

# PREVENT STORMWATER CONTAMINATION



## Best Management Practices for Parking Garages & Parking Lot Cleanings



### General Information

1. Federal Stormwater regulations require municipalities to reduce the quantity of pollutants that enter our storm drains, rivers and washes from rain water and other sources.
2. Water from any source that contains pollutants is prohibited from entering the storm drain system, which includes streets, catch basins (street grates), ditches, washes and rivers.
3. Before you start any wash process, sweep and collect dirt and debris and dispose of it in the trash.

**The following are Best Management Practices (BMP's) for various activities that may occur during parking garages and parking lot cleaning activities.**

#### **Sidewalks and Plazas with Soap**

- Before washing begins, sweep or shovel and dispose of debris in the trash.
- Apply signage and secure areas to assure public safety.
- Wash water is not allowed in the storm drain or street.
- Seal storm drains with an impervious material before washing begins.
- Vacuum or pump the wash to a holding tank for analysis and disposal.
- Contained wash water may be discharged into the sanitary sewer or to the landfill.
- If collected wastewater is transported from the wash site, it may be discharged into a sand/oil interceptor at your place for business.
- For treatment requirements prior to discharge please contact the Pima County Industrial Wastewater Division at 579-5771.

#### **Sidewalks and Plazas – with Soap**

- Apply signage and secure area to assure public safety.
- Before washing begins, pick-up or sweep-up and dispose of debris in the trash.
- Direct wash water to landscape or sanitary sewer.

- Seal all storm drains with a fabric filter to collect dirt and debris.
- Sweep areas that collect heavy dust prior to hosing operations, dispose of dirt in the trash bin.

#### **Surface Cleaning with Soap**

- Wash water is not allowed to enter the storm drain, street or any other area outside the property limits.
- Wash water must be directed toward the sanitary sewer or collected and discharged to landfill.
- Using untreated wash water for landscape irrigation is not advised, it may kill plants.
- Seal storm drains with an impervious material before washing begins.
- If wastewater is contained on-site, it must be picked up by an authorized Waste hauler.

#### **Surface Cleaning without Soap**

- Before washing begins, sweep or shovel and dispose of debris in the trash.
- Direct wash water to landscape or sanitary sewer.
- Seal all storm drains with a fabric filter to collect dirt and debris.
- Clean all equipment in a contained area and do not hose waste down the storm drain or street.
- Keep all areas clean and free of spill hazards.

### **Drive-ways, Drive-through and Parking Areas**

- Wash water is not allowed in the storm drain or street.
- Dry clean oil deposits with absorbent and dispose of the waste in a trash receptacle.
- If using water for cleaning, seal storm drains with an impervious material before washing begins.
- Direct wash water to a sanitary sewer connection that is equipped with a sand/oil interceptor.

### **Storage Containers/Liquid Storage**

- Inspect the external condition (corrosion, leaks) of the containers.
- Ensure the berms and dikes are built around the containers.
- Keep product covered and/or enclosed.
- Ensure that all containers are sealed. (e.g. lids shut, caps closed).
- Maintain inventory control of all raw and spent materials.
- Ensure all containers are properly labeled.
- Employ measures to protect against spillage (i.e. use of drip pans during the transfer of cleaners).
- Rotate stock on a regular basis.
- Keep up-to-date records on all supplies.

### **Housekeeping Practices**

- Soapy water remaining in mop or wash buckets should be discharged to the sanitary sewer through a sink, toilet, clean-out or wash area with drain.
- Routinely sweep, shovel and dispose of litter in the trash.
- Use dry clean-up techniques for chemical or oil spills. (e.g. scatter absorbent on the spill, let it completely absorb the sweep it all up and dispose of it in the trash bin).
- Never pour or wash chemicals into the storm drain or street.

### **Masonry Efflorescence (Acid Washing)**

- Apply signage and secure area to assure public safety.
- Seal the storm drains using an impervious material before washing begins.

- Wash water from acid, degreaser or any other chemicals is prohibited from entering the storm drain, street or any other outside area.
- Vacuum or pump the wash water to a holding tank for proper disposal.

### **Training**

- Personnel will be properly trained on chemical use, safety and proper disposal practices.
- Develop and implement a Storm Water Management Plan.
- Educate employees on proper disposal and handling procedures.
- Train employees in waste control, disposal, spill and response techniques.
- Ensure all products are sorted, labeled and Material Safety Data Sheets are available in the work area.
- Train all employees about Material Safety Data Sheets.

### **If Spills Occur:**

- *Stop the source of the spill immediately.*
- *Contain the spill until cleanup is complete.*
- *Deploy containment booms if the spill may reach drains, ditches or surface waters.*
- *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.*



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