

Minimum Control Measure (MCM) 6

Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operators

Municipalities conduct numerous activities that can pose a threat to water quality if practices and procedures are not in place to prevent pollutants from entering the MS4. These activities include winter road maintenance, minor road repairs and other infrastructure work, automobile fleet maintenance, landscaping and park maintenance, and building maintenance. Municipalities also conduct activities that remove pollutants from the MS4 when performed properly, such as parking lot and street sweeping and storm drain system cleaning. Finally, municipal facilities can be sources of stormwater pollutants if BMPs are not in place to contain spills, manage trash, and handle nonstormwater discharges. [This table lists the pollutants that are typically associated with municipal facilities and municipal activities](#) (1 pp, 129K, [About PDF](#)).



Signs can help remind employees where certain practices, like washing vehicles and equipment, should occur.

Phase II MS4s are required to train staff on ways to protect stormwater, particularly when maintaining MS4 infrastructure and performing daily municipal activities, such as park and open space maintenance, fleet and building maintenance, new construction and land disturbances, and stormwater system maintenance. This primarily includes:

- Developing inspection and maintenance procedures and schedules for stormwater BMPs,
- Implementing BMPs to treat pollutants from transportation infrastructure, maintenance areas, storage yards, sand and salt storage areas, and waste transfer stations,
- Establishing procedures for properly disposing of pollutants removed from the MS4, and
- Identifying ways to incorporate water quality controls into new and existing flood management projects.

Additional information on this minimum measure, including the stormwater Phase II [regulatory requirements](#) for pollution prevention/good housekeeping for municipal operations and a [fact sheet on the pollution prevention/good housekeeping for municipal operations minimum measure](#) (2 pp, 217K, [About PDF](#)), is also available.


Phase II MS4s should develop a training program for all municipal staff involved in activities that could discharge pollutants to the MS4 (see the [Municipal Employee Training and Education](#) BMP fact sheet). Phase II MS4s should also develop standard operating procedures that incorporate stormwater BMPs for common municipal activities, garnering input from both managers and field crews to determine the most appropriate and effective BMPs for each situation. More information about pollution prevention procedures can be found in the “Municipal Activities” category below.

USEPA Guidance
Stormwater Management Control Measures – Best Management Practices (BMPs)
MCM6 - Pollution Prevention / Good Housekeeping BMPs

Phase II MS4s should also develop standard operating procedures and spill prevention and control plans for all municipal buildings where activities occur that can generate stormwater pollutants. More information about managing pollutants at municipal facilities can be found below in the “Municipal Facilities” category.

Key BMPs and Resources:

The key BMP to addressing the good housekeeping minimum measure is the development of an employee training and education program. Common municipal activities and facilities which should be addressed in the training program are described in individual fact sheets in the next section below.

- [Municipal Employee Training and Education](#) BMP fact sheet
- [California Municipal Stormwater BMP Handbook](#) 

BMP Fact Sheets:

The fact sheets in this section describe BMPs and how to use them to help municipal stormwater programs and construction site operators comply with the stormwater Phase II requirements.

EPA has started updating these fact sheets to include new practices and technologies. Several of these updated fact sheets are now available in PDF format.

Education

[Municipal Employee Training and Education](#)

Municipal Activities

[Coal-Tar Sealcoats and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons](#) (2 pp, 389K, [About PDF](#))

[Municipal Landscaping](#)

[Municipal Vehicle Fueling](#)

[Municipal Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance](#)

[Municipal Vehicle and Equipment Washing](#)

[Parking Lot and Street Cleaning](#)

[Road Salt Application and Storage](#)

[Roadway and Bridge Maintenance](#)

[Storm Drain System Cleaning](#)

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Municipal Facilities

[Hazardous Materials Storage](#)

[Materials Management](#)

[Municipal Facilities Management](#)

[Spill Response and Prevention](#)

EPA Internet Resources:

- [Urban Management Measures Guidance](#) Chapters 7, 9 and 11 address some of the issues found in this minimum measure.
- [Stormwater case studies on good housekeeping](#) includes case studies of how a Phase I or Phase II community has implemented the good housekeeping requirements.

Other Internet Resources:

- [California Municipal Stormwater BMP Handbook](#) EXIT Disclaimer
- [2005 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington : Volume IV -- Source Control BMPs](#) EXIT Disclaimer
- [Example Good Housekeeping Practices – Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program](#) (2 pp, 124K, [About PDF](#)) EXIT Disclaimer
- [Example guidance document for municipality pollution prevention/good housekeeping best management techniques – Erie County Department of Environment and Planning](#) (39 pp, 130K, [About PDF](#)) EXIT Disclaimer
- [Example guideline for street sweepings and catch basin cleanings – State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection](#) EXIT Disclaimer

Note: If you are referencing this page, please use this alias web address:
<http://www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/menuofbmps/goodhousekeeping>