

County of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works
Best Management Practices
(BMP) Workshop



Stormwater Pollution Prevention

- NPDES Permit (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System)
- The County's role in stormwater pollution prevention
 - Operations
 - Inspections and Enforcement
 - Public Education



What is the problem?

- **How does water flow through LA County?**
 - Through a 5,000 mile storm drain network that connects local bodies of water to the ocean
- **What is stormwater?**
 - Rain water that flushes into catch basins (“gutters”) and into the storm drain
- **What is stormwater pollution?**
 - Rain water contaminated by cooking grease, soapy water, trash, automobile fluids, etc.

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What is the problem?

- **Where does stormwater pollution come from?**
 - Cooking grease
 - Litter and/or fly-away trash
 - Soapy runoff
 - Motor fluids
 - Improper disposal of hazardous waste
 - Pet waste

What is the problem?



Stormwater Pollution Impacts



- Financial consequences
- Health risks
- Beach closures
- Harm to marine life
- Neighborhood flooding
- Lowers property values

Best Management Practices

- **What are BMPs?**
 - Any process, program criteria, operating method, measure or device which controls, prevents, removes or reduces pollution
- BMPs are best implemented through a stormwater pollution prevention plan



Benefits of BMPs

- Prevent violations
- Reduce clean-up costs
- Increase customer and employee safety
- Help reduce local pollution
- Permit compliance



Stormwater Inspections

- Conducted annually by DPW to identify deficient BMPs
- Inspections include a review of:
 - Grease containers
 - Spill containment
 - Runoff
 - Mop sinks
 - Waste disposal
 - Storm drains

Best Management Practices

- **Pollution prevention plan**
 - Spill prevention, control and clean up
 - Waste disposal and handling
 - Building and grounds maintenance
 - Employee training

Implementing a Pollution Prevention Plan

1. Spill prevention, control and clean up



- Do not rinse or hose spills
- ✓ Use dry clean up for spills
Utilize sawdust, kitty litter, rags, mops and buckets

Implementing a pollution prevention plan

2. Waste disposal and handling

- Avoid placing grease down the garbage disposal
- ✓ **Dispose of greasy food/waste in the trashcan**
- ✓ **Make sure trashcans are covered**
- Do not pour grease/oil directly into the drain, parking lot or street
- ✓ **Dispose of grease/oil in grease container; have your container emptied regularly**

Implementing a pollution prevention plan

3. Building and grounds maintenance

- Do not wash floor mats outside
- ✓ Clean mats over a utility sink
- Do not hose parking lot and/or sidewalks
- ✓ Mop all areas with a dry mop
- Do not pour mop water into the street
- ✓ Pour dirty water into mop sink
- ✓ Inspect and clean on-site catch basins
- ✓ Clean up litter before it reaches storm drains

Implementing a pollution prevention plan



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Implementing a pollution prevention plan

4. Employee training



- ✓ **Distribute County BMP materials to all employees**
- ✓ **Train new employees on BMPs and review guidelines regularly**
- ✓ **Serve as a resource to staff members with questions**

Maintaining your plan

- Continuing employee training
 - Discuss BMPs at staff meetings
 - Hold mock inspections
- Measuring success
 - Successful inspections
 - Knowledgeable employees
 - Cleaner facility and local environment

Questions and Answers



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