

Stormwater Pollution Is Preventable

Outdoor events bring people together to enjoy a wide range of activities. However, the activities and equipment, combine with the high volume of traffic, create an increased potential for stormwater pollution. When rainwater flows across hard surfaces like parking lots, the water collects dirt, litter, and any other materials left or spilled. This unfiltered and untreated water is carried to stormwater conveyances such as storm inlets, road ditches, culverts and directly into our local water resources.

www.OmahaStormwater.org
402-444-3908



The City of Omaha Stormwater Program is a comprehensive program comprised of various elements and activities designed to reduce stormwater pollution and eliminate prohibited non-stormwater discharges.



Environmental Quality Control

402-444-3908

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Keep It Clean At Your Outdoor Event!

Best Management Practices For On-Site Stormwater Protection



Prevent Water Pollution At Your Next Event

When planning your next event, keep in mind the need to control the many sources of water pollution that will likely be present. These include portable toilets, grease from food preparation, pet waste, and the many sources of trash, litter, dirt, and sand. To prevent stormwater pollution, Best Management Practices (BMPs) should be implemented at your event. All employees and vendors should be held responsible for putting the following BMPs into practice:

- To minimize litter, provide enough trash cans and recycling containers to handle the expected attendance, and place all containers in accessible and visible locations. Directional signs may be helpful.
- Keep all trash cans, dumpsters, food and beverage totes, and grease bins closed and empty them regularly. Be sure the containers are sturdy and leak proof.
- Cigarette butts are litter! Provide appropriate receptacles for proper cigarette butt disposal.
- Be sure all animal waste (whether it be from dogs, horses, or other animals) is picked up and properly disposed of.
- Provide enough portable toilets for the expected attendance, and stake or anchor them down to prevent them from being tipped or blown over. Service the toilets frequently to prevent spills.
- Keep trash cans, portable toilets and fryers away from any stormwater conveyances such as inlets or ditches.
- Do not rinse or wash utensils and cookware outside.



- Properly dispose of grease into a collection bin. DO NOT dump grease down a storm inlet. Do not allow greasy items, including cooking appliances and utensils, to be exposed to any precipitation.
- Place cardboard or tarps under deep fryers and cooking areas to protect the pavement and prevent grease or other cooking scraps from entering a storm inlet.
- In case of a spill, have appropriate materials nearby for cleanup, including absorbents and rags. Be sure to pick up and properly dispose of these materials.
- In the event of a large spill entering a storm inlet, notify the **City of Omaha Sewer Maintenance Division at 402-444-5332, or after-hours call Public Works dispatch at 402-444-4919.**
- When determining items for distribution as part of the event, consider packaging and the potential for it to become litter.
- Candy and other trinkets that may be thrown to the crowd during a parade should not be left on the ground.

- Leaves, grass clippings, and dirt that may be disturbed during the event should not be left near stormwater conveyances.
- Maintain all equipment to prevent leaks.
- Before and after your event, conduct site walkthroughs, including the adjacent areas like parking lots and green spaces, to address any potential sources of stormwater pollution.
- If the site owner permits pressure washing, all wash water (including solids and soaps) must be properly collected and NOT allowed to enter or be dumped into storm inlets.

Remember: Be prepared for unexpected wet weather – do not put off cleanup and maintenance efforts. Do not allow stormwater to be exposed to potential pollutants, so that many years of outdoor events can be enjoyed by all.