materials in their original containers and keep them well labeled.
- Keep ample supply of appropriate spill clean-up material near storage areas.
- Contain and clean up any spill immediately.

CA11 MATERIAL USE

Purpose: To reduce the discharge of pollutants by properly storing and utilizing materials.

Standards:

- Use materials only where and when needed to complete the construction activity.
- Follow manufacturers instructions regarding the preparation, use, and disposal of materials.
- Avoid exposing applied materials to rainfall and run-off unless sufficient time has allowed for them to dry.

CA12 SPILL PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Purpose: To reduce the discharge of pollutants from spills by preventing, containing and clean-up spills.

Standards:

- Hold regular meetings to discuss and reinforce appropriate disposal procedures.
- Use absorbent materials on small spills rather than hosing down or burying the spill.
- For significant or hazardous spills that cannot be controlled by personnel in the immediate vicinity, notify local emergency response by calling 911.

CA20 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Purpose: To reduce the discharge of pollutants as a result of the creation, stockpiling and removal of litter and other construction waste.

Standards:

- Collect site trash regularly, daily during rainy and windy conditions.
- Keep solid materials shielded by using either a covered dumpster or other enclosed trash container that limits contact with rain, run-off, and/or scattering due to winds.
- Make sure that toxic wastes and chemicals are not disposed of in dumpsters designed for construction debris.

CA21 HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

Purpose: To reduce the discharge of pollutants by the proper storage and disposal of waste.

Standards:

- Sites with existing structures may contain waste which must be disposed of in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations which include sandblasting grit mixed with lead, cadmium, or chromium based paints and asbestos.
- Major contamination, large spills, and other serious hazardous waste incidents require immediate response from specialists.
- Keep liquid or semi-liquid hazardous waste in appropriate containers and under cover.
- Clearly mark on all hazardous waste containers which materials are acceptable for the container.
- Place hazardous waste containers in secondary containment.
- Make sure that toxic wastes and chemicals are not disposed of in dumpsters designed for construction debris.

CA23 CONCRETE WASTE MANAGEMENT

Purpose: To reduce the discharge of Portland cement, concrete slurries and asphalt by implementing appropriate wash-out procedures, slurry containment, housekeeping and disposal practices.

Standards:

- Do not allow slurry residue from wet coring or saw-cutting to enter storm drains.
- Shovel or vacuum slurry residue and dispose in a temporary pit.
- Designate areas to be used for washout of vehicles transporting concrete.
- Washout areas shall have a temporary pit or berm area of sufficient volume to completely contain all liquid and waste concrete.
- Once the concrete wastes are washed into the designated areas and allowed to harden, the concrete can be properly disposed.

CA30 VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT CLEANING

Purpose: To reduce the discharge of pollutants by cleaning equipment and related activities offsite when practical.

Standards:

- Clean all vehicles and equipment that regularly enter and leave the construction site.
- Design wash area with a sump to allow collection and disposal of wash water.
- Do not use solvents or steam to clean vehicles or equipment on site.

CA31 VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT FUELING

Purpose: To reduce the discharge of pollutants as a result of vehicle and equipment fueling by preventing leaks and spillage.

Standards:

- Locate fueling areas on a paved surface where practical.
- Protect fueling areas with berms and/or dikes to prevent run-on, run-off, and to contain spills.
- Absorbent materials shall be used on small spills instead of hosing down or burying.
- Keep an ample supply of spill cleanup material on the site.

CA32 VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

Purpose: To reduce the discharge of pollutants as a result of vehicle and equipment maintenance by conducting these activities off-site or in a designated area.

Standards:

- Locate on paved surfaces where practical.
- Use berms to protect maintenance areas from run-on.
- Do not dump fuels and lubricants onto the ground.
- Do not place used oil in a dumpster or pour into a storm drain.