



SANTA FE SPRINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Storm Water Program Commercial Facilities

What Is Storm Water?

Storm Water is rainwater that enters the storm drain system and empties into lakes, rivers, streams or the ocean.

What is Storm Water pollution?

Water from rain, irrigation, garden hoses or other activities that picks up pollutants (cigarette butts, trash, automotive fluids, used oil, paint, fertilizers and pesticides, lawn and garden clippings and pet waste) from streets, parking lots, driveways and yards and carries them through the storm drain system, streams and rivers and then straight to the ocean.

What is the difference between storm drains and sewers?

The sewer system collects water from inside homes and businesses and carries it to a treatment plant where it is cleaned before being released into the ocean. The storm drain system collects water and litter from outside our homes and businesses and carries it, untreated, directly to the ocean.

Why should I be concerned with Storm Water?

Rain falling on urban areas result in both benefits and problems. The benefits are watering vegetation and area cleansing. The problem is that when rain flows over streets and other surfaces, it picks up pollutants and carries them into the storm drain. The storm drain is designed to prevent flooding by transporting water away from urban areas. Unfortunately, this water and all the contaminants it contains eventually flow to our streams, lakes, and the ocean where we swim and fish. Once there, polluted runoff can harm wildlife and their habitats. In some cases, it can even cause beach closures or make our fish and shellfish unsafe to eat.

What are my legal responsibilities?

As required by Federal law and Chapter 52 of the Santa Fe Springs Code of Ordinances a commercial facility must implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) to the maximum extent practicable. BMPs are good housekeeping solutions that include the proper handling, storage, and disposal of materials to prevent storm water pollution. Examples include: covering outdoor storage, routinely sweeping storage areas, keeping absorbent material on-site to clean up spills or leaks, or having spill prevention and control procedures in place. To obtain your industry specific BMP see the website at http://dpw.lacounty.gov/wmd/NPDES/IC_Facilities/appendix_B.pdf or visit our office at the address above. Also refer to the back page for a list of the minimum required BMPs.

Why am I in the Storm Water Program?

The Federal Clean Water Act and the Municipal Storm Water Permit names specific groups of facilities that must be included in the industrial/commercial facilities control program. If your Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code is 5013, 5014, 5511-5599, 5812, 7532-7534, or 7536-7539 you are in the Program. The SIC Code is a 4-digit number that classifies establishments by the type of business activity. These groups of facilities include, but are not limited to: restaurants, automotive service facilities, retail gas outlets, and automotive dealerships. If you need help finding your SIC code, see the website at <http://www.osha.gov/pls/imis/sicsearch.html> or visit our office for assistance.

Why am I getting inspected?

The City of Santa Fe Springs is subject to the requirements in the Los Angeles County Municipal Storm Water Permit (Order No. 01-182). As such, the City is responsible for inspecting all facilities that fall within the Storm Water Program and must verify that best management practices are being utilized to minimize the discharge of surface runoff contaminants.

Are there any fees for this program?

The City of Santa Fe Springs is required to inspect all commercial facilities twice in a five-year period. Currently, the annual fee for conducting Storm Water inspections is \$62.00.

For more Information...

Please contact Tiffany Shedrick of the Santa Fe Springs Department of Fire-Rescue at 562-906-3814.

Best Management Practice (BMP) Checklist Commercial Facilities

The BMPs listed below are suggested measures to control the discharge of pollutants to the stormwater drainage system. Not all BMPs will apply to your facility. You are encouraged to employ additional BMPs if they will control pollutants in an effective manner. Some BMPs may require permits or approval for construction and/or operation. The Fire Department can assist you in making this determination.

Minimum BMPs (required for all facilities)

- Termination of all non-stormwater discharge to storm drain system that is not specifically authorized by a NPDES permit.
- Exercising general good housekeeping practices.
- Incorporating regular scheduled preventive maintenance into operations.
- Maintaining spill prevention and control procedures.
- Implementing soil erosion control procedures.
- Training employees on storm water issues.
- Posting on-site private storm drains to indicate that they are not to receive liquid or solid wastes.
- Implementing regular cleaning of the on-site private storm drainage system.
- Keeping absorbent and cleaning materials on hand for use.
- Ensuring that storm water runoff is directed away from operating, processing, fueling, cleaning and storage areas.
- Eliminating or posting hose bibs.
- Proper disposal of air conditioning, cooling tower and condensate drains.

Restaurants

Has employee training and procedures for the following:

- Does not pour oil and grease or oil and grease residue onto a parking lot, street or adjacent catch basin.
- Keeps the trash bin area clean and trash bin lids closed, and does not fill trash bins with washout water or any other liquid.
- Does not allow illicit discharges, such as discharges of wash water from floor mats, floors, porches, parking lots, alleys, sidewalks and street areas (in the immediate vicinity of the establishment), filters or garbage/trash containers.
- Removes food waste, rubbish or other materials from parking lot areas in a sanitary manner that does not create a nuisance or discharge to the storm drain.

Automotive Services

Has employee training and procedures for the following:

- Maintains the facility area so that it is clean and dry and without evidence of excessive staining.
- Implements housekeeping BMPs to prevent spills and leaks.
- Properly discharges wastewaters to a sanitary sewer and/or contains wastewaters for transfer to a legal point of disposal.
- Is aware of the prohibition on discharging of non-storm water to the storm drain.
- Properly manages raw and waste materials including proper disposal of hazardous waste.
- Protects outdoor work and storage areas to prevent contact of pollutants with rainfall and runoff.
- Labels, inspects and routinely cleans storm drain inlets that are located on the facility's property.
- Implements storm water pollution prevention practices.

Retail Gasoline Outlet / Automobile Dealership

Has employee training and procedures for the following:

- Routinely sweeps fuel-dispensing areas for removal of litter and debris, and keep rags and absorbent ready for use in case of leaks and spills.
- Is aware that wash down of facility area to the storm drain is prohibited.
- Is aware of design flaws (such as grading that doesn't prevent run-on or inadequate roof covers and berms) and that equivalent BMPs are implemented.
- Inspects and cleans storm drain inlets and catch basins within each facility's boundaries no later than October 1st of each year.
- Posts signs close to fuel dispensers, which warn vehicle owners/operators against "topping off" of vehicle fuel tanks and installation of automatic shutoff fuel dispensing nozzles.
- Routinely checks outdoor waste receptacle and air/water supply areas, cleans leaks and drips, and ensures that only watertight waste receptacles are used and that lids are closed.
- Trains employees to properly manage hazardous materials and wastes as well as to implement other storm water pollution prevention practices.