

# CONTRACTOR'S GUIDE TO STORM WATER MANAGEMENT

Presidio of Monterey Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division (831) 899-7372

## How can I protect storm water? Tips for soil erosion control:

### ***Minimize the amount of exposed soil on site.***

- To the extent possible, plan the project in stages to minimize the amount of area that is bare and subject to erosion.
- Vegetate disturbed areas with permanent or temporary seeding immediately upon reaching final grade.
- Cover stockpiles that will not be used immediately.

### ***Reduce the velocity of stormwater both onto and away from the project area.***

- Consider interceptors, diversions, vegetated buffers, and check dams to slow down storm water and/or to direct flow away from exposed areas toward stable portions of the site.
- Silt fences and other types of perimeter filters should never be used to reduce the velocity of runoff.

### ***Protect defined channels immediately with measures adequate to handle the storm flows expected.***

- Sod, geotextile, natural fiber, riprap, or other stabilization measures should be used to allow the channels to carry water without causing erosion.

### ***Keep sediment on site.***

- Place aggregate or stone at construction site vehicle exits so that much of the dirt on the tires will fall off before the vehicle gets to the street.
- Regular street sweeping at the construction entrance will prevent dirt from entering storm drains.
- Do not hose paved areas.
- Sediment traps and basins are temporary structures and should be used in conjunction with other measures to reduce the amount of erosion.

### ***Maintain all best management practices (BMPs) to ensure their effectiveness during the life of the project.***

- Regularly remove collected sediment from silt fences, berms, traps, and other BMPs.
- Ensure that geotextiles and mulch remain in place until vegetation is well established.
- Maintain fences that protect sensitive areas, silt fences, diversion structures, and other BMPs.

**More on management practices at  
[www.cabmphandbooks.com](http://www.cabmphandbooks.com)**

## Other activities to control polluted runoff

Construction materials, debris, trash, fuel, paint, and stockpiles become pollution sources when it rains. Basic pollution prevention practices can significantly reduce the amount of pollution leaving construction sites. The following are some simple practices that should be included in the Plan and implemented on site:

- Keep potential sources of pollution out of the rain as practicable (e.g., inside a building, covered with plastic or tarps, or in a leak-proof container).
- Clearly identify a protected, lined area for concrete truck washouts. This area should be located away from streams, storm drain inlets, or ditches and should be cleaned out periodically.
- Park, refuel, and maintain vehicles and equipment in one area of the site to minimize the area exposed to possible spills. This area should be well away from streams, storm drain inlets, or ditches. Keep spill kits close by and clean up any spills or leaks immediately, including spills on pavement or earthen surfaces.
- Practice good housekeeping. Keep the site free of litter, construction debris, and leaking containers. Keep all waste in one area to minimize cleaning.
- Never hose down paved surfaces to clean dust, debris, or trash. This water could wash directly into storm drains or streams. Sweep up materials and dispose of them in the trash. Never bury trash or debris!
- Dispose of hazardous materials properly.

## Why do I need to protect storm water at my construction site?

Runoff from rainstorms picks up pollutants like sediment, oil and grease, nitrogen and phosphorous, and other chemicals and carries them into storm drains or directly into downstream water bodies. Here at the Presidio of Monterey (POM) and Ord Military Community (OMC), runoff eventually discharges into Monterey Bay without any form of treatment. Monterey Bay, a national marine sanctuary, is home to one of the most diverse marine ecosystems in the world, as well as a popular water recreation and fishing area. If not managed responsibly, construction sites can have significant impacts on storm water and downstream water quality.

## Does my construction site need a storm water permit?

All construction sites disturbing 1 or more acres (with few exceptions) need storm water permit coverage.

- Does your construction project disturb 1 or more acres of land through clearing, grading, excavating, or stockpiling of fill material? Remember to count the acreage of the entire project, even if you are responsible for only a small portion.
- Is there any possibility that storm water could run off of your site?

If you answered yes to both of these questions, you need permit coverage. If you don't have permit coverage, you could be fined up to \$32,500 per day.

## How to obtain storm water permit coverage

### 1. Read California Construction Activities Storm Water General Permit Order No. 99-08-DWQ

<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/stormwtr/docs/finalconstpermit.pdf>

### 2. Develop a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)

The SWPPP is a plan for how you will control storm water runoff from your construction site. Best management practices (BMPs) that address erosion and sedimentation control and other pollution control measures are outlined in the plan. The SWPPP must be completed before you apply for coverage under the Construction General Permit.

Basic SWPPP Principles:

- Divert storm water away from disturbed or exposed areas of the construction site.
- Install BMPs to control erosion and sediment and manage storm water.
- Inspect the site regularly and properly maintain BMPs, especially before, during and after storm events.
- Revise the SWPPP as site conditions change during construction and if BMPs are not effectively controlling erosion and sedimentation.
- Minimize exposure of bare soils to precipitation to the extent practicable.

- Keep the construction site clean by putting trash in trash cans, keeping storage bins covered, and sweeping up excess sediment on roads and other impervious surfaces.

### 3. File a Notice of Intent (NOI)

The NOI is an application for permit coverage. It is also a certification that you have read, understood and implemented the requirements of the Construction General Permit. The NOI and appropriate fee must be submitted BEFORE commencement of construction activity.

### 4. Implement best management practices (BMPs) outlined in your SWPPP

Remember to follow your SWPPP. All BMPs must be inspected and maintained regularly to make sure they are functioning as designed. The plan must also be updated as site conditions and BMP change. Remember to keep records of your inspections and maintenance activities and any SWPPP modifications for review during inspection.

### 5. File a Notice of Termination (NOT)

When the project is completed and site is stabilized, or when another operator has assumed control over the site, file an NOT to terminate permit coverage.

*Remember to provide a copy of the NOI, SWPPP and NOT to POM Directorate of Public Works, Environmental Division.*