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The **Tributary Tribune** informs the Industrial Users of the Plant's service area, which includes the cities of San José, Santa Clara, Milpitas, Cupertino Sanitary District, West Valley Sanitation District (including Campbell, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Saratoga), County Sanitation District No. 2-3, and Burbank Sanitary District.

New Stormwater Regulations for Cities and How They Affect You

Here in the South Bay rain entering the storm drain system flows directly into local creeks and rivers and ultimately into the San Francisco Bay. Since stormwater enters waterways untreated, it is critical that we keep it pollutant free.

Stormwater often picks up trash, debris, and other pollutants on its way to the storm drain. At Industrial User (IU) facilities, outdoor spaces such as parking lots, loading docks, and employee gathering areas can generate stormwater pollutants. When pollutants enter the storm drain system, the toxins adversely affect marine life and our communities' well-being. Even seemingly harmless potable water can harm waterways because of its chlorine content.

To better protect our environment and public health, the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Board (Water Board) issued a Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit (MRP) for 76 cities and districts that discharge stormwater into the Bay. The City of San José and the eight cities served by the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant are among the municipalities subject to the new MRP regulations. These cities are all taking a fresh look at their stormwater programs and IUs are encouraged to learn and implement relevant new requirements.

As of December 1, 2009, the following MRP requirements became effective:

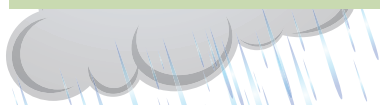
Keep trash out of stormwater – The MRP emphasizes the dangers plastics and trash can have on waterways, so pay attention to the proper securing, recycling, and disposal of trash and packing materials which commonly reach the

storm drain system. Facility maintenance staff should regularly check outdoor areas. Make sure outdoor employee gathering areas are adequately equipped with trash and cigarette disposal containers to put trash where it belongs.

Correct violations before it rains – All stormwater violations must be corrected before the next rain event or within 10 days, whichever comes first. If wet weather is forecast, the violation must be fixed before it rains. If it is raining while the violation is discovered, the Inspector will require immediate correction and may stay until compliance is achieved.

No discharge of maintenance/testing water to storm drains – Maintenance and testing waters are now prohibited from being discharged into storm drains. Prohibitions vary according to jurisdiction; some banned discharges may include testing of the fire sprinkler system, flushing deionized water systems, and other maintenance waters. Rooftop equipment discharges should also be prevented from entering storm drains.

San José's Environmental Inspectors work with IUs to ensure that staff is properly and thoroughly educated on stormwater pollution prevention. For more information on additional stormwater requirements or to address concerns about stormwater management at San José facilities, contact Watershed Protection at (408) 945-3000. Facilities operating in other cities should call their city's stormwater program (refer to page 2) or the Santa Clara County Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program at (800) 794-2482. 🐦



Stormwater Program Numbers:

- Campbell (408) 866-2145
- Cupertino (408) 253-7071
- Los Gatos (408) 399-5771
- Milpitas (408) 586-2400
- San José (408) 945-3000
- Santa Clara (408) 615-3080
- Saratoga (408) 868-1245



Did You Know?

State Stormwater Permit Has Its Own Requirements

The General Industrial Activities Stormwater Permit (GIASP), issued and enforced by the State Water Board, regulates stormwater discharges associated with certain industrial activities, as determined by Standard Industrial Classifications (SIC) codes. If your facility is regulated by the GIASP, you must:

- File a Notice of Intent (NOI) with the State Water Board
- Create, follow, and update an onsite Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)
- Follow sampling requirements in your facility's monitoring plan
- Submit an annual report.

It is important to note that these requirements are separate and in addition to any local stormwater regulations in your jurisdiction.

The Water Board has the authority to conduct inspections and to fine facilities for onsite violations or any missing NOI/ SWPPP paperwork, so it is important to know if your company is subject to the requirements of this permit. Stormwater agencies are now required to report to the Water Board all facilities within their jurisdiction subject to the GIASP. A draft of the updated GIASP is scheduled to be released before the end of 2010. 🐦

For more information, visit:
www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/industrial.shtml

Control Pollutants with Good Housekeeping

To help maintain compliance, remember there's more to housekeeping than a good sweep of potential stormwater pollutants. You can eliminate potential violations with planning and proper execution of the Best Management Practices (BMPs) discussed here.

Stormwater pollutants are very different from wastewater pollutants. Stormwater pollutants include chemicals in any concentration as well as plastics, soil, leaves, and other items that contaminate rainwater. A general rule is that housekeeping practices should address anything that rainwater can touch, fall on, get to, or flow past, and possibly transport to the storm drain.

Chemicals stored outside must be in closed, leak-proof containers with adequate secondary containment. Any rainwater that contacts chemical containers should be treated in the same manner as that chemical. For example, rain touching a hazardous material/waste container becomes a hazardous substance and must be treated and disposed of accordingly. This is a good reason to thoroughly protect your chemical storage area from rain.

Rainwater contact with equipment stored in uncovered or partially covered outdoor storage areas must be limited. Oily or rusted equipment and parts, including tools, should be covered to prevent rainwater from carrying oil or bits of rust into the storm drain system.

In summary, good stormwater management includes the following practices:

- **Use dry clean-up methods.** In general, dry clean-up methods are required for cleaning up spills as well as for routine maintenance.
- **No hoses.** Never hose down outdoor areas to clean up debris or residues.
- **Clean regularly and often.** Maintaining a routine schedule using dry clean-up methods is important because of the unpredictable nature of winds and rain that can carry stormwater pollutants to the storm drain system.
- **Sweep outdoor areas frequently.** Ensure outdoor areas are clean and clear of sediment, oil residue, litter, small process particles such as metal shavings, and other potential stormwater contaminants.
- **Direct wash water into sanitary sewer drains.** Block wash water from entering storm drains and direct it into the sanitary sewer.
- **Properly store containers.** Anything stored in outdoor areas should be kept off the ground and covered. Containers should be in good condition and free of any residue on the exterior surfaces. Ensure that containers are not rusted or leaking and free of bulges that could indicate a problem area.
- **Tarp any piles.** Cover soil or sand piles with weighted and secured tarps.



Photos showing an industrial facility that implemented good housekeeping practices. Photos from the EPA publication "Developing Your Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan — A Guide for Industrial Operators" used with permission.

Photo credit: Tetra Tech

BMPs for specific work activities are available through your local stormwater agency. Facilities located in San José should contact Watershed Protection at (408) 945-3000. Facilities operating in other cities should call their city's stormwater program (refer to page 2) or the Santa Clara County Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program at (800) 794-2482. 🐦



Make Your Mark with Storm Drain Stencils

For an eye-catching reminder to stop storm drain pollution on your property, try a stencil. Stencils are a great way to mark storm drains and to help people recognize the need to protect our creeks and the wildlife that inhabit them.

The stencils come with application directions and are available for all facilities. Stencils are particularly helpful at facilities with the following characteristics: large facility sites, multiple contractors or vendors present onsite, outdoor washing areas, outdoor material or waste storage areas, outdoor process areas, areas open to the public or employee gatherings, or other potential stormwater pollution spots.

Facilities in San José can request a “No Dumping” stencil in English, Spanish, or Vietnamese. Stencils customized to reflect the specific creek to which stormwater flows are also available in English. Businesses in San José can obtain stencils by contacting Watershed Protection at (408) 945-3000; businesses outside of San José can request storm drain stencils from the Santa Clara County Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program at (800) 794-2482. 🐦

Ask Your Inspector

Q: What should my company do to ensure proper stormwater protection when contractors or vendors come on site?

A: Facilities are responsible for all violations found on their sites, so make sure visiting workers understand proper stormwater pollution control measures. Here are some tips to help avoid violations caused by vendors or contractors:

- 1. Supply the BMPs before work starts** – Specialized BMP brochures (in several languages) are available for surface cleaning, construction, painting, pressure washing, landscaping, maintenance work, underground line repair, and more. Contact your local stormwater agency for these educational materials describing stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) and distribute this information before the work is scheduled to begin. Keep in mind that some BMPs may require additional equipment to be brought onsite before work starts (e.g. tarps, gravel bags, brooms, etc.). In addition, the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA) offers online training (www.basmaa.org/Training.aspx) for surface cleaners. Use a BASMAA-trained surface cleaner or encourage your vendor to take the training.
- 2. Include BMPs in service agreements** – Have contractors/vendors agree to follow the stormwater BMPs and submit plans for how the BMPs will be implemented during each phase of the project (including descriptions of each BMP). If possible, put that requirement in their contracts to increase their accountability.
- 3. Request status reports on BMP implementation** – Have contractors/vendors provide descriptions of stormwater BMPs that will be in place during each phase of the project and ask for regular status updates while the work is being done. These updates should take into account changing weather conditions, unplanned project delays, and timelines for each phase of the project.
- 4. Verify BMP implementation** – Educate yourself on what to look for to ensure proper implementation of stormwater BMPs and check the work area daily to verify BMPs have been consistently and correctly applied to the project.

To obtain educational stormwater BMP materials for San José facilities, contact Watershed Protection at (408) 945-3000. Facilities operating in other cities should call their city's stormwater program (refer to page 2) or the Santa Clara County Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program at (800) 794-2482. 🐦

Do you have a question?

Submit it for future publication consideration to tributary.tribune@sanjoseca.gov.

Watershed Workforce

Casey Fitzgerald



Casey Fitzgerald joined the Source Control Section of San José's Environmental Services Department in February 2009. As an Environmental Inspector, and in accordance with the industrial pretreatment program, Casey inspects, samples, and monitors Industrial Users to ensure compliance with federal, state, and local regulations. Before coming to the City of San José, Casey spent nearly eight years working in the environmental consulting field, including a position as an Environmental Specialist at the NASA Ames Research Center. He managed soil and groundwater remediation projects, conducted compliance inspections, and served on a HAZMAT response team. Casey graduated from Santa Clara University in 2001 with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and a minor in environmental science. 🐦

TributaryTribune

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We've Moved!

The Watershed Protection Division of the City of San José's Environmental Services Department has moved to San José City Hall. Be sure to send required reports, permit applications, and any correspondence to our new location to ensure it is received on time.

The new address and phone numbers are:

**City of San José
Environmental Services Department**
200 East Santa Clara Street, 7th Floor
San José, CA 95113-1905

Main: (408) 945-3000
Fax: (408) 271-1930



In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, City of San José Environmental Services Department materials can be made available upon request in alternative formats, such as Braille, large print, audio-tape or computer disk. Requests may be made by calling (408) 945-3000 (Voice) or (800) 735-2929 (CRS).



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