



Best Management Practices for Construction Sites are required by EPA's NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) Program and includes the City of Santa Fe's Stormwater Ordinance 2005-3

For more information call 505-955-2133

**Storm Water
Management**

If the construction site is greater than 1 acre you will need to seek stormwater permit coverage from the Environmental Protection Agencies,

www.epa.gov/npdes/enoi



Purpose--To provide information on Best Management Practices that construction site manager's shall implement to keep pollutants from entering the City's storm system or nearby waterways such as the Santa Fe River, Arroyos, and Drainages etc.

Background---The term Best Management Practices (BMP's) refers to devices, operational activates, or physical controls that are applied to prevent, control, or reduce the discharge of pollutants to storm drain inlets, drainage swales, and waterways.

BMP's--Are required for all construction permits including, but not limited to grading, building, septic, drainage, and encroachment. Construction site operators are required to keep pollutants from entering the storm drain system or nearby waterways in order to protect surface water quality. Typical pollutants are to be kept out of the drainage system includes: sediment, paint, concrete waste, vegetative material, and spilled dry materials, measures. In addition, the construction site manager is responsible for ensuring that adequate sediment control measures (fiber rolls, gravel bags, silt fences etc.) are available to control sediment discharges at the downslope perimeter of the construction site, and operational storm drain inlets in the event of a sudden rainstorm.

Most Common Best Management Practices Include but no Limited to:

Inlet Protection---Protect all inlets and storm drains if there is a threat of discharge from construction activities. Sediment, oil, and other pollutants that enter the storm system can be washed into the river arroyos, drainage swales during line flushing or the first rains. Inlet protection devices can include filter fabric, sediment traps, gravel bag barriers and fiber rolls (wattle).

Concrete Washout---Designate a concrete washout area to avoid wash water from entering inlets, drainage swales, or storm drains. Dispose of concrete waste on a regular basis. Contact the solid waste facility for proper disposal or recycling of concrete waste. Concrete is highly toxic and has the potential to bind with soil practices that can be tracked or washed offsite and enter river or storm drains.

Trash and Good Housekeeping---Have trash cans and dumpsters available for disposal of trash or other items and empty them when full. Trash, insulation and other floatable materials can blow around on windy days and end up in the City's drainage system.

Sanitary Waste---Locate portable toilets on a vegetated or dirt surface at least 30 feet away from any roads, storm drains, or drainage swales. The potential to discharge highly toxic effluent during routine maintenance or if tipped over poses a threat to storm water quality.

Landscaping Materials---Apply fertilizer and pesticides at a proper rate an avoid spills that can get into the storm drain system as pollutants. Irrigation runoff that enters storm drains or waterways is also a concern. Sweeping up any excess material and avoiding over-watering is recommended.

Cobble Rocked Entry/Exits---Provide a stabilized construction access to reduce tracking of sediments and other pollutants onto paved roads. A stabilized access usually consists of a pad of 3"-5" inch rock approximately 50 ft. Long by 30 ft. wide and can be placed over geotextile fabric for greater longevity. Road sweeping may also be necessary to protect storm drains and prevent airborne dust.

Material Storage---Use a trailer or shed to store materials such as paints and petroleum products, or cover materials with a tarp when not in use to reduce the potential for pollutants to spill or blow around.

Dust Control---Implement dust control measures such as spraying water, or covering stockpiles on all construction sites where there will be major soil disturbances or heavy equipment activity. Airborne practices pose a dual threat to the environment and human health.

De-Watering Activities---Discharge sediment laden water from de-watering sites or sediment basins in an appropriate manner to prevent sediment from entering waterways or storm drains, Typical methods used to filter sediment include a de-watering tank, or gravity bag filters. De-Watering activities should be performed by a qualified person and monitored for effectiveness. (Note: Some De-watering discharges may require discharge permits from the Local State Surface Water Quality Bureau NMED or approvals from the City's Storm Water Authority