PREVENT STORMWATER POLLUTION

Best Management Practices for
Printers & Publishers
(SIC Code –2711 thru 2796)

General Information:
1. Based on the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes of 2711 through 2796, printing and publishing facilities 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 printing and publishing facilities.

Plate Preparation & Printing
- Use aqueous-developed lithographic or wipe-on plates.
- Use press wipes as long as possible before discarding or laundering; use dirty ones for the first pass, then clean ones for the second pass.
- Squeeze or centrifuge solvent out of dirty rags.
- Set up an in-house dirty rag cleaning operation, if warranted, or send to approved industrial laundries.
- Assign a dedicated press for inks with hazardous pigments/solvents.
- Segregate used oil from solvents or other materials.
- Use water-based inks in gravure and flexography printing process.
- Use cleaning solvents only in designated areas.
- Train employees and provide refresher courses on operating and safety procedures.

Stencil Preparation for Screen Printing
- Recapture excess ink from silkscreen process before washing the screen to decrease amount of ink and cleaning emulsion used.

Material Handling and Storage Areas (Including Waste Storage Areas)
- Store containerized materials (fuel, paints, inks solvents, etc.) in a protected, secure location, preferably indoors or in a covered area away from drains, ditches and surface waters.
- Store reactive, ignitable or flammable liquids in compliance with the local fire code.
- Ensure that all materials are properly labeled.
- Maintain and inspect all storage tanks to detect potential leaks and perform preventive maintenance.
- If materials are stored outdoors, provide overhead cover and sufficient spill containment. It is standard practice to provide spill containment for 10 percent of the volume of all containers OR 110 percent of the volume of the largest tank, whichever is largest.
• Use temporary containment where required, such as portable drip pans.
• Use spill troughs for drums with taps.
• Inspect piping systems (pipes, pumps, flanges, couplings, hoses and valves) for failure or leaks.
• Handle all materials in designated areas away from drains, ditches and surface waters. Locate and designate areas preferably indoors or under a shed.

Other Beneficial Activities
• Identify potentially hazardous materials, their characteristics and use.
• Control excessive purchasing, storage and handling of potentially hazardous materials.
• Keep records to identify quantity, receipt date, material shelf life, applications and disposal routes.
• Secure and carefully monitor hazardous materials to prevent theft, vandalism and misuse of materials.
• Train employees and provide refresher courses on proper storage, use, cleanup and disposal of materials.
• Train employees on proper filling and transfer procedures.

If Spills Occur:
• Stop the source of the spill immediately.
• Contain the spill until cleanup is complete.
• Deploy containment booms if spills may reach the streets, stormdrains, ditches or washes.
• Cover the spill with absorbent material.
• Keep the area well ventilated.
• Dispose of clean-up materials properly.
• Do not use emulsifier, dispersant or water.
• In the event of a major spill contact 911.

Department of Transportation
Stormwater Management Section
(520) 791-4251