

CHAPTER 4
POLLUTION CONTROL MEASURES AND BMP'S

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4.1 Management of Other Construction Site Pollutants

There are numerous potential pollutants other than erosion and sediment associated with construction activities. Potential pollutants include those associated with the use of concrete and other cement-related mortars and the handling, application, and disposal of construction products and chemicals such as paints, adhesives, and solvents. The improper use and handling of construction materials can result in wash water, spills or wastes being left on the ground. These chemicals can infiltrate into soils causing groundwater contamination or washoff to surface waters during storms.

The contractor is required to develop a Pollution Control Plan (PCP) on all projects as required by Standard Specification Section 00290.30. Although this manual is not intended to address all aspects of construction site pollution control, some issues overlap with erosion and sediment control and must be taken into account in the overall planning process. At a minimum, the contractor should provide pollution prevention for 1) off-site tracking of soils, 2) material management, 3) waste management, and 4) vehicle and equipment management. The PCP should also include erosion and sediment control for contractor activities that are not addressed in the ESCP, including in-water work activities and on-site or off-site activities related to the project.

Each construction project is unique, and understanding the pollution risks for each construction activity is essential to successfully selecting and implementing pollution control BMP's. Defining these risks requires careful review of the site characteristics and the nature of the construction project. Once risks are defined, BMP objectives can be developed and pollution control BMP's selected. In general, the pollution control BMP objectives for construction projects are as follows:

- Practice Good Housekeeping – Perform activities in a manner which keeps potential pollutants from either draining or being transported off-site by managing pollutant sources and modifying construction activities.
- Contain Waste – Dispose of all construction waste in designated areas and keep storm water from flowing on or off of these areas.

See Standard Specifications Section 00290 for more information.