



IEWS & INFORMATION ON ENVIRONMENTAL & WORKPLACE SAFETY



Best Management Procedures (BMPs) for Stormwater Discharges

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If your facility is required to have a stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) as part of its State Pollution Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) Permit, these are some best management practices (BMPs) you can use to minimize environmental impacts from stormwater runoff.

Stormwater dischargers should try to adopt controls based on the following in order to help to reduce/eliminate any pollutants:

- good housekeeping, such as sweeping and picking up trash;
- preventive maintenance;
- visual inspections;
- spill prevention and response;
- sediment and erosion control;
- traditional stormwater management practices to contain and control runoff;
- employee training; and
- recordkeeping and reporting.

The following areas of your facility typically have the greatest potential to introduce pollutants into stormwater runoff. Maintain good practices in these areas to help prevent environmental impacts:

- vehicle and equipment maintenance areas;
- fueling and refueling areas;
- areas used for painting vehicles and equipment;
- material loading and unloading areas;
- liquid storage in aboveground storage tanks;
- waste management;
- outside storage areas for raw materials, byproducts or finished products; and
- vehicle and equipment wash areas.

Activity-specific practices generally meet one of three broad approaches:

1. covering or otherwise protecting an exposed activity or area from precipitation, snowmelt and other stormwater;
2. containing materials and contaminated stormwater so that discharges and stormwater contamination is minimized; and
3. inspections to ensure that BMP physical structures and operational practices are effective and maintained.

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CALL FOR ARTICLES

V.I.E.W.S. seeks to represent information and news of concern to the entire agency from each bureau. If you have news or information that you would like to share with the DEP community, please send it to Kevin Moore, OEHS Training, kmoore@dep.nyc.gov, in any format. Articles and information need not be in finished form; OEHS Training will work with you to assure the clarity and accuracy of the presentation.

F.Y.I.

ASBESTOS

DEP is committed to protect employees from any potential hazards of asbestos by the following actions:

- Identifying the locations where asbestos is known to be present in your facility by examination and testing.
- Communicating the information to employees and posting it on a bulletin board at the facility.
- Affixing signs at locations where asbestos is known to be present

MERCURY

An inventory is kept of mercury containing materials, except for thermostats and fluorescent light bulbs. Paints are tested for the presence of mercury compounds along with lead and PCB. The known presence of mercury is posted on a bulletin board in your facility and must be communicated to employees during training.

MEDICAL CONSULTATION AND EXPOSURE MONITORING RECORD KEEPING

Records of all medical consultations performed as a result of job requirement must be kept for **40 years** after the employee leaves DEP employment. This includes such things as medical consultation for respiratory protection, hearing profiles, and annual audiometric testing printouts. These records are confidential. If exposure monitoring has been carried out in the workplace as a result of a complaint, these too must be kept for **40 years** after the termination of an employee's DEP employment.

- Employees should know where these records are maintained and who is responsible for maintaining them.
- Employees and their authorized representatives have access to records that pertain to them.

Safety	Observance	Calendar	March	2008
March 1 - 31	National Nutrition Month	American Dietetic Association	(800) 877-1600	eatright.org
March 1 - 31	Workplace Eyes Health and Safety	Prevent Blindness America	(800) 331-2020	preventblindness.org
March 2 - 8	Save Your Vision Week	American Optometric Associa-	(800) 365-2219	AOA.org
March 16 - 22	National Poison Prevention Week	Poison Prevention Week Council		poisonprevention.org



GOING GREEN

The New York City Green Cleaning Pilot Program

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A pilot program to study the feasibility of using green cleaning products in City facilities was established under Local Law 123 of 2005. The green products are environmentally preferable alternatives to the products that are commonly used for cleaning and maintaining interior building finishes. The use of such products may result in improved indoor air quality and enhanced environmental health. The Mayor's Office of Contract Services (MOCS) is heading up the project, with assistance from the Department of Citywide Administrative Services who is ensuring the appropriate Health and Safety Right to Know training is conducted on the recommended green cleaning products.

Ten mayoral agencies representing 19 sites will be participating in this two phase six-week program. The NYC Department of Environmental Protection has chosen the Rockaway Wastewater Treatment Plant in Queens to serve as one of these pilot sites to use these alternative products as part of this study. The products chosen to be tested at this facility fall into the following categories:

- General Purpose Cleaners
- Bathroom Cleaners
- Degreasers
- Sanitizers

In order for the City to recognize a product as a "green" one, it must meet criteria established by one or more of the following: the Environmental Protection Agency's Design for the Environment Program, Green Seal, Environmental Choice, or the State of California's regulations on volatile organic chemicals for consumer products.

Two 6-week testing periods will be set aside for the participating agencies to use these recommended green cleaning products (Winter and Spring/Summer 2008). The products supplied will be from three preferred vendors:

- Industries for the Blind of NYS
- Corcraft
- NYS Industries for the Disabled

During the testing periods, agencies will complete surveys to provide information to MOCS. MOCS must then prepare a report on the findings. Such information will include the effectiveness of these products and the cost implications of using these products in the future.

The staff at the Rockaway WWTP have already been trained by the Office of Environmental Health & Safety Compliance (OEHSC) on this program in accordance with Right-to-Know/Hazard Communications mandates, and are awaiting delivery of these products so that they may officially begin the pilot program. MOCS and DCAS, City-wide Office of Occupational Safety & Health (COSH) were also present to explain the project in greater detail and will be working with Rockaway staff for the remaining stages of this program.

Thank you to the Rockaway WWTP staff for participating in this valuable study for the NYC DEP. We look forward to the outcome of this survey.

RTK Hazard Communication Quiz

1. What is an **MSDS**? _____.
2. **Asbestos** exposure + **cigarette** smoking is an example of _____.
a) antagonist effect b) sensitization c) synergistic effect d) additive effect
3. What are some possible chronic effects from exposure to **ammonia**?
4. "**Wite-Out**" is: a) a carcinogen b) a corrosive c) an irritant d) radioactive
5. Where can **PCB** (Polychlorinated Biphenyls) residues be found?
6. What type of **PPE Gloves** are rated Excellent (**E**) for use with **Paint and Varnish** remover?
7. What is "**STEL**?" _____.
8. **Caution signs** indicate a) immediate danger; b) potential hazards; c) general instructions
9. **Section 10** of an MSDS will provide information regarding the _____ of a hazardous chemical.
10. Name the two **Required Postings** that inform employees of their rights to information on hazardous/toxic substances found in the workplace: _____.

ANSWERS BELOW

(Answers can be found in the DEP Employee Right-to-Know Hazard Communication Handbook.)
1) Material Safety Data Sheet; 2) c; 3) respiratory disease, pneumonia; 4) c;
5) in air, water, soil, in the fatty tissues of animals; 6) Latex nitrile gloves; 7) Short-Term Exposure Limit; 8) b; 9) Stability and Reactivity; 10) "Job Safety and Health Protection" (DOSH-908-3-97), and "You Have a Right to Know!"

Answers to Quiz



Brenda Thompson joins DEP/OEHSC as an EHS Training Specialist

Before Brenda's arrival at DEP, she was employed with the City of New York Human Resources Administration/Family Independence Administration for 10 years. The last five years were with the Office of Training Operations (OTO) where she served as a Staff Development Coordinator/Trainer. OTO is where Brenda developed her style and flair for training. There, she assessed training needs of staff, coordinated and conducted training of mandated policies and procedures for over 400 trainees on a monthly basis. Brenda also conducted site/case observations, and developed curricula, motivational training tools and various techniques to enhance future training sessions. During her time with OTO, Brenda also obtained the following completed courses/accreditations: Overcoming Societal, Cultural, and Human Resistance to Transformation/Distinctive Generational Differences; Conflict Resolution; Train the Trainer; Effectively Developing Platform/Presentational Skills, and Public Speaking.