Environmentally Responsible Best Management Practices

Inspection and Monitoring Activities

Inspecting and monitoring the equipment used in industrial processes can be important in preventing problems that can lead to leaks or spills of substances that may contaminate stormwater runoff. These activities are also needed for proper maintenance of stormwater facilities on the site. Without adequate maintenance, sediment and other debris can quickly clog stormwater facilities and make them useless.

Maintenance Practices for Equipment and Process Areas

- Perform frequent inspections of the structural integrity of piping, valves, controls, joints, pumps, welds, drums, roofs, pavement or other sources of potential leaks and spills on the site that can contaminate runoff. These may be visual inspections or some form of non-destructive testing method, such as hydrostatic pressure or acoustic emission tests.
- **2** Consider installing monitoring systems for areas on the site where overflows, spills and catastrophic leaks are possible. Train staff in the use of monitoring equipment for proper operation.
- **3** Post signs and labels at areas where information is needed to prevent contaminants from being released to stormwater discharges, such as material transfer, loading and unloading, or equipment areas. The names and phone numbers of both facility and regulatory staff should be posted with phone numbers for contact in case of an accidental discharge or fire.
- ♠ Inspect secondary containment areas.
- **6** A *Report All Spills* placard is available from the City upon request.

Maintenance Practices for Stormwater Facilities

- Inspect catch basins, drainage pipes, spillways, control valves and plugs and related drainage structures at least annually to determine if maintenance is needed. Industries with stormwater permits must inspect catch basins monthly and should document the practice. It may be useful to inspect the storm sewer outfalls during a significant rainfall or snow melt event to determine how well the system is working.
- **2** Post warning signs adjacent to all storm drain inlets to convey messages such as:



(stencil available from the City upon request)

- **3** Immediately repair any deterioration which threatens the structural integrity of the facilities. Such repairs may include:
 - ✔ Replace catch basin lids, control valves or elbows
 - ✓ Remove rock and debris from spillways
 - ✔ Clear clogged pipes or drainage inlets
 - ✔ Remove excessive growth from drainage ditches
- Sweep paved areas and remove debris as frequently as needed and, if possible, before a rainfall event.

