

## Construction Sites Stormwater Management Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)



## Overview of a SWPPP

- Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)
- A comprehensive document that incorporates items addressing [federal, state, and local law](#).
- A set of drawings and narratives in addition to Construction Documents based on the site layout and BMP locations
- An updated and managed plan with weekly reports and amendments to the plan.
- A SWPPP should be done by a qualified person  
Someone who understands and is knowledgeable about regulations and what is in a SWPPP and inspection reports.
- A SWPPP is pages of plans and appendices (several binders) that will increase in size with added amendments and inspection reports.



## Sections of a SWPPP

- [Section 1](#): Site Evaluation, assessment and planning
- [Section 2](#): Erosion and sediment control BMPs
- [Section 3](#): Good Housekeeping BMPs
- [Section 4](#): Selecting post-construction BMPs
- [Section 5](#): Site Inspections
- [Section 6](#): Record keeping and Training
- [Section 7](#): Final Stabilization
- [Section 8](#): Certification and Notification
- [Appendices](#)



## Federal Law

- Clean Water Act: passed in 1972 to restore and maintain the quality of the nation's waterways. The ultimate goal is to make sure that the rivers and streams are [fishable, swimmable, and drinkable](#). Provisions to govern stormwater discharges from construction activities were added in 1987.
- Under the Clean Water Act, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ([NPDES](#)) permit program controls water pollution by regulating sources of pollution that discharges into waters of the United States.
- NPDES permits are issued through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ([EPA](#)) or a delegated state.



## State Law

- In August of 1996, the state of Louisiana was delegated the NPDES program from EPA, the Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES).
- Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) is now responsible for issuing all water discharge permits in the state of Louisiana (except those retained by EPA).
- The LPDES stormwater permit program requires operators of construction projects to obtain authorization to discharge stormwater under an LPDES construction stormwater permit.
- Since 1990, any projects 5 acres or greater have been covered. Since March 2003, any projects from 1 acre to less than 5 acres are also covered.
- LPDES stormwater permit program does not override more stringent local requirements.



## Notice of Intent (N.O.I.)

- After the contractor knows which permit is needed for the project, they will need to submit a Notice of Intent to the LDEQ
- This form must be submitted at least 48 hours prior to commencing construction.
- N.O.I. should be submitted by:  
The party having operational control over construction plans and specifications; and/or the party having day-to-day operation over those activities at a project site which are necessary to ensure compliance with the SWPPP or other permit conditions.
- N.O.I. only necessary for sites that are 5 acres or greater



## Two Types of Inspections

- Self Inspection
  - Required by general permit and performed by owner, operator, contractor, agent, or professional inspector.
  - As specified in SWPPP either every 7 days or 14 days, prior to anticipated storms and within 24 hrs of the end of a storm of 0.5 or greater.
- Regulatory
  - Complaint driven
  - Audit
  - Permit



## Inspection Process

- Review project plans, appropriate permit from LDEQ, SWPPP (signed and completed before the start of the project and up-to-date), and copy of N.O.I.
- Visual inspection of entire site
- Review problems found with contractor and discuss corrective actions
- If corrective actions are not taken in the allotted amount of time, a court date will be set, and the contractor will be responsible for fines up to \$5,000 per violation, per day



## Does the site have...

- Sedimentation traps on storm drains?
- Mud in storm drains?
- Silt fences around construction site?
- Entrances maintained with gravel/mulch?
- Stabilization practices employed?
- Dumpster on site for solid waste?
- Litter on site?
- Bulk Petroleum Products on site?
- Open or leaking drums?
- Cement trucks washed on site?
- Equipment cleaned on site?
- Mop sink for paints?
- Disposal of toxins handled properly?



## Does the SWPPP have...

- A Cover sheet?
- Certification signature?
- A Designated Pollution Prevention Team?
- Description of Potential Pollution?
- A List of Pollutants Likely to be Present in the Discharges?

## Does the SWPPP's Site Plan have...

- Drainage areas?
- Drainage patterns/outfalls?
- Structural and non-structural drainage/flood controls?
- Surface waters?
- Significant materials exposed to precipitation?
- Location of leaks or spills that have occurred in the last 3 years?
- Location of Industrial Activities Exposed to Precipitation?

## Example of Municipal Code

- [New Orleans Municipal Code](#)
- Sec. 54-154.1. Obstruction of catch basins or other elements of the drainage system at construction or demolition sites.
- (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the behavior as hereinafter defined of obstruction of catch basins or other elements of the drainage system at construction or demolition sites.



## Example of Municipal Code continued

- (b) "Obstruction of catch basins or other elements of the drainage system at construction or demolition sites" is the dumping of trash, debris, greases, oils, and other environmentally sensitive liquids such as but not limited to cooking oil and fats, motor oil, antifreeze, solvents, truck and automotive fluids, paint, paint thinners, and gasoline into catch basins, storm drains, drainage culverts, drainage ditches, gutters, lines, canals or any body of water, or allowing the entry of the enumerated materials into the drainage system through negligence or violation of the requirements of a governmental permit or license at adjoining, or within 75 feet of a construction or demolition site.



## Example of Municipal Code continued

- (d) Whoever violates this section shall be **fined not more than \$5,000 or shall be imprisoned for a period of not more than six months, or both**; provided that a second conviction of a violation of this section shall be punishable by a fine of not less than \$2,500 and a third or subsequent conviction of a violation of this section shall be punishable by a fine of \$5,000



## Enforcement

- All projects 1 acre and greater are inspected regularly
- 99% of inspections are due to complaints. Inspectors will respond to a complaint with an inspection and forward the findings to the appropriate office or proper regulatory agency and issue a warning notice, usually to be followed with a notice of violation (N.O.V.)



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