



STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION

Best Management Practices for the Painting Industry

Water quality is important to all of us. The Town of Cary has storm drains that flow into our creeks, streams and lakes. Anything, other than rain that is discharged into our storm drains can have a negative impact on water quality.

We all have a role to play in protecting our finite natural resources. Please review the following best management practices that will help your business prevent illegal discharges.



Paint Prep and Removal

- Protect or cover storm drains when pressure washing a structure to remove paint.
- Spread tarp to capture paint chips when removing old paint.
- Paint chips and dust from non-hazardous dry stripping and sand blasting can be swept up and thrown away.
- Chips and dust from paint containing lead is hazardous waste (most paint prior to 1978 contains lead). Follow safe work practices when working with lead paint and dispose of as hazardous waste.

Painting Cleanup

- Never clean brushes or rinse equipment any place where the wastewater may run into a stormdrain.
- For water-based (latex paint), rinse and dispose of wastewater in the sanitary sewer.
- For oil-based paint, use paint thinner for cleaning.

Wastewater Disposal

- Discharge wastewater from water-based (latex) painting activities only into a drain connected to the sanitary sewer system.
- Wastewater from oil-based paint must be disposed of as a hazardous waste and cannot be discharged into the sanitary sewer system.

Spills

- To avoid spill and exposure to stormwater, place lids on paint cans when not in use and store them in a covered area.
- When transporting paint containers in a vehicle, properly secure the containers to ensure spills do not occur.
- Carry a spill response kit in your vehicle in case a spill occurs and train employees on its use.
- Do not hose down outside spills. Use dry methods to clean spills.
- Report spills and leaks that enter the storm drain system to Charles Brown at 469-4038.

Employee Training

- Train all employees on pollution prevention upon hiring and repeat annually.
- Post these Best Management Practices where employees can see them.

For more information, contact Charles Brown, Town of Cary Stormwater Program Analyst, at (919) 469-4038 or visit the Stormwater Management section of www.townofcary.org.