



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND  
DIRECTORATE OF PUBLIC WORKS  
1626 EVANS STREET, BLDG 1219  
FORT CARSON, CO 80913**

## **Dewatering Guidance for Construction Sites Fort Carson DPW Stormwater Program**

*Dewatering or “draining” uncontaminated stormwater and groundwater from points of accumulation at a construction site is an allowable non-stormwater discharge per the EPA issued Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit (MS4) and the 2022 Construction General Permit (CGP). All operations must be performed according to current best engineering and environmental practices.*

### **If you plan to dewater from your construction site:**

- Contact the Fort Carson Stormwater Program Manager to verify that any groundwater is not part of a Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU). Prior to discharge, you must determine that all dewatering discharges are not chemically contaminated.
- Water with pollutants or visible turbidity is not an allowable discharge and must be treated prior to discharge.
- Fort Carson suggests using the control measures outlined in the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District Manual, Chapter 7, Dewatering Operations “SM-9”. A link is provided below.
- Whenever possible, direct water to vegetated areas, maximize ground infiltration and filtering.
- Use inlet protection if discharge reaches the storm sewer system.
- Control discharges, including both peak flow rate and total volume, to minimize channel and streambank erosion and scour.
- Remediate any earth scouring, sedimentation, or disturbed areas from your activities.
- Discharging directly to surface waters is not permitted.

### **Construction General Permitted Sites:**

- Turbidity monitoring is not required on Fort Carson.
- For additional guidance, reference the EPA 2022 CGP Dewatering Guide. A link is provided below.
- Update the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan to reflect your dewatering activities.
- In addition to the bullet points above, maintain compliance per all sections of your 2022 CGP, including:
  - §2.4 – Dewatering Requirements
  - §4.3.2 – Inspection Frequency
  - §4.6.3 – Inspection Requirements
  - §4.7.2-4.7.4 – Signing reports, on-site availability, and records retainment
  - §5 – Corrective Actions
  - §7 – SWPPP Management
- If you observe any pollution indicators identified in your inspection, you must conduct corrective actions per part 5. Pollution indicators may include sediment plumes, suspended solids, unusual color, presence of odor, decreased clarity, presence of foam, visible sheen or hydrocarbons, and sediment deposits.



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### Disinfection of Water Lines, Hydrostatic Testing, and Dichlorination:

- Fort Carson Stormwater Permits allow clean water, fire hydrant flushings, and potable water including uncontaminated water line flushings to be discharged.
- If on-site water is contaminated and cannot be treated, it is considered wastewater and shall not be discharged as stormwater.
- Whether through physical or chemical means, treat dewatering water so that chlorine concentrations are below the effluent limitations upon discharging to receiving waters. Per Colorado Regulation 32, chlorine effluent limitations to surface waters must not exceed acute concentrations of 0.019mg/L and chronic concentrations of 0.011mg/L.
- ANSI/AWWA C655 For Dichlorination may be appropriate for dichlorination processes.

### Referenced Guidance Links

EPA CGP Dewatering Guide:

<https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-01/cqp-inspection-and-monitoring-guide-for-dewatering.pdf>

Urban Drainage and Flood Control District Manual:

[https://mhfd.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/72\\_SM-09%20Dewatering%20Operations.pdf](https://mhfd.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/72_SM-09%20Dewatering%20Operations.pdf)

Fort Carson Installation Design Guide:

<https://home.army.mil/carson/Directorate/directorate-public-works/policies-and-training>

**Contact the Fort Carson Stormwater Compliance Program at:**

[Usarmy.carson.imcom-central.list.dpw-ed-storm-water@army.mil](mailto:Usarmy.carson.imcom-central.list.dpw-ed-storm-water@army.mil)