



Pollution Solution FACT SHEET 4

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
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Oahu is home to nearly one million residents. The City and County of Honolulu works in partnership with the construction industry in an ongoing effort to protect our fragile aquatic environment.

When companies set standards to reduce waste, both management and employees become key parts in keeping Oahu an attractive place to live and visit. Environmentally conscious businesses have strong public images as caring corporate citizens.

WHAT IS POLLUTED RUNOFF?

When it rains, water flows over streets and yards carrying the pollutants it picks up into storm drains. This significantly impacts the quality of the water because unlike sanitary sewers, anything dumped into the storm drain system flows directly into the nearest stream and drainage channel without any treatment to remove contaminants.

Silt and sediment can smother bottom dwelling aquatic life, clog fish gills, and block sunlight needed by underwater plants.

With more than 20,000 storm drain inlets, and over 670 miles of storm drains to clean and maintain, we need your help.

TYPES OF POLLUTANTS

“Pollutant” means any waste, cooking or fuel oil, waste milk, waste juice, pesticide, paint, solvent, radioactive waste, hazardous substance, sewage, dredged spoils, chemical waste, rock, sand, biocide, toxic substance, construction waste and material, and soil sediment. The term also includes commercial FOG waste as defined under Section 14-5A.1.

Environmental Concern Line 768-3300
Help protect our waters ... for life!



The City’s main priorities are educating businesses and the public on pollution prevention, advising on practical, cost effective solutions and enforcing rules to ensure compliance.

What are BMPs?

“Best Management Practices” or “BMPs” means pollution control measures, applied to nonpoint sources, on-site or off-site, to control erosion and the transport of sediments and other pollutants which have an adverse impact on waters of the state. BMPs may include a schedule of activities, the prohibition of practices, maintenance procedures, treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control site runoff, spillage or leaks, or drainage from raw material storage. *Revised Ordinances of Honolulu Section 14-12.2.*

BMPs for Owner-Builders

Construction sites, by their very nature, are a large source of sediment, debris and pollutants. When planning and conducting your project, consider the following best management practices:

1. Do all construction work in phases. Complete clearing operations one stage at a time to take advantage of existing ground cover that provides a natural filter for sediment and other pollutants. Establish final vegetation and cover with mulch as soon as portions of the site are completed.
2. Keep work areas clean. Clear out waste and litter at the work site daily. Sweep paved surfaces that flow to the storm-drain system. Collect and dispose of sweepings properly.
3. Control runoff during construction and divert it from areas of exposed soil. This can be done with berms, ditches or pipe drainage systems. Reduce runoff velocities with vegetation or check dams.
4. Protect storm drains close to your construction site against runoff with commercial filters or storm drain inlet protection.
5. Collect and dispose of concrete wash water from construction sites promptly and properly. When clearing concrete trucks and vehicles, use off-site facilities or wash in designated and contained areas only.
6. Prepare for and clean up spills with a Spill Response Plan that includes key emergency contacts, cleanup instructions and locations of spill containment and clean up devices.



Laws and Ordinances

Businesses and property owners are liable for illegal discharges whether the work is performed in-house or contracted out.

Violations of the Clean Water Act can result in fines of up to \$25,000 per violation, per day.

Know the law to avoid fines. The Clean Water Act gave the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) the authority to implement water pollution control programs. In an effort to comply with the EPA's mandate, the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, Section 14-12.23(a) Environmental Quality Control - Violation states:

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge or cause to be discharged any pollutant into any drainage facility which causes a pollution problem in state waters, or causes a violation of any provision of the city NPDES permit or the water quality standards of the State of Hawaii.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge or cause to be discharged any storm water runoff associated with industrial activity into any drainage facility which causes a violation of any provision of the city NPDES permit.

(c) It shall be unlawful to discharge domestic wastewater and industrial wastewater into any drainage facility or any separate storm sewer system. It also shall be unlawful to discharge commercial cooking oil waste and commercial FOG waste, as defined under Section 14-5A.1, into any drainage facility or any separate storm sewer system.

(d) It shall be unlawful to discharge any storm water on any public right-of-way which creates a drainage problem or causes a nuisance. (Sec. 16-6.23, R.O. 1978 (1987 Supp. to 1983 Ed.); Am. Ord. 92-122, 96-34, 02-14)

For violations, penalties and liabilities for grading, grubbing and stockpiling, go to http://www.honolulu.gov/refs/roh/14a10_19.htm.

Sec. 14-16.2 Notice of violation--Stop work.

Sec. 14-16.3 Criminal prosecution.

Sec. 14-16.4 Administrative enforcement.

Sec. 14-16.6 Rule-making powers.

The chief engineer shall be empowered to promulgate rules and regulations pursuant to HRS Chapter 91, for the implementation of the provisions of Articles 13 through 16 of this chapter. (Sec. 23-4.3, R.O. 1978 (1983 Ed.); Am. Ord. 90-71)

Be A Part Of The Solution

Most contractors have employee training programs. Usually these address such areas as health and safety training and fire protection. Training on storm water management and BMPs can be incorporated into these programs. Employees can be taught through

1) posters, employee meetings, courses, and bulletin boards about storm water management, potential contaminant sources, and prevention of contamination in surface water runoff, and
2) field training programs that show areas of potential storm water contamination and associated pollutants, followed by a discussion of site-specific BMPs by trained personnel.

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www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com
www.opala.org

Hot Spots

Construction/Demolition Debris

Construction and demolition materials include materials that result from construction, remodeling, repair or demolition of buildings, roads, or other structures. It includes, but is not limited to, wood, concrete, drywall, masonry, roofing, siding, structural metal, wire, insulation and asphalt.

Residents and businesses are encouraged to recycle construction, demolition and landclearing (CDL) debris. Most construction debris can have a practical use. There are many recycling options for clean wood, metals, concrete, asphalt and natural vegetation. Call the Environmental Concern Line at 768-3300 for more information on disposal/recycling.



Storage of Chemicals

Store pesticides, fertilizers, paints, solvents and other chemicals in original containers in covered locations. Chemicals must be stored on elevated surfaces - away from contact with the ground.



Report It, Who to Call

As a resident, you can make a difference, both on the job and in your community. When you're at home, share your knowledge with neighbors and family. As you drive to work, report any illegal discharge.

Spill Response (Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response)

- Local (HFD): 911 (24/7)

- State (HSERC): 586-4249 (business hours), 247-2191 (after hours)

To report illegal discharge that has already occurred, call 768-3300

NPDES permitting questions: 768-3242

Polluted runoff public outreach: 768-3248 (City), 586-4309 (State)

