



CITY OF SAN DIEGO - 7650 MISSION VALLEY RD., SAN DIEGO, CA 92108

PUBLIC NOTICE

Date: Sept. 1, 2026

Subject: Stay Ready, San Diego - Anticipate the Start of 2026 Rainy Season and Required Stormwater Compliance at Construction Sites

All owners, developers and contractors are reminded to prepare construction sites, be familiar with and know the requirements of stormwater regulations and permits and take the necessary actions to Stay Ready for the upcoming rainy season. The rainy season begins on Oct. 1, 2026, and concludes on April 30, 2027.

The National Weather Service expects [El Niño](#) to intensify through this fall and winter. They are forecasting an 80% chance of an extremely wet winter. Preparation for such wet winter conditions should be incorporated into construction planning now to ensure sites are properly prepared for increased storm activity.

Adequate construction [stormwater Best Management Practices](#) (BMPs) shall be implemented and maintained to prevent stormwater pollution from entering into all stormwater conveyances per [San Diego Municipal Code §43.03](#), the City of San Diego [Stormwater Standards Manual](#), the [State Construction General Permit \(CGP\), Order No. 2022-0057-DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000002](#) and the [San Diego Regional Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit, Order No. R9-2013-0001, NPDES No. CAS0109266](#), as amended by Order Nos. R9-2015-0001 and R9-2015-0100.

Stormwater conveyances include drainage inlets, curbs and gutters, streets and regional waters, such as creeks, rivers, channels and wetlands.

Enforcement

Lack of stormwater pollution prevention BMPs and any pollutant and sediment-laden discharge to the City's stormwater conveyances will be subject to enforcement by the City and the [San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board](#) (RWQCB).

City inspection teams will proactively be inspecting construction sites to identify compliance and non-compliance of the City's stormwater requirements and will utilize escalating enforcement methods. The RWQCB will continue conducting random, unscheduled site visits to private and public construction sites and issuing enforcement actions when violations of stormwater regulations are found.

Year-round Construction Site BMPs

The following stormwater pollution prevention BMPs are required year-round at all construction sites, including before and during the rainy season, to protect stormwater conveyances and receiving bodies of water from pollutant and sediment discharges to the maximum extent possible.

1. Project planning;
2. Good site management "housekeeping," including waste management;
3. Non-storm water management;
4. Erosion control;
5. Sediment control;
6. Run-on and run-off control; and
7. Active/passive sediment treatment systems, where applicable.

Construction Site Minimum BMPs

- Sediment in the right of way and any construction-related residues left on the street before or after working hours are considered a discharge and must be controlled and swept daily.
- Saw-cutting residue must be contained and vacuumed promptly.
- Vehicles or equipment that leak must be removed from the project site or repaired immediately, and any "spills" must be appropriately cleaned and contained with drip pans or equivalent.
- Implementation of good site "housekeeping" BMPs for material storage and waste management onsite.
- Implementation of erosion and sediment controls on all disturbed areas, including slopes, pads and haul roads, must be implemented before the rain.

Additional Resources

The City of San Diego [Stormwater Standards Manual Part 2 Construction BMP Standards](#) includes Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan Checklist, Weather Triggered Action Plan and other clarifications on construction BMP requirements. The manual is a component of the [Land Development Manual](#) and conforms to the 2013 Municipal Permit. The [Caltrans Construction Site Best Management Practices \(BMP\) Manual](#) or [California Stormwater Quality Association](#) also contains addition BMP information and useful guidelines.

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