



In Summary

Waste cement washout is highly alkaline and very toxic to fish and other aquatic organisms. It also contains sediment that coats the stream bed and destroys habitat. These materials can degrade local waters when allowed to flow into our storm drain system. Unlike sanitary sewers, storm drains are not connected to a treatment plant. Water ultimately flows into our creeks and tributaries.

In addition, if you are caught allowing anything but rain into the storm drain, you could be subject to severe penalties and/or fines, plus the cost of cleanup.

We need to stop stormwater pollution at the source.



Remember:

Only Rain In the Storm Drain

Contact Information

To report a spill during regular business hours call the Public Works and Water Resources Department at 302-366-7000.

After hours contact 911 or the DNREC Emergency Response Hotline at 1-800-662-8802.

Or go to the city's website, expand the "How Do I?" drop down menu, click "Report Spills or Discharge Concerns" and report the spill.

For waste disposal and recycling questions call the Delaware Solid Waste Authority Citizens Response Line at 1-800-404-7080.

For general stormwater program information contact the Stormwater Program Coordinator at 302-366-7000 or visit our website at:

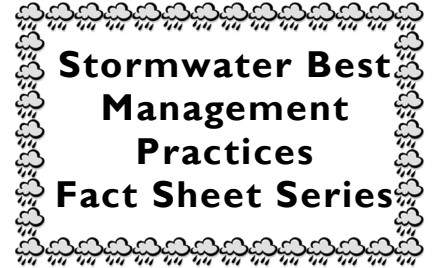
<http://www.newarkde.gov/237/NPDES-Stormwater-Program>



The City of Newark
Public Works and Water Resources
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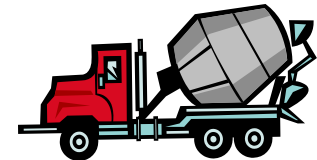


City of Newark Public Works and Water Resources



Stormwater Best Management Practices Fact Sheet Series

Cement Washout



This brochure has been prepared to educate contractors and the general public about preferred cement washout waste disposal in order to protect the water quality in storm drains, and ultimately, the creeks and tributaries in Newark.

Why should I care about Stormwater?

This brochure is intended to educate contractors and the general public about preferred cement washout waste disposal, which minimizes the potential for storm water and water quality degradation.

Water that flows into the storm sewer system does not get treated at the waste water treatment plant. It flows through a series of pipes and discharges either directly or indirectly into our creeks and tributaries. To minimize the potential for water quality problems, we need to work together to clean up our stormwater at the source.



Before you allow anything to flow into a storm drain, stop and think about how the water ultimately flows untreated into the creeks and tributaries in Newark.

Washout Tips

Never dispose of concrete washout into the street, storm drains, drainage ditches or streams.

Use a minimum of water to wash out the chute, finishing tools, wheel barrows and other equipment.

Carry a 10 gallon bucket or other portable method of catching and containing washout.

Secure bags of cement after they are open. Be sure to keep wind-blown cement powder away from gutters, storm drains, and runoff.

If suitable lawn is available, direct washout to a grassy area, where the liquid can infiltrate into the soil, or evaporate. Then, dispose of hardened concrete as solid waste.

Place concrete washout in a form, holder, box, bermed area or another approved designated washout area.

Washout Tips

Place all excess concrete in small piles where it can be disposed of as solid waste when dry.

When you pour concrete, you are responsible for the cleanup of all residue and leftover concrete. If the City must dispose of it, you will be billed accordingly.

As a last resort, you can block or berm the gutter a minimum of 50' from the storm drain to collect the residue and allow for drying time. You may then dispose of it as solid waste.

If there is evidence of dumping cement or cement wash water down a storm drain, gutter or street, it will be treated as an illegal discharge and DNREC enforcement will be notified.

