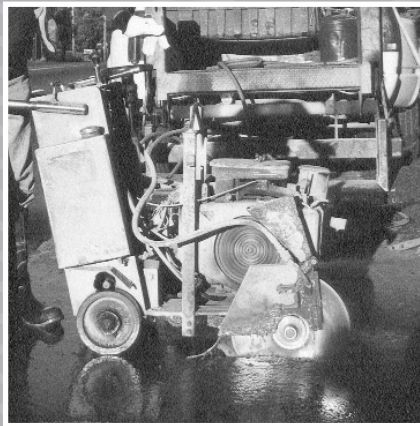


Environmentally Responsible Controls

Slurry From Sawcutting



Controlling
pollutants and sediments
from sawcutting



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
CITY OF PORTLAND
CLEAN RIVER WORKS

Dean Marriott, Director

Why Is Sawcut Slurry A Problem?

Storm drains can carry sawcut slurry and other pollutants from the streets and gutters directly to local waterways. This slurry can be toxic to fish and wildlife. The slurry can clog storm drains and catch basins which increase maintenance costs and could cause flooding.

If sawcut slurry from your job enters a catch basin, you have violated City Code. Allowing sawcut slurry to enter a storm drain inlet or catch basin that drains to a waterway is also a violation of state and federal regulations. Offenders could be subject to fines and cleanup costs.

Just Three Steps Can Protect Rivers and Streams

Following this three-step procedure when sawcutting can protect the environment and eliminate unlawful discharges.

1

Block Drains

Locate all nearby storm drain inlets, culverts, and catch basins through which slurry discharges may enter a waterway.

If you are within access of a storm drain inlet, block the path to the nearest drain. Either divert flows or berm inlets to pool water away from drains. Another option is to seal or plug the inlet.

2

Minimize Slurry Movement

Slurry and sediment from saw cutting operations should be confined to the immediate work area by using temporary berms or diversion structures. Minimize the tracking of slurry off site by cars and pedestrians.



Remove Slurry

Efficiently and effectively collect and remove all slurry and runoff from the saw cutting operation as soon as possible. Be sure to include removal of any slurry collected in or near the storm drain inlets by pumping to a collection vessel or using a wet/dry vacuum. It may be necessary to use a street sweeper or wash down the area and collect the water.

No slurry or washwater is allowed to drain off site. Slurry and wash water may be disposed of on site where it can filter into the ground. Otherwise, dispose of all collected slurry and wash water properly. One way is to allow collected slurry to settle and decant the water onto the ground or, with approval, into the sanitary sewer with approval. Dispose of the solids appropriately.

**For more information,
including authorization
to discharge to the sanitary sewer,
or for more copies of this brochure,
call the Environmental Services
Industrial Source Control Division
at 503-823-5320.**



Environmental Services
City of Portland

Industrial Source Control Division
6543 N Burlington Avenue
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