

# Environmentally Responsible Best Management Practices

## 14 Non-Stormwater Related Discharges

This BMP applies to facilities that may have non-stormwater discharges to the stormwater collection system. Non-stormwater discharges are discharges that are not entirely composed of stormwater. Non-stormwater discharges include, but are not limited to those listed in this document. Sanitary wastewater discharges are prohibited. Many other discharges are prohibited from the stormwater collection system unless they have an NPDES permit.

Facilities subject to stormwater permit requirements must include a certification that the stormwater collection system has been tested or evaluated for the presence of non-stormwater discharges as part of their permit application process. The following approaches are frequently used to identify non-stormwater discharges.

### 1 Identification and Evaluation

Determine if you have any of the discharges listed below and identify where the discharge goes.

- Sanitary wastewater
- Any water used directly in the manufacturing process (process water)
- Vehicle and equipment washwater
- Pavement and/or building washwater
- Non-contact cooling water
- Cooling equipment condensate and blowdown
- Boiler blowdown
- Compressor condensate
- Pumped groundwater
- Landscape irrigation
- Fire suppression test water
- Foundation drains
- Other

### 2 Visual Inspection

The easiest method to identify non-stormwater discharges is to inspect each discharge point for the presence of flow during dry weather. Keep in mind that drainage from a storm event can continue for several days and groundwater may infiltrate the underground stormwater collection system. Also, non-stormwater discharges may be intermittent and require periodic inspections to ensure no discharge.

### 3 Research Cross Connections

Cross connections occur when sanitary sewer lines are inadvertently connected to the storm sewer system.

#### *Piping Schematic Review*

The piping schematic is a map of the site showing pipes and drainage systems used to carry wastewater, washwater, cooling water and sanitary wastewater. A review of the "as-built" piping schematic is a good way to determine if there are any crossconnections to the stormwater collection system.

In addition, inspect the path of floor drains in older buildings by following saw cuts in the concrete or asphalt. If the cuts lead to storm drain piping a crossconnection may be present. All indoor floor drains to the storm drain system should be replumbed to the sanitary or sealed to prevent their use.

#### *Dye Testing*

A dye test can be performed by releasing dye into either the sanitary or process wastewater system and then observing the discharge points of the stormwater and sanitary collection system for discoloration. Please contact the City at

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ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
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**CLEAN RIVER WORKS**

Dean Marriott, Director Dan Saltzman, Commissioner

Contact the Environmental Services Source Control Division 503-823-5320 for more information.

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503-823-7180 to report all dye testing activities. Unreported dye tests can result in unnecessary investigations by City staff.

### *Smoke Testing*

Smoke testing of wastewater and stormwater collection systems is used to detect connections between the two systems. During dry weather the stormwater collection system is filled with smoke and then traced to sources. For example, the appearance of smoke at the base of a toilet indicates that there may be a crossconnection between the sanitary and the stormwater systems.

### *Televising*

Hire a contractor who can televise the line and identify connections.

## **④ Document Compliance**

To ensure that your facility's stormwater system discharges only stormwater, you should do the following:

- Locate and evaluate discharges to the municipal storm sewer system.
- Locate and evaluate discharges to your on-site storm sewer system.
- Develop a plan to eliminate illicit connections and non-stormwater discharges.
- Develop alternative disposal options.
- Contact the City at 503-823-5320 for removal authorization.
- Document evaluation and removal.