

BUSINESS STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION

Best Management Practices: General Contractors

Rain that falls on streets and parking lots, also known as stormwater, can carry oils, detergents, pesticides, and other toxic chemicals from the ground and into storm drains that lead straight to lakes, streams, or Puget Sound. This can pose health and safety risks to our community and environment.

As a general contracting business, it's your duty to prevent debris and spills from polluting our waters.

Take action to prevent pollution at its source to keep our waters safe and clean!



Learn more about pollution prevention requirements in [Seattle's Stormwater Code](#).

Best Management Practices (BMPs) for General Contracting Businesses



- ✓ Ensure all sub-contractors are aware of, and follow, stormwater BMPs and call SPU at 206-386-1800 to report spills to the street and drainage system.
- ✓ **Fueling generators/equipment:** Ensure that Seattle Fire Department (SFD) fire codes are followed for mobile fueling and that both the site activity and mobile fueler have a SFD mobile fueling permit. Ensure that spill cleanup supplies are kept onsite and on the fuel delivery vehicle during the fueling operations. (Manual Volume 4, BMP 10)
- ✓ **Materials management:** Prevent materials from migrating offsite. Collect loose concrete aggregate chunks and dust for recycling/proper disposal at the end of each workday. Never hose down waste materials to an inlet/catch basin, ditch or waterway. (BMPs 7 and 14)
- ✓ Use catch basin filter socks in and around stormwater drainage structures to filter out solids. Maintain these filters weekly or as needed. (BMP 23)
- ✓ When undertaking outside surface preparation and application of paints, finishes and/or coatings always (i) use a drop cloth to capture dust, paint chips, and other removed materials and (ii) wipe up spills with rags and other absorbent materials immediately. Do not hose down the area. (BMPs 7 and 23)

See the [next page](#) for general BMPs to prevent stormwater pollution. ►



General Best Management Practices (BMPs)

BMPs are processes that businesses, individuals and responsible parties in Seattle should implement to prevent pollutants from contaminating stormwater runoff and entering receiving waters. General BMPs are required for all real property, and additional BMPs are recommended for specific pollution generating activities.



Find and Protect Onsite Storm Drains

Find where water will flow from your work site and protect your storm drains to prevent pollutants from entering local waterways. Best practice is to move activities that could release oils, chemicals, detergents, or other pollutants away from locations that could lead to a storm drain, and properly contain pollutants.



Train Employees

Ensure your staff are properly trained in the following key practices:

- How to safely store and use chemicals and hazardous materials so they do not pollute the ground, drains, or waterways
- What can be washed and where so that soap, soil, oil, and other chemicals do not enter storm drains
- How to create a spill plan and clean all spills promptly



Order a
FREE
spill kit

Prevent and Clean Up Spills

Create and follow your spill prevention and clean-up plan. A spill can be a one-time event, a continuous leak, or frequent small spills. All types must be addressed.

If you have a spill, call Seattle Public Utilities at (206) 386-1800.



Dispose of Fluids and Wastes

Responsible parties must properly dispose of solid and liquid waste, as well as contaminated stormwater and street waste. Depending on the type of waste, there are a few options for disposal:

1. Permitted centralized waste treatment facilities
2. Municipal solid waste and recycling facilities
3. Hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities

CLICK HERE TO READ THE FULL LIST OF POLLUTION PREVENTION BMPs

Language Support

For interpretation services please call 206-684-3000.

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통역 서비스를 원하시면 206-684-3000번으로 전화해 주십시오.

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Muốn yêu cầu dịch vụ thông dịch xin gọi số 206-684-3000.

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