

# CONSTRUCTION SITE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES



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**BMPs MUST BE PROPERLY USED AT ALL CONSTRUCTION SITES IN THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO TO PROTECT WATER QUALITY AND MINIMIZE POLLUTION**

The City Of San Diego's Municipal Code § 43.0301, (Storm Water Management and Discharge Control Ordinance) prohibits pollutant discharges at work sites from flowing into storm drains and polluting neighborhood creeks, bays and the ocean. To stay in compliance with the law and keep your projects on schedule, make sure BMPs are implemented and maintained year round regardless of weather conditions. BMPs must be checked daily.

## Erosion Control 1

Minimize exposure time of disturbed areas. Slopes, lots, and other areas where erosion can occur should not be left bare for long periods of time (2 weeks max.). Immediately re-vegetate bare areas or provide temporary protection to the site using mulch, straw matting, or fiber bonded matrix. Sand bags, gravel, hay bales, silt fences, fiber roll, and temporary detention basins can also help to control erosion, but are not long term solutions.

## Perimeter Controls 2

Surround the entire site with perimeter controls, such as gravel bags, silt fences and/or straw wattles (weighted down).

## Tracking Control 3

Prevent tracking dirt offsite. Use gravel and corrugated steel plates to provide a stabilized entrance and exit for vehicles. Clean plates regularly and replace gravel when no longer effective. Maintain dust control and implement street sweeping and vacuuming, as needed.

## Portable Bathrooms 4

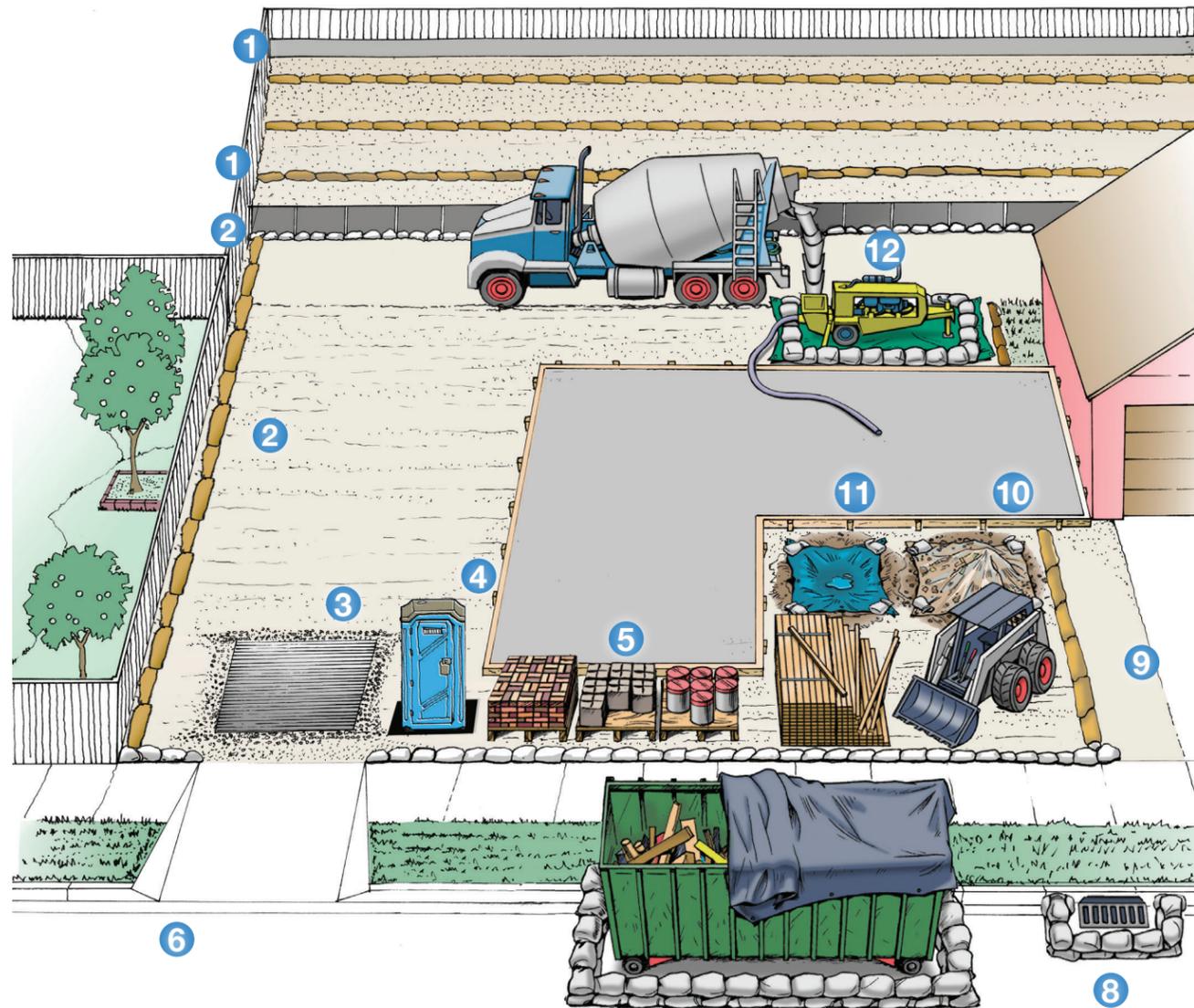
Provide secondary containment underneath all portable rest-rooms and sinks and locate them at least 50 feet away from drainage inlets, whenever feasible. Always provide perimeter controls around portable restrooms and sinks.

## Building Material / Staging Areas 5

Store building and construction materials, such as paint and stucco, on site at all times. Elevate materials off the ground and cover when not in use to prevent runoff caused by wind or rain. Mix all materials within secondary containment. Keep a spill kit onsite at all times.

Protecting water resources improves and preserves San Diego's quality of life for our children and future generations.

Questions? Contact your assigned inspector or the Development Services Field Office at (858) 492-5070 or your resident engineer at Field Engineering Division at (858) 627-3200.



## Traffic Control Permit 6

Apply for a traffic control permit if, at any point, public streets, alleys or the public right of way will be used to work or store materials or equipment, including dumpsters or trucks. The public right-of-way is generally 10' from curb face to property line. To obtain a permit, contact the Development Services Department at (619) 446-5150. Forms are available online at [www.sandiego.gov/development-services](http://www.sandiego.gov/development-services) under Construction Industry, Forms and Development.

## Concrete Trucks / Pumpers / Finishers 12

Provide perimeter controls, such as tarps and gravel bags, around work areas to contain materials and residue. It is illegal to wash out concrete, stucco and paint from equipment or trucks onto the ground or streets.

## Washout Area 11

Provide a washout area, such as a lined pit or container, for the disposal of "wet" construction materials (concrete, paint, stucco, oils, etc.) or for cleaning tools and equipment. Washout areas need to be lined and maintained to ensure wash water and residues are contained and do not leak.

## Dirt / Stockpiles 10

Cover temporary piles of soil/dirt with tarps and contain them using berms to prevent sediment from escaping. It is illegal to pile dirt or other materials (gravel, sand, etc.) in the street or on a driveway or sidewalk where it could run off into the storm drain. Dispose of permanently removed dirt at a legal dumping site.

## Earthmoving Equipment 9

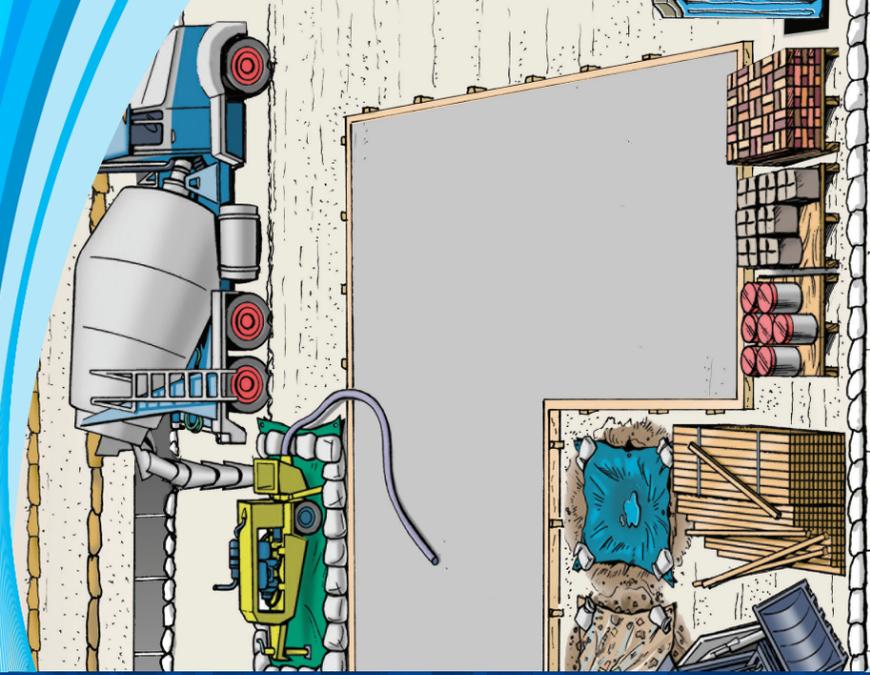
Store all earthmoving equipment on site, not in the right of way. Immediately clean up mud tracks and dirt trails left by equipment leading to and from the site. Place drip pans under all equipment while not in use.

## Storm Drain Inlets 8

Protect storm drains at all times with perimeter controls. Do not use sand bags for inlet protection, as they do not permit flow through. Immediately replace damaged gravel bags and remove all debris from the street, sidewalk and gutters. It is illegal to dump chemicals or washout into the street or curb gutters.

## Dumpsters / Waste 7

Always cover dumpsters with rollback tarp. Sweep areas around dumpsters daily. Provide perimeter controls around dumpster areas to contain pollutants. Do not place liquid chemicals or waste in dumpsters.



Tips for Pollution Prevention

# CLEAN CONSTRUCTION

## STORM WATER REGULATIONS

Under the City of San Diego's Municipal Code §43.0301, Storm Water Management and Discharge Control Ordinance, it is illegal to discharge construction debris and materials into the storm water conveyance system. Failure to prevent pollutants and illegal discharges from entering the storm water conveyance system can result in fines up to \$10,000 per day, per violation and may include reimbursing the City for all expenses associated with clean up. These regulations apply, regardless of whether the activity is conducted by the property owner, site supervisor, contractor, or other persons.

## STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN

Construction projects must create a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that outlines the procedures you intend to implement to prevent pollution from leaving your property. A SWPPP must comply with all local, state, and federal laws governing storm water management and discharge control.

### TRAFFIC CONTROL PERMITS

If at any point, you need to use the public right of way to work or store materials, you must apply for a traffic control permit.

Contact the Development Services Department at **(619) 446-5150**

Forms are available online at: [www.sandiego.gov/development-services](http://www.sandiego.gov/development-services) under Construction Industry, Forms and Development



[facebook.com/ThinkBlueSanDiego](http://facebook.com/ThinkBlueSanDiego)

[thinkblue.org](http://thinkblue.org)

**(619) 235-1000**

To report storm water pollution in San Diego, call the Think Blue Hotline:



**619.287.7555**

**858.505.6880**

### Emergency Contacts:

**911**

Hazardous Spills

County Hazardous Materials

EDCO (Solid Waste)

**858.581.7111**

**858.492.5070**

**619.446.5000**

Inspection Scheduling

Inspection Services

General Information

[www.sandiego.gov/development-services](http://www.sandiego.gov/development-services)

## DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CONTACT

## BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Best Management Practices, commonly called BMPs, are activities that you are required to implement to prevent pollution from leaving your construction site and entering the storm drain system. Pollution prevention BMPs can help your activities run more efficiently and help you comply with storm water regulations.

The following examples of BMPs have been developed to assist you in establishing pollution prevention procedures. You are not limited to the following BMP examples, but you must establish procedures that produce equivalent or better results and are satisfactory to the City of San Diego.

### 1. PLANNING & MAINTENANCE

- Conduct daily site inspections
- Sweep-up surface areas regularly
- Regularly maintain all project site BMPs
- Develop spill response and containment procedures
- Keep spill kits stocked and ready
- Educate all employees, consultants and subcontractors about your site BMPs
- Develop an erosion control plan for wind and rain to prevent pollution from leaving the construction site

### 2. MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

- Store all materials on-site, not in the public right of way
- Contain and cover materials to prevent leaks, spills and to keep them dry
- Store materials on pallets rather than directly on the ground
- Provide secondary containment, including underneath portable restrooms and sinks



into the storm drain system (San Diego Municipal Code §43.0301).

Keeping pollutants out of storm drains helps preserve our environment and improve water quality. It can also help you avoid costly fines related to the illegal discharge of pollutants

potential to enter our waterways every day if not properly controlled and contained.

When it rains or when water flows off of properties, it gets collected by the storm drain system. All water that enters the storm drain system flows untreated directly into creeks, rivers, bays, and ocean – along with the pollutants it carries. Trash, debris, sediment, chemicals and other pollutants have the

potential to enter our waterways every day if not properly controlled and contained. Keeping pollutants out of storm drains helps preserve our environment and improve water quality. It can also help you avoid costly fines related to the illegal discharge of pollutants into the storm drain system (San Diego Municipal Code §43.0301).

## PROTECT WATER QUALITY

### 3. EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL

- Establish perimeter controls, including the use of gravel bags, silt fences and straw wattles
- Provide a stabilized entrance and exit for vehicles
- Cover soil stockpiles with tarps and contain with a berm
- Maintain dust control

### 4. WASHING & DISPOSAL

- Minimize water use and do not let wash water leave the site.
- Establish and use an adequately sized concrete wash out area to contain all liquids on site.
- Properly dispose of unused or waste products.
- Keep concrete, paints, chemicals, sediment, landscape debris, etc. out of the storm drain system (curb, gutter, sidewalk, street, drain or inlet).
- Contact the County's Hazardous Materials Division for proper disposal of hazardous materials.

### 5. CONTROL, CONTAIN, CAPTURE

**Control** - The best line of defense is to prevent materials and debris from leaving your property and entering the storm drain system. Establish BMPs and maintain good housekeeping procedures.

**Contain** - Isolate your work area using erosion and perimeter controls. Block water or debris from leaving your activity area.

**Capture** - Use a washout area or wet-vacuum to capture water and sweep or vacuum to capture debris. Properly dispose of all construction waste and residue to prevent a discharge.