



Industrial & Commercial Practices

Industrial and commercial pollution prevention practices are private operation and maintenance activities implemented by owners or individuals responsible for industrial and commercial sites that prevent or reduce the contamination of stormwater. Note that certain industrial activities and sites could be covered under the NPDES Industrial Permit. See Chapter 5 for the Industrial Permit discussion.

Key Considerations

Industrial and commercial pollution prevention practices prevent or reduce stormwater contamination from concentrated impervious surfaces and potential stormwater hotspots such as streets, parking areas, vehicles, smokestacks, and dumpsters. These practices improve subwatershed water quality by minimizing the introduction of pollutants including sediment, nutrients, metals, bacteria, trash, oil, and toxins. Table 12.PREV.5 indicates the pollutants controlled by various industrial and commercial pollution prevention practices while Table 12.PREV.6 describes some of the methods used for each of these practices. See [Chapter 13](#) for further discussion of potential stormwater hotspots. See Photo Credits and References for further information.



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Table 12.PREV.5 Industrial & Commercial Practices Pollutant Controls
(Source: modified from the Center for Watershed Protection)

Practice	Stormwater Pollutants Controlled						
	Sediment	Nutrients	Metals	Bacteria	Trash	Oil	Toxins
Temp. Construction Sediment Control	●	○	○	○	○	○	○
Wind Erosion Control	●	○	○	○	○	○	○
Emission Regulation	○	○	●	○	●	○	●
Material Storage Control	●	○	○	○	○	●	●
Dumpster and Landfill Management	○	○	○	●	●	●	●
Better Turf Management	○	●	○	○	○	○	●
Better Parking Lot Cleaning	●	○	○	○	○	○	○
Better Impervious Surface Deicing	○	○	○	○	○	○	●
Proper Vehicle Management	●	●	●	○	●	●	●
Storm Sewer System Maintenance	●	○	○	○	○	○	○
Sanitary Sewer System Maintenance	○	●	○	●	○	○	○

Legend

○ = Uncontrolled	● = Moderately Controlled
○ = Slightly Controlled	● = Significantly Controlled

Pollution Prevention



Table 12.PREV.6 Industrial & Commercial Pollution Prevention Methods

Practice	Method
	Temporary Construction Sediment Control Follow local, state, and federal regulatory requirements for control of erosion during construction activities.
	Wind Erosion Control Institute a local program for wetting of open construction surfaces and other sources for windblown pollutants.
	Emission Regulation Follow local, state, and federal regulatory requirements for control of air emissions.
	Material Storage Control Reduce or eliminate spill and leakage loss by properly inspecting, containing, and storing hazardous materials and having a cleanup plan that can be quickly and efficiently implemented. Follow NPDES Industrial Permit requirements if permit authority applies.
	Dumpster and Landfill Management Ensure that contaminated material is contained to prevent solid and/or liquid waste from being washed into storm sewer systems or water bodies.
	Better Turf Management Ensure that mowing, fertilization, pesticide application, and irrigation are completed in ways that will prevent or reduce grass clippings, sediment, and chemicals from entering storm sewer systems; use native vegetation where possible.
	Better Parking Lot Cleaning Maintain parking lots frequently and especially in the spring and fall by sweeping, picking up litter, and repairing deterioration; pressure wash pavement only as needed and minimize the use of cleaning agents.
	Better Impervious Surface Deicing Reduce or eliminate the need for deicing products by manually clearing sidewalks, driveways, and parking lots prior to deicer use; use environmentally-friendly deicing products when possible, apply sparingly and store properly if used.
	Proper Vehicle Management Ensure that vehicles are fueled, maintained, washed and stored in a manner that prevents the release of harmful fluids, including oil, antifreeze, gasoline, battery acid, hydraulic and transmission fluids, and cleaning solutions.
	Storm Sewer System Maintenance Regularly clean debris from storm sewer inlets, remove sediment from catch basin sumps, and remove any illicit connections to storm sewer systems.
	Sanitary Sewer System Maintenance Regularly inspect and flush sanitary pipes to ensure that there are no leaks in the system and that the system is functioning properly

Note: See last page of chapter for photo credits



Photo Credits

1. Courtesy of the Center for Watershed Protection
2. Courtesy of the Town of Amherst, New York
3. Courtesy of the United States Geological Survey
4. All other photos from EOR.

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