

MAINTENANCE PRACTICES

Stormwater runoff picks up pollutants as it flows over the ground or paved areas and carries these pollutants into the storm drainage system and directly to our creeks. Common sources of pollutants from facilities include:

- Discharges from HVAC systems and fire suppression system testing
- Trash from overfilled dumpsters
- Pollutants draining from leaking dumpsters
- Spills or leaks from outdoor storage area
- Wash water that is not collected during outdoor washing

Facilities are required by law to prevent pollutants from entering the storm drainage system. Make sure your employees and companies you hire (e.g. haulers, landscapers, HVAC, and pressure washers) know how to do the job right!

GENERAL CHECKLIST

- Train employees, tenants, and contractors on proper cleaning and disposal methods.
- Check outdoor areas daily – clean up any spills and trash immediately.
- Check parking lot and storm drainage system daily – clean up pollutants like leaks from vehicles and litter immediately.
- Cover all recycling, storage, and trash bins.
- Dispose of all wastewater from cleaning in sanitary sewer.

FURTHER RESOURCES

City of Abilene Stormwater Team (COAST)

www.abilenestormwater.com
(325)437-4937

Call for a free visit and for the tools to do it right.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

www.tceq.texas.gov
(512) 239-1000

Environmental Protection Agency

www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater



Stormwater Management
Clean Water, Healthy Life!

WATER PROTECTION GUIDE

FACILITY MANAGEMENT

What you need to know when maintaining your facilities'...

Dumpster Areas

Fire Suppression System

HVAC System

Landscaping

Outdoor Storage

Parking Lot



STORMWATER REGULATIONS

We all want clean drinking water and healthy streams. So, we all have to do our part to protect our local water quality. Your help is crucial and required by law.

It is unlawful for materials such as trash or spilled liquids to be deposited in such a manner or location as to constitute a spill or “threatened discharge” to storm drains, gutters, or to local streams or lakes.

We hope you will use the information in this brochure to make good choices while operating your facility in order to protect our local waterways and avoid costly fines.

FINES AND PENALTIES

Materials not properly contained are considered to be “threatened discharges or spills.” Violations include fines of up to \$1,000 per day.



How to “KEEP IT CLEAN”

LANDSCAPING

Maintain sprinkler system so as to not over-irrigate. Reduce use of pesticides and fertilizers, and do not apply before or after it rains.

ROOF DRAINS

Direct snow or rain runoff from roof to landscaping.

HVAC MAINTENANCE

All discharges, leaks, mist-out, algae inhibitor treated condensate, and blow-downs must be discharged to a sanitary sewer, if permitted by the local wastewater facility.

OUTDOOR STORAGE

Install covers and provide secondary containment (approved for outdoor use) for all materials and compressors stored outside.

DUMPSTER AND RECYCLING AREAS

Bins must be covered at all times. Do not allow bin to overflow. Contact your service provider immediately if your dumpster leaks or does not have lids.

EMPLOYEES, TENANTS, AND CONTRACTORS

Make sure your employees, tenants you rent to, and companies you hire know how to do the job right! Provide them with information about stormwater pollution prevention.

It is illegal to dump anything onto a paved surface or into a gutter or storm drain.

For more information, contact City of Abilene Stormwater Services at 325-437-4937 or stormwateradmin@abilenex.gov



FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM TESTING

Direct water from system testing to sanitary sewer, or to landscaping, or recover runoff on impervious surfaces before it reaches the storm drain.

OUTSIDE CLEANING

Sweep outdoor areas to clean up litter and debris before washing. Locate and protect storm drains before performing any outdoor maintenance or washing. Recover wastewater for disposal in a sanitary sewer or in landscaped area. (see water protection guide and training module for “Pressure Washers” on KeepitCleanPartnership.org).

PARKING LOT POLLUTANTS

Clean up salt and sand after a snow event, and leaks from vehicles on your property, as they are a “threatened discharge.” For a recent spill, use absorbents and sweep up. Use proper wet cleanup practices routinely to remove the pollutants from your pavement and dispose wastewater to sanitary sewer.

**KEEP IT CLEAN,
'cause WE'RE ALL DOWNSTREAM!**

