What is the NPDES stormwater permitting program for industrial activity?

Activities, such as material handling and storage, equipment maintenance and cleaning, industrial processing or other operations that occur at industrial facilities are often exposed to stormwater. The runoff from these areas may discharge pollutants directly into nearby waterbodies or indirectly via storm sewer systems, thereby degrading water quality.

In 1990, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) developed permitting regulations under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) to control stormwater discharges associated with eleven categories of industrial activity. As a result, NPDES permitting authorities, which may be either EPA or a state environmental agency, issue stormwater permits to control runoff from these industrial facilities.

What types of industrial facilities are required to obtain permit coverage?

This fact sheet discusses stormwater discharges from asphalt paving and roofing materials manufacturers and lubricant manufacturers as described by Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Major Group 29. Only facilities that perform the following operations require coverage under an industrial stormwater permit:

- Asphalt paving mixtures and blocks (SIC 2951)
- Asphalt felts and coatings (SIC 2952)
- Lubricating oils and lubricating oils and greases (SIC 2992)
- Products of petroleum and coal not elsewhere classified (SIC 2999)

Not discussed in this fact sheet are renderers of fats and oils (see Fact Sheet U (EPA-833-F-06-036) for food and kindred products), oil recycling facilities (see Fact Sheet N (EPA-833-F-06-029) for scrap recycling facilities), or petroleum refining facilities.

What does an industrial stormwater permit require?

Common requirements for coverage under an industrial stormwater permit include development of a written stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP), implementation of control measures, and submittal of a request for permit coverage, usually referred to as the Notice of Intent or NOI. The SWPPP is a written assessment of potential sources of pollutants in stormwater runoff and control measures that will be implemented at your facility to minimize the discharge of these pollutants in runoff from the site. These control measures include site-specific best management practices (BMPs), maintenance plans, inspections, employee training, and reporting. The procedures detailed in the SWPPP must be implemented by the facility and updated as necessary, with a copy of the SWPPP kept on-site. The industrial stormwater permit also requires collection of visual, analytical, and/or compliance monitoring data to determine the effectiveness of implemented BMPs. For more information on EPA’s industrial stormwater permit and links to State stormwater permits, go to www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater and click on “Industrial Activity.”
**What pollutants are associated with activities at my facility?**

Pollutants conveyed in stormwater discharges from facilities involved with the manufacturing of asphalt, roofing materials, and lubricants will vary. There are a number of factors that influence to what extent industrial activities and significant materials can affect water quality.

- Geographic location
- Topography
- Hydrogeology
- Extent of impervious surfaces (e.g., concrete or asphalt)
- Type of ground cover (e.g., vegetation, crushed stone, or dirt)
- Outdoor activities (e.g., material storage, loading/unloading, vehicle maintenance)
- Size of the operation
- Type, duration, and intensity of precipitation events

The activities, pollutant sources, and pollutants detailed in Table 1 are commonly found at asphalt paving and roofing materials manufacturers and lubricant manufacturing facilities.

**Table 1. Common Activities, Pollutant Sources, and Associated Pollutants at Asphalt Paving and Roofing Materials Manufacturers and Lubricant Manufacturing Facilities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Pollutant Source</th>
<th>Pollutant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor stockpiling of materials</td>
<td>Exposure of aggregate (sand, stone, limestone, gravel, etc.) to precipitation</td>
<td>Total suspended solids (TSS), total dissolved solids (TDS), biochemical oxygen demand (BOD₅), chemical oxygen demand (COD), oil and grease (O&amp;G), benzene, methylene blue active substances (MBAS), metals, pH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage of materials in above-ground tanks</td>
<td>Leakage from tanks</td>
<td>TSS, TDS, BOD₅, COD, O&amp;G, benzene, MBAS, metals, pH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport of materials by a conveyor or front-end loader</td>
<td>Exposed materials and potential spills</td>
<td>TSS, TDS, BOD₅, COD, O&amp;G, benzene, MBAS, metals, pH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage of raw materials</td>
<td>Spills and leaks of materials from tank farms or 55-gallon drums</td>
<td>Petroleum or synthetic-based stocks and various additives, O&amp;G, pH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle and equipment maintenance</td>
<td>Parts cleaning, waste disposal of rags, oil filters, air filters, batteries, hydraulic fluids, transmission fluids, brake fluids, coolants, lubricants, degreasers, spent solvents</td>
<td>Gas/diesel fuel, fuel additives, oil/lubricants, heavy metals, brake fluids, transmission fluids, chlorinated solvents, arsenic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle and equipment fueling</td>
<td>Spills and leaks during fuel transfer, spills due to “topping off” tanks, runoff from fueling areas, washdown of fueling areas, leaking storage tanks, spills of oils, brake fluids, transmission fluids,</td>
<td>Gas/diesel fuel, fuel additives, oil/lubricants, heavy metals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**What BMPs can be used to minimize contact between stormwater and potential pollutants at my facility?**

A variety of BMP options may be applicable to eliminate or minimize the presence of pollutants in stormwater discharges from asphalt paving and roofing materials manufacturers and lubricant manufacturing facilities. You will likely need to implement a combination or suite of BMPs to address stormwater runoff at your facility. Your first consideration should be for pollution prevention BMPs,
which are designed to prevent or minimize pollutants from entering stormwater runoff and/or reduce the volume of stormwater requiring management. Prevention BMPs can include regular cleanup, collection and containment of debris in storage areas, and other housekeeping practices, spill control, and employee training. It may also be necessary to implement treatment BMPs, which are engineered structures intended to treat stormwater runoff and/or mitigate the effects of increased stormwater runoff peak rate, volume, and velocity. Treatment BMPs are generally more expensive to install and maintain and include oil-water separators, wet ponds, and proprietary filter devices.

BMPs must be selected and implemented to address the following:

**Good Housekeeping Practices**

Good housekeeping is a practical, cost-effective way to maintain a clean and orderly facility to prevent potential pollution sources from coming into contact with stormwater. It includes establishing protocols to reduce the possibility of mishandling materials or equipment and training employees in good housekeeping techniques. Common areas where good housekeeping practices should be followed include trash containers and adjacent areas, material storage areas, vehicle and equipment maintenance areas, and loading docks. Good housekeeping practices must include a schedule for regular pickup and disposal of garbage and waste materials and routine inspections of drums, tanks, and containers for leaks and structural conditions. Practices also include containing and covering garbage, waste materials, and debris. Involving employees in routine monitoring of housekeeping practices has proven to be an effective means of ensuring the continued implementation of these measures.

**Minimizing Exposure**

Where feasible, minimizing exposure of potential pollutant sources to precipitation is an important control option. Minimizing exposure prevents pollutants, including debris, from coming into contact with precipitation and can reduce the need for BMPs to treat contaminated stormwater runoff. It can also prevent debris from being picked up by stormwater and carried into drains and surface waters. Examples of BMPs for exposure minimization include covering materials or activities with temporary structures (e.g., tarps) when wet weather is expected or moving materials or activities to existing or new permanent structures (e.g., buildings, silos, sheds). Even the simple practice of keeping a dumpster lid closed can be a very effective pollution prevention measure.

**Erosion and Sediment Control**

BMPs must be selected and implemented to limit erosion on areas of your site that, due to topography, activities, soils, cover, materials, or other factors are likely to experience erosion. Erosion control BMPs such as seeding, mulching, and sodding prevent soil from becoming dislodged and should be considered first. Sediment control BMPs such as silt fences, sediment ponds, and stabilized entrances trap sediment after it has eroded. Sediment control BMPs should be used to back-up erosion control BMPs.

**Management of Runoff**

Your SWPPP must contain a narrative evaluation of the appropriateness of stormwater management practices that divert, infiltrate, reuse, or otherwise manage stormwater runoff so as to reduce the discharge of pollutants. Appropriate measures are highly site-specific, but may include, among others, vegetative swales, collection and reuse of stormwater, inlet controls, snow management, infiltration devices, and wet retention measures.

A combination of preventive and treatment BMPs will yield the most effective stormwater management for minimizing the offsite discharge of pollutants via stormwater runoff. Though not specifically outlined in this fact sheet, BMPs must also address preventive maintenance records or logbooks, regular facility inspections, spill prevention and response, and employee training.
All BMPs require regular maintenance to function as intended. Some management measures have simple maintenance requirements, others are quite involved. You must regularly inspect all BMPs to ensure they are operating properly, including during runoff events. As soon as a problem is found, action to resolve it should be initiated immediately.

Implement BMPs, such as those listed below in Table 2 for the control of pollutants at asphalt paving and roofing materials manufacturers and lubricant manufacturing facilities, to minimize and prevent the discharge of pollutants in stormwater. Identifying weaknesses in current facility practices will aid the permittee in determining appropriate BMPs that will achieve a reduction in pollutant loadings. BMPs listed in Table 2 are broadly applicable to asphalt paving and roofing materials manufacturers and lubricant manufacturing facilities; however, this is not a complete list and you are recommended to consult with regulatory agencies or a stormwater engineer/consultant to identify appropriate BMPs for your facility.

Table 2. BMPs for Potential Pollutant Sources at Asphalt Paving and Roofing Materials Manufacturers and Lubricant Manufacturing Facilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pollutant Source</th>
<th>BMPs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Material storage, handling, and processing | - Cover material storage and handling areas with an awning, tarp, or roof.  
- Confine storage to designated and labeled areas outside of drainage pathways and away from surface waters  
- Practice good stockpiling practices such as: storing materials on concrete or asphalt pads; surrounding stockpiles with diversion dikes or curbs; and revegetating areas used for stockpiling in order to slow runoff.  
- Use curbing, diking, or channelization around material storage, handling and processing areas to divert run-on around areas where it can come into contact with material stored or spilled on the ground.  
- Utilize secondary containment measures such as dikes or berms around asphalt storage tanks and fuel oil tanks.  
- Use dust collection systems (i.e., baghouses) to collect airborne particles generated as a result of material handling operations or aggregate drying.  
- Promptly dispose of waste materials from dust collection systems and other operations.  
- Remove spilled material and dust from paved portions of the facility by shoveling and sweeping on a regular basis.  
- Utilize catch basins to collect potentially contaminated stormwater.  
- Develop and implement spill prevention plans to prevent contact of runoff with spills of significant materials.  
- Clean material handling equipment and vehicles to remove accumulated dust and residue on a regular basis.  
- Use a detention pond or sedimentation basin to reduce suspended solids.  
- Use an oil/water separator to reduce the discharge of oil/grease.  
- Maintain up-to-date material inventory.  
- Maintain dry, clean floors and ground surfaces.  
- Train employees in good housekeeping, spill prevention and control, and materials management procedures. |
### Table 2. BMPs for Potential Pollutant Sources at Asphalt Paving and Roofing Materials Manufacturers and Lubricant Manufacturing Facilities (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pollutant Source</th>
<th>BMPs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Storage of Petroleum, synthetic-based stocks and additives** | - If area is uncovered, connect sump outlet to sanitary sewer (if possible) or an oil/water separator, catch basin filter, etc. If connecting to a sanitary sewer check with the system operator to ensure that the discharge is acceptable. If implementing separator or filter technologies ensure that regular inspections and maintenance procedures are in place.  
  - Develop and implement spill plans.  
  - Train employees in spill prevention and control.  
  - Provide secondary containment, such as dikes, with a height sufficient to contain a spill (the greater of 10 percent of the total enclosed tank volume or 110 percent of the volume contained in the largest tank).  
  - If containment structures have drains, ensure that the drains have valves, and that valves are maintained in the closed position. Institute protocols for checking/testing stormwater in containment areas prior to discharge.  
  - Use double-walled tanks with overflow protection.  
  - Keep liquid transfer nozzles/hoses in secondary containment area.  
  - Portable containers/drumns - Keep liquid transfer nozzles/hoses in secondary containment area.  
  - Store drums indoors when possible.  
  - Store drums, including empty or used drums, in secondary containment with a roof or cover (including temporary cover such as a tarp that prevents contact with precipitation).  
  - Provide secondary containment, such as dikes or portable containers, with a height sufficient to contain a spill (the greater of 10 percent of the total enclosed tank volume or 110 percent of the volume contained in the largest tank).  
  - Clearly label drum with its contents.  
| **Vehicle and equipment fueling**                      | - Conduct fueling operations (including the transfer of fuel from tank trucks) on an impervious or contained pad or under a roof or canopy where possible. Covering should extend beyond spill containment pad to prevent rain from entering.  
  - When fueling in uncovered area, use a concrete pad (asphalt is not chemically resistant to the fuels being handled).  
  - Use drip pans where leaks or spills of fuel can occur and where making and breaking hose connections.  
  - Use fueling hoses with check valves to prevent hose drainage after filling.  
  - Use spill and overflow protection devices.  
  - Keep spill cleanup material readily available. Clean up spills and leaks immediately.  
  - Minimize/eliminate run-on into fueling areas with diversion dikes, berms, containment trenches, curbing or other equivalent measures.  
  - Collect stormwater runoff and provide treatment or recycling.  
  - Use dry cleanup methods for fuel area rather than hosing down the fuel area. Follow procedures for sweeping up absorbents as soon as spilled substances have been absorbed.  
  - Provide curbing or posts around fuel pumps to prevent collisions from vehicles.  
  - Discourage “topping off” of fuel tanks.  
  - Regularly inspect and perform preventive maintenance on fuel storage tanks to detect potential leaks before they occur.  
  - Inspect the fueling area for leaks and spills.  
  - Train employees on vehicle fueling BMPs. |
Table 2. BMPs for Potential Pollutant Sources at Asphalt Paving and Roofing Materials Manufacturers and Lubricant Manufacturing Facilities (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pollutant Source</th>
<th>BMPs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle and equipment maintenance</td>
<td>Good Housekeeping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Eliminate floor drains that are connected to the storm or sanitary sewer; if necessary, install a sump that is pumped regularly. Collected wastes should be properly treated or disposed of by a licensed waste hauler.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Do all cleaning at a centralized station so the solvents stay in one area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ If parts are dipped in liquid, remove them slowly to avoid spills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Use drip pans, drain boards, and drying racks to direct drips back into a fluid holding tank for reuse.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Drain all parts of fluids prior to disposal. Oil filters can be crushed and recycled.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Promptly transfer used fluids to the proper container; do not leave full drip pans or other open containers around the shop. Empty and clean drip pans and containers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Clean up leaks, drips, and other spills without using large amounts of water. Use absorbents for dry cleanup whenever possible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Prohibit the practice of hosing down an area where the practice would result in the discharge of pollutants to a stormwater system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Do not pour liquid waste into floor drains, sinks, outdoor storm drain inlets, or other storm drains or sewer connections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Maintain an organized inventory of materials.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Eliminate or reduce the number and amount of hazardous materials and waste by substituting nonhazardous or less hazardous materials.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Label and track the recycling of waste material (e.g., used oil, spent solvents, batteries).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Store batteries and other significant materials indoors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Dispose of greasy rags, oil filters, air filters, batteries, spent coolant, and degreasers in compliance with RCRA regulations.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Minimizing Exposure

| | ☐ Perform all cleaning operations indoors or under covering when possible. Conduct the cleaning operations in an area with a concrete floor with no floor drainage other than to sanitary sewers or treatment facilities. |
| | ☐ If operations are uncovered, perform them on concrete pad that is impervious and contained. |
| | ☐ Park vehicles and equipment indoors or under a roof whenever possible and maintain proper control of oil leaks/spills. |
| | ☐ Check vehicles closely for leaks and use pans to collect fluid when leaks occur. |

Management of Runoff

| | ☐ Use berms, curbs, grassed swales or other diversion measures to ensure that stormwater runoff from other parts of the facility does not flow over the maintenance area. |
| | ☐ Collect the stormwater runoff from the cleaning area and provide treatment or recycling. Discharge vehicle wash or rinse water to the sanitary sewer (if allowed by sewer authority), wastewater treatment, a land application site, or recycle onsite. DO NOT discharge washwater to a storm drain or to surface water. |

Inspections and Training

| | ☐ Inspect the maintenance area regularly to ensure BMPs are implemented. |
| | ☐ Train employees on proper waste control and disposal procedures. |
What if activities and materials at my facility are not exposed to precipitation?

The industrial stormwater program requires permit coverage for a number of specified types of industrial activities. However, when a facility is able to prevent the exposure of ALL relevant activities and materials to precipitation, it may be eligible to claim no exposure and qualify for a waiver from permit coverage.

If you are regulated under the industrial permitting program, you must either obtain permit coverage or submit a no exposure certification form, if available. Check with your permitting authority for additional information as not every permitting authority program provides no exposure exemptions.

Where do I get more information?

For additional information on the industrial stormwater program see www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/msgp.

A list of names and telephone numbers for each EPA Region or state NPDES permitting authority can be found at www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwatercontacts.

References

Information contained in this Fact Sheet was compiled from EPA’s past and current Multi-Sector General Permits and from the following sources:


◆ New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Water Quality. “Stormwater Discharge General Permits: Hot Mix Asphalt Producers (HMAP) General Permit (R4).” www.nj.gov/dep/dwq/gp_stormwater.htm#asphalt

◆ Orange County, California, Watershed & Coastal Resources Division. Concrete and Asphalt Production, Application, and Cutting. www.ocwatersheds.com/StormWater/documents_bmp_existing_development.asp#ind


◆ USEPA, Office of Wastewater Management. NPDES Stormwater Multi-Sector General Permit for Industrial Activities (MSGP). www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/msgp