Stormwater Pollution Prevention

Christmas Tree & Pumpkin Lots/Flower Stands/Plant Nurseries

Trash/Trash Bins/Dumpsters / Illegal Connections and Discharges

Post "No Littering" signs and enforce anti-litter laws. Provide trash receptacles in parking lots to discourage litter. Clean out and cover trash receptacles frequently to prevent spillage. Regularly inspect, repair, and/or replace trash receptacles.

Keep dumpster areas clean. Recycle materials whenever possible. Inspect dumpsters and trash bins weekly for leaks and to ensure that lids are on tightly. Replace any that are leaking, corroded, or otherwise deteriorating. Sweep and clean the storage area regularly and clean up spills immediately.

If the dumpster area is paved, do not hose it down to a storm drain. Instead, collect the wash water and discharge it to the sewer if allowed by the local sewer authority. Use dry methods when possible (e.g., sweeping, use of absorbents). Prevent stormwater run-on from entering the dumpster area by enclosing it or building a berm around the area. Prevent waste materials from direct contact with rain. Cover dumpsters to prevent rain from washing waste out of holes or cracks in the bottom of the dumpster.

Routinely sweep, shovel and dispose of litter in the trash. Remove litter and debris from drainage grates, trash racks and ditch lines to reduce discharge to the storm water drainage systems and watercourses.

Provide regular training to employees regarding proper waste disposal.

Sediment Tracking

- Inspect tires prior to entering the roadway. Use dry cleanup techniques to remove rock and sediment from tires prior to leaving the site.
- Inspect potential sediment tracking locations daily. Visible sediment tracking shall be swept and vacuumed on a daily basis. Be careful not to sweep up any unknown substance or any object that may be potentially hazardous. Adjust brooms frequently; maximize efficiency of sweeping operations. After sweeping is finished, properly dispose of sweeper wastes.

Burning Excess Plant Material

- Do not locate stockpiles in areas of concentrated flows of storm water, drainage systems, inlets or watercourses or adjacent to sensitive water bodies. Divert storm water run-on away from stockpiles.
- Implement wind erosion control practices on stockpile material such a tarping or spraying with water.
- Stockpiles should be removed as soon as practicable and materials should be placed so that waterways are not impacted.
- During rain events, stockpiles shall be covered or protected.

Sanitary/Septic Waste Management

- Sanitary facilities should be located in a convenient location and away from drainage facilities, watercourses, and from traffic circulation. When subjected to high winds or risk of high winds, temporary sanitary facilities should be secured to prevent overturning.
- Wastewater should not be discharged or buried within the project site. Sanitary and septic systems that discharge directly into sanitary sewer system should be properly connected to avoid illicit discharges and comply with the local health agency, city, county, and sewer district requirements. Sanitary and septic facilities should be maintained in good working order by a licensed service. Regular waste collection by a licensed hauler should be arranged before facilities overflow.
- Educate employees, subcontractors, and suppliers on sanitary and septic waste storage and disposal procedures

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Chemical Storage

Place tight-fitting lids on all containers. Enclose or cover the containers where they are stored. Raise the containers off the ground by use of pallet or similar method, with provisions for spill control. Contain the material in such a manner that if the container leaks or spills, the contents will not discharge, flow, or be washed into the storm drainage system, surface waters or groundwater.

Place drip pans or absorbent materials beneath all mounted container taps, and at all potential drip and spill locations during filling and unloading of containers. Any collected liquids or soiled absorbent materials must be reused/recycled or properly disposed.

Inspect storage areas regularly for leaks or spills. Conduct routine inspections and check for external corrosion of material containers. Also check for structural failure, spills and overfills due to operator error or failure of piping system. Look for corrosion, leaks, cracks, scratches, and other physical damage that may weaken the container system. Replace containers that are leaking, corroded, or otherwise deteriorating with ones in good condition. If the liquid chemicals are corrosive, containers made of compatible materials must be used instead of metal drums. New or secondary containers must be labeled with the product name and hazards.

Train employees in proper storage measures. Train employee and contractors in proper spill containment and cleanup. The employee should have the tools and knowledge to immediately begin cleaning up a spill if one should occur.

Plant Overwatering

- Irrigate slowly or pulse irrigate so the infiltration rate of the soil is not exceeded. Use automatic timers to minimize runoff. Use popup sprinkler heads in areas with a lot of activity or where pipes may be broken. Consider the use of mechanisms that reduce water flow to broken sprinkler heads. Install and use moisture sensors and automatic sprinklers for more accurate scheduling of irrigation. Recycle runoff; blend with fresh water as necessary
- Inspect irrigation system regularly for leaks and to ensure that excessive runoff is not occurring. If re-claimed water is used for irrigation, ensure that there is no runoff from the landscaped area(s).
- Convert paved or bare soil areas to vegetation that will retard runoff (turf grasses or other comparable plant materials) wherever possible.
- Group plants with similar water needs together to improve irrigation efficiency. Establish plant buffer zones between production areas and ditches, creeks, ponds, lakes, or wetlands.