

DUMPSTER MANAGEMENT

BMP FACTSHEET 22

Rev. 04/2019



DESCRIPTION

Almost all facilities generate waste and temporarily stores the waste on-site. These dumpsters, compactors, or refuse bins can be a major source of stormwater pollution if they are not properly operated and maintained. Open dumpsters may collect rain water that mixes with the contents of the dumpster resulting in “leachate.” Leachate is prohibited to entering waters of the state. See 9VAC20-81-210 for more leachate concentrate requirements. This water may then wash leaking materials, spills, and trash from the dumpsters into storm drains. Wash water from cleaning dumpsters and loading docks is another source of stormwater pollution. This runoff water may contain grease, litter, bacteria, pathogens, and chemicals. Properly maintained dumpsters and clean loading docks may prevent unpleasant odors and unsightly conditions. Proper management and cleaning of dumpsters will minimize the potential for stormwater pollution from dumpsters and ensure regulatory compliance.

Targeted Pollutants

Sediment	X
Nutrients	
Trash	X
Metals	X
Bacteria	X
Oil & Grease	X
Chemicals	X
Salt	

Objectives

Cover	X
Contain	X
Educate	X
Reduce/Minimize	
Product Substitution	

TO REPLACE A LEAKING DUMPSTER PLEASE CONTACT THE RECYCLING, SOLID WASTE PROGRAM MANAGER AT (703)806-0061.

GUIDELINES

- Keep dumpsters and compactors in a covered area. If this is not practical, ensure covers on each receptacle are closed after use. Cover dumpsters without lids with a waterproof tarp.
- Replace leaking dumpster, waste containers, and compactors as soon as possible.
- Control litter by making sure waste is contained in dumpsters and compactors. Sweep loading dock area regularly and place sweepings in the trash.
- Increase receptacle service frequency if capacity is routinely exceeded
- Avoid or minimize placing liquid waste, grease or leaky garbage bags into dumpsters. Place liquid waste in closed or sealed containers for disposal.
- Keep dumpster lids tightly closed to keep rainwater out and prevent leaks. Replace damaged or missing lids promptly.
- Do not place hazardous waste in a dumpster. Lock the dumpster or enclosure to prevent illegal disposal of hazardous material.
- Post signs that indicate the materials that can be placed in the container. Check regularly for unacceptable materials.

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MAINTENANCE

- Inspect dumpsters and compactors regularly for leaks. Do not allow leachate from dumpsters and compactors to enter storm drains.
- Inspect dumpster and compactor areas regularly for litter or stains.
- When cleaning dumpster avoid hosing out the dumpster interior. Apply absorbent material such as kitty litter over any liquids spilled in the dumpster and dispose of in the trash.
- Replace leaking dumpster, waste containers, and compactors as soon as possible. Call the number on the front of this fact sheet for assistance.
- Install berms or curbs around dumpsters and loading docks to contain leaks, spills and trash. Collect any wash water with a wet vacuum system.
- Install a water quality management device to treat runoff from the dumpster area.

SPILL RESPONSE PROCEDURES

In the event of a spill or leak follow the appropriate Spill Response Procedures posted at your facility or refer to the BMP Factsheet Overview.

- **Survey the incident** from a safe distance. Identify the source of release and the material being released.
- Call the Ft. Belvoir Fire Department if spills are greater than 5 gallons. If ANY amount of leaked materials has entered a storm drain or waterway call the Ft. Belvoir Fire Department at 703- 781-1800 and DPW Environmental Division (Env. Div.) at 703-806-3694.
- Provide the Safety Data Sheet of the spilled material to the spill response personnel.
- Fill out Spill Incident Report in your SWPPP.
- **REPORT ALL SPILLS TO DPW/ENV. DIV AND THE FIRE DEPARTMENT!**

REPORT SPILLS TO DPW/ENV. DIV. BY:

- E-mailing your Spill Incident Report to gerald.j.sheehan3.civ@mail.mil
- Calling 703-806-3694