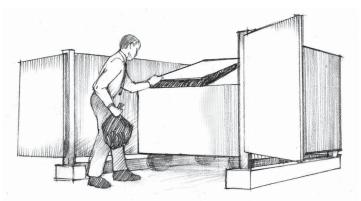
# Trash & Dumpster Management Practices

Best Management Practices Fact Sheet

SC 14



Keep lids closed, except when dumping or removing trash. This practice keeps storm water from leaching contaminates out of the trash and container and into storm water runoff. Also keep the trash enclosure and adjacent area clean of debris.

# Selection of Best Management Practices

In order to comply with Santa Barbara County's Municipal Storm Water Permit, Best Management Practices (BMPs) must be employed at municipal facilities. BMPs may be selected from the options listed below or developed on a case-by-case basis as appropriate. Facilities with a Water Quality Protection Protocol (WQPP) should follow the BMPs stated in that protocol.

## **Practices**

- 1. Keep dumpsters, trashcans and recycling bins covered, except when filling or emptying. Schedule pickup frequency to keep trash from holding the cover open. Open lids allow contact with storm water, which dissolves and transports contaminants into the storm water system. Open lids also invite pests to spread trash around.
- 2. Do not put liquids or greases in the trash containers. They should go down the sanitary sewer or be discarded in a grease barrel. Liquids may be accepted by the local sanitary sewer district, check prior to discharging any liquid into the sewer line.
- 3. If using a compactor ensure that there is no liquid leaking out onto the pavement where it will come into contact with storm water.
- 4. Check that the compactor, dumpster or trashcan are in good condition, with no holes or accumulation of grime. Trash containers should be leak-free. When necessary, call the sanitation company to replace or clean the containers.
- 5. Regularly inspect the trash enclosure and general area for problems such as trash not in the container and accumulation of grease or food on the ground.

### Goal / Purpose

Minimize or prevent the discharge of floating materials and pollutants into storm water runoff from trash and garbage collection containers. Reducing trash disposal through reuse and recycling of as many waste streams as possible, such as paper, cardboard, aluminum cans, plastics, wood and scrap metal.

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- Clean the trash enclosure as needed to remove any accumulations of grim and/or general trash.
- 6. Clean trash cans in a designated area with a connection to the sanitary sewer such as mop sink or floor drain. Do not use a drain without knowing whether it flows to the sanitation sewer, storm drain or self-contained internal sump. Confirm before using drains to ensure proper disposal. Never discharge wash-water to storm drains or offsite.
- 7. Designate an area for trash collection away from storm drains. This allows problems at the trash container to be corrected before reaching the storm drain or flow offsite.
- 8 Consider using a locking dumpster to prevent illegal dumping.
- Consider requiring a trash management deposit when leasing out facilities. This will help ensure that trash is placed in the trash containers, not left on the ground or just thrown in the enclosure.
  - a. Implement a trash management deposit system for rental facilities.
- 10. Recycle as many waste streams as possible. Contact your trash hauler, check the Green Team's web page at www.publicworkssb.org/greenteam/ (also on the County's intranet web page) and County Public Works, Solid Waste Division for more information on recycling.

#### Field Work

11. It is important to ensure that the work area is cleaned up and all trash disposed of before leaving the work site.

# Contractor Requirements

- 12. Ensure that contractors provide the County with a copy of their storm water awareness training and procedures for protecting the storm water system. These procedures should cover activities from cleaning windows to painting an entire building.
- 13. Include specific contract language to inform the contractor that they must comply with federal, state and local storm water rules and regulations as

#### Associated BMPs

- Housekeeping
- Spill Prevention & Cleanup
- Storm Drains & Catch Basins

required by the Clean Water Act. Amend existing contracts to include this language, if not already included.

## **Employee Training**

Staff training may include regular tailgate sessions for those responsible for trash management. Tailgate sessions should provide information on the selected storm water BMPs and methods for preventing discharge of pollutants into the storm drain system. Encourage employees to suggest modifications for existing BMPs and to create new BMPs; their suggestions will likely reduce labor and increase storm water runoff protection. If the above suggested BMPs require some modification to work for you or do not cover some aspect of your operations or facility, call Project Clean Water at 568-3440 for assistance.

Storm water BMP training may be incorporated with other training sessions such as safety training. Facilities with a Storm Water Plan should follow the training requirements stated in that Plan. Records of the training sessions must be kept for at least three years. These records should include who conducted the training, who attended, subjects discussed, and the date(s) of the training.

**For additional information** on this and other BMPs, or the County's responsibilities under the NPDES Phase II federal regulations for storm water discharges, see **www.countyofsb.org/project\_cleanwater** or contact Project Clean Water staff at 568-3440.