

Storm Water Pollution Prevention

Best Management Practices (BMPs) for the Stone Cutting Industry



Stone Cutting Industry

Storm Water Is Important To All Of Us

Throughout Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, storm drains flow directly into our creeks and lakes. That means anything dumped down a storm drain goes directly to our creeks and lakes and can negatively impact water quality.

Storm Water Services has many programs to protect water quality. They include enhancement and restoration of waterways, maintenance of the storm drainage system, enforcement of pollution control regulations and education.



Stone Cutting Industry Problems



Wastewater from the stone cutting and fabrication process contains minerals, sediment and lubricants associated with the use of cutting equipment. Stone cutting operations use a lot of water to suppress dust and cool equipment. The wastewater should never be discharged into storm drains or onto the ground.

You may already be implementing many of the best management practices (BMPs) described in this flyer. However, if you discover any potential problem areas, please consider using one or more of the recommended BMPs.

Solutions

Since preventing pollution is much easier than cleaning up after the fact, the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County have adopted ordinances for storm water management. These local ordinances prohibit the discharge of any pollutants into the storm drainage system, streams, lakes, or other surface waters.

Following the best management practices for the stone cutting industry that include the proper handling, storage and disposal of materials can prevent water pollution from your business and prevent fines.



VIOLATIONS OF THESE ORDINANCES COULD RESULT IN LOCAL FINES OF UP TO \$10,000 PER DAY, PER EVENT.

For More Information



To get more information on storm water rules and regulations regarding the stone cutting industry call 311 or visit <http://stormwater.charmeck.org> and click on "Surface Water Quality" then "Pollution Prevention".

Following the tips in this flyer can help stop storm water pollution.

Good Housekeeping



- Use proper ventilation and filtering to prevent the escape of dust and sediment that can contaminate storm water.
- Maintain pre-treatment systems, pumps and hoses in good working condition in order to prevent wastewater discharges.
- Sweep or vacuum up sediment and other pollutants in outdoor areas to minimize storm water contamination.
- Keep spill cleanup materials on hand to prevent spilled products and wastewater from entering the storm drain system.

Materials and Waste Storage

- To prevent contact with storm water, store all potentially hazardous or polluting materials indoors if possible, or under cover if stored outside.
- If you have a wastewater pre-treatment system that involves sediment settling, regularly clean out settling tanks and properly store the waste where it won't discharge into the storm drain system.



Wastewater Management



- Never dispose of wastewater from the stone cutting process into storm drains or onto the ground. Always discharge into the sanitary sewer system with proper pre-treatment in place.
- Do not wash down stone cutting areas where discharge to the storm drain will occur. Either conduct dry cleanup such as sweeping or wash such areas into a drain leading to the sanitary sewer.
- Wastewater generated from the washing of equipment and tools must only be discharged to the sanitary sewer and not the storm drain system. This is true even if no soap or chemicals are used in the washing process.
- Recycle/reuse as much water as possible from the stone cutting process.

Utilities Requirements

- Do not lift a sewer manhole to discharge wastewater - it is illegal to do so.
- Call 311 to check with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities about their requirements for discharge of wastewater to the sanitary sewer system. Special pre-treatment equipment will be required to remove sediment prior to discharge into the system.
- Additional limits apply, including limits on volume and pollution amounts.



Employee Training

- Train all employees upon hiring and each year thereafter.
- Post these Best Management Practices where employees can see them.
- Report illegal dumping by calling 311.

Visit stormwater.charmeck.org and click on "Surface Water Quality" then "Pollution Prevention" for more information.