PREVENT STORMWATER CONTAMINATION

Best Management Practices for Fabricated Metal Products Industry

General Information:
1. Based on the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes of 3411-3499, and 3911-3915, Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturers are required to notify the State of Arizona of its intent to discharge pollutants to waters of the United States and agree to comply with applicable terms and must maintain conditions established under the Multi-Sector General Permit.
2. Regulated facilities must develop and implement a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and file a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ).
3. The City of Tucson’s Stormwater Management Section can provide guidance materials to assist you in complying with Federal and State regulations.

The following are Best Management Practices (BMP’s) for various activities that may take place at fabricated metal shops.

Metal Fabricating Areas
- Sweep on a regular basis all accessible paved areas.
- Maintain floors in a clean and dry condition.
- Remove waste and dispose of regularly.
- Sweep fabrication areas.
- Train employees on good housekeeping measures.

Storage Area for Raw Metal
- Check raw metals for corrosive activity.
- Keep area neat and orderly, stack neatly on pallets or off the ground.
- Cover exposed materials.

Receiving, Unloading and Loading Areas
- Clean up spills immediately.
- Check for leaks and remedy problems regularly.
- Unload under covered areas when possible.

Storage of Heavy Equipment
- Clean prior to storage or store under cover.
- Store indoors.
- Divert drainage to the grass swales, filter strips, retention ponds or holding tasks.

Metal Working Fluid Areas
- Store used metal working fluid with fine metal dust indoors.
- Use tight sealing lids on all fluid containers.
- Use straw, clay absorbent, sawdust or synthetic absorbent to confine or contain any spills.
- Establish recycling programs for used fluids when possible.

Liquid Storage Tanks
- Cover all tanks.
- Berm tanks.
- Keep area clean.
- Check piping, valves and other related equipment on a regular basis.

Chemical Cleaners and Rinse Water
- Use drip pans and other devices to collect spills or solvents and other liquid cleaners.
- Recycle waste water.
- Store recyclable waste indoors or in covered containers.
- Substitute nontoxic cleaning agents when possible.
Raw Steel Collection Areas
- Collect scrap metals, fines and iron dust and store under cover.
- Recycle.

Paints and Painting Equipment
- Paint and sand indoors when possible.
- Avoid painting and sandblasting operations outdoors in windy weather conditions.
- If done outside, enclose sanding and painting areas with tarps or plastic sheeting.
- Use water-based paints when possible to decrease pollution.

Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance Areas
- Berm area or use other containment device to control spills.
- Use drip pans, plastic sheeting and other similar controls.
- Discard fluids properly or recycle if possible.

Hazardous Waste Storage Areas
- Store indoors.
- Label materials clearly.
- Check for corrosive activity and leaking.
- Properly dispose of outdated materials.
- Dike or use grass swales, ditches or other containment to prevent runon or runoff in case of spills.
- Post notices prohibiting dumping of materials into storm drains.
- Store containers, drums and bags away from direct traffic routes.
- Do not stack containers in such a way as to cause leaks or damage to the containers.
- Use pallets to store containers when possible.
- Store materials with adequate space for traffic without disturbing drums.
- Maintain low inventory level of chemicals based on need.

Transporting Chemicals to Storage Areas
- Forklift operators should be trained to avoid puncturing drums.
- Store drums as close to operational building as possible.
- Label all drums with proper warning and handling instructions.

Finished Products (Galvanized) Storage
- Use wooden pallets.
- Store on a concrete pad or other impervious surface.

Wooden Pallets and Empty Drums
- Clean contaminated wooden pallets.
- Cover empty drums.
- Store drums and pallets indoors.

Retention Ponds
- Provide routine maintenance.
- Remove excess sludge periodically.
- Aerate periodically. It is important to maintain the pond’s aerobic character and ecological balance.

If Spills Occur
- Stop the source of the spill immediately.
- Contain the liquid until cleanup is complete.
- Deploy oil containment booms if the spill may reach the water.
- Cover the spill with absorbent material.
- Keep the area well ventilated.
- Dispose of clean-up materials properly.
- Do not use emulsifier or dispersant.