



## CLEAN WATER IS GOOD BUSINESS | MARCH 29, 2022

A construction site free of water pollution is a happy construction site. This webinar helps private contractors improve their pollution control plans and response. You'll hear and see examples of poor pollution management and gain the tools to set yourself up for success on the job site.

### WEBINAR QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

#### **What kind of non-compliance fines and cleanup costs are there, is it cheaper to just pay the fine?**

Answer: Every jurisdiction has its own rules and fee structure. Rules depend on the site location. In some cases, local agencies will charge contractors for the cost of cleanup in addition to a fine. It's always best to strive to clean up any construction messes. On the news, a company that discharged coffee creamer to a catch basin was fined \$10,000 and paid costs to recover all lab charges and cleanup costs along the stormwater system.

#### **What are the best BMPs to use for erosion control?**

Answer: BMPs work best in combination. The best practice is to prevent all erosion by utilizing good sediment control practices. Create a dewatering plan such as dewatering to a bag to drain water off-site or dig a hole off-site to infiltrate water. Prevent sediment from leaving the site.

#### **What are the best BMPs for sediment control?**

Answer: Contractors should focus on sediment control. . Cover exposed soils to prevent dust and mud, install a silt fence on around areas with slopes, protect stockpiles with plastic, hydroseed for long-term stabilization, install straw wattles in a shallow ditch to prevent water from running underneath, and know your site conditions. All these a more can be found in BMP installation manuals. Most important is to have a stormwater manager on site who cares.

#### **How should I dispose of liquid waste?**

Answer: Never wash waste or liquids down the storm drain. Create a system for subcontractor waste. For example a paint contractor used a three-bucket process to clean paint tools onsite. Bucket one for the initial cleaning of heavy materials, the second bucket rinse, and the last bucket for final rinse. The buckets had lids and the contractor took the three buckets back to the shop. At the shop, a box was set up over a wastewater drain collecting all the heavy paint residuals and only released cleaned water. The paint residuals go to solid waste. Clean up spills with dry product (floor dry, clay product or kitty litter) sweep up, bag, and drop off at solid waste. Hazardous waste has specific disposal requirements that must be followed.

#### **Have you seen any emerging technology in your respective jurisdictions for either erosion control or sediment control that would make control easier?**

Answer: New products developed are site-specific. The Stormwater Management Manual BMPs listed have all been tested. Ensure BMPs are properly installed and maintained. Something new is a rock sock use around catch basin creating a check dam on the high side and stayed in place as inlet protection.

Technology Assessment Protocol- Ecology (TAPE) certification program is the Washington State Department of Ecology's process for evaluating and approving emerging stormwater treatment BMP's. <https://www.wastormwatercenter.org/stormwater-technologies/>