Construction projects are required to implement the stormwater best management practices (BMP) on this page, as they apply to your project, all year long.

**Construction Best Management Practices (BMPs)**

- **Materials & Waste Management**
  - Non-Hazardous Materials
  - Stor and cover stockpiles of sand, dirt or other construction material with tarps when rain is forecast or if not actively being used within 14 days.
  - Use (but don’t overuse) reclaimed water for dust control.
  - Hazardous Materials
  - Label all hazardous materials and hazardous wastes (such as pesticides, paints, thinners, solvents, fuel, oil, and antifreeze) in accordance with city, county, state and federal regulations.
  - Store hazardous materials and waste in water-tight containers, store in appropriate secondary containment, and cover them at the end of every work day or during wet weather or when rain is forecast.
  - Follow manufacturer’s application instructions for hazardous materials and be careful not to use more than necessary. Do not apply chemicals outdoors when rain is forecast within 24 hours.
  - Arrange for appropriate disposal of all hazardous wastes.

- **Equipment Management & Spill Control**
  - Waste Management
  - Cover waste disposal containers securely with tarps at the end of every work day and during wet weather.
  - Check waste disposal containers frequently for leaks and to make sure they are not overfilled. Never hose down a dumpster on the construction site.
  - Clean or replace portable toilets, and inspect them frequently for leaks and spills.
  - Dispose of all wastes and debris properly. Recycle materials and wastes that can be recycled (such as asphalt, concrete, aggregate base materials, wood, gyp board, pipe, etc.)
  - Dispose of liquid residues from paints, thinners, solvents, glues, and cleaning fluids as hazardous waste.

- **Earthwork & Contaminated Soils**
  - Construction Entrances and Perimeter
  - Establish and maintain effective perimeter controls and stabilize all construction entrances and exits to sufficiently control erosion and sediment discharges from site and tracking off site.
  - Sweep or vacuum any street tracking immediately and securely sediment source to prevent further tracking. Never hose down streets to clean up tracking.

- **Paving/Asphalt Work**
  - Erosion Control
  - Schedule grading and excavation work for dry weather only.
  - Stabilize all disturbed areas, install and maintain temporary erosion controls (such as erosion control fabric or bonded fiber matrix) until vegetation is established.
  - Seed or plant vegetation for erosion control on slopes or where construction is not immediately planned.

- **Concrete, Grout & Mortar Application**
  - Avoid paving and seal coating in wet weather, or when rain is forecast before fresh pavement will have time to care.
  - Cover storm drain inlets and manholes when applying seal coat, tack coat, slurry seal, fog seal, etc.
  - Collect and recycle or appropriately dispose of excess abrasive gravel or sand. Do NOT sweep or wash it into gutters.
  - Do not use water to wash down fresh asphalt concrete pavement.

- **Spill Prevention and Control**
  - Spill Prevention and Control
  - Keep spill clean-up materials (rags, absorbents, etc.) available at the construction site at all times.
  - Inspect vehicles and equipment frequently for and repair leaks promptly. Use drip pans to catch leaks until repairs are made.
  - Clean up spills or leaks immediately and dispose of cleanup materials properly.
  - Do not hose down surfaces where fluids have spilled. Use dry cleanup methods (absorbent materials, cat litter, and/or rags).
  - Sweep up spilled dry materials immediately. Do not try to wash them away with water, or bury them.
  - Clean up spills on dirt areas by digging up and properly disposing of contaminated soil.
  - Report significant spills immediately. You are required by law to report all significant releases of hazardous materials, including oil. To report a spill: 1) Dial 911 or your local emergency response number; 2) Call the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services Warning Center, (800) 852-7550 (24 hours).

- **Sediment Control**
  - Protect storm drain inlets, gutters, ditches, and drainage courses with appropriate BMPs, such as gravel bags, fiber rolls, berm, etc.
  - Prevent sediment from migrating offsite by installing and maintaining sediment controls, such as fiber rolls, silt fences, or sediment basins.
  - Keep excavated soil on the site where it will not collect into the street.
  - Transfer excavated materials to dump trucks on the site, not in the street.
  - Contaminated Soils
  - If any of the following conditions are observed, test for contamination and contact the Regional Water Quality Control Board:
    - Unusual soil conditions, discoloration, or odor.
    - Abandoned underground tanks.
    - Abandoned wells.
    - Barred barren, debris, or trash.

- **Painting & Paint Removal**
  - Painting cleanup
  - Never clean brushes or rinse paint containers into a street, gutter, storm drain, or surface waters.
  - For water-based paints, paint out brushes to the extent possible and clean with thinner or solvent in a proper container. Filter and reuse thinners and solvents. Dispose of residue and unusable thinner/solvents as hazardous waste.
  - For oil-based paints, paint out brushes to the extent possible and clean with thinner or solvent in a proper container. Filter and reuse thinners and solvents. Dispose of residue and unusable thinner/solvents as hazardous waste.
  - Paint removal
  - Chemical paint stripping residue and chips and dust from marine paints or paints containing lead or tributyltin must be disposed of as hazardous waste.
  - Paint chips and dust from non-hazardous dry stripping and sand blasting may be swept up or collected in plastic drop cloths and disposed of as trash.

- **Landscape Materials**
  - Contain stockpiled landscaping materials by storing them under tarps when they are not actively being used.
  - Stack erodible landscape material on pallets. Cover or store these materials when they are not actively being used or applied.
  - Discontinue application of any erodible landscape material within 2 days before a forecast rain event or during wet weather.

**Storm drain polluters may be liable for fines of up to $10,000 per day!**