Industrial/Commercial Storm Water Pollution Prevention

Some general Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Industrial/Commercial sources to prevent storm water pollution include the following:

- Routinely pick up litter and debris in and around parking lots and buildings.
- Store chemicals and other materials inside or in a storm-resistant shelter.
- Have spill cleanup materials handy near the dumpster and loading dock areas.
- Do not place leaking containers or garbage bags into the dumpster.
- Keep dumpster lids closed to keep out rainwater and prevent trash from spilling out.
- Do not hose out dumpsters. Ask the service provider to switch out the dumpster for cleaning and to replace or repair leaking dumpsters.
- Clean floor mats, filters and garbage cans in a mop sink or floor drain, not outside.
- Dispose of wash waters into a mop sink or floor drain, not outside.
- If pumping rainwater from a construction site, direct the water to a grassy area. Water containing visible sediment should not be discharged to the street or storm drain.

Further Information

For additional information, please contact the Independence Water Pollution Control Department at (816) 325-7711.

Storm Water Runoff from Industrial and Commercial Establishments

Activities that take place outdoors at industrial and commercial establishments, such as material handling and storage, are often exposed to storm water. When it rains, storm water runoff may carry pollutants into nearby storm sewer systems and waterways. This can adversely impact water quality. To limit pollutants in storm water, the City of Independence is implementing a Storm Water Management Program.
Independent Storm Water Management Program

The City’s Storm Water Management Program is a requirement of the Independence Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit, which authorizes the discharge of storm water runoff into area waterways. The MS4 permit is required by Federal and State Clean Water Act regulations. The Independence MS4 permit was issued by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources on August 20, 2004. The goals of the City’s Storm Water Management Program are to reduce discharges of non-storm water into the storm sewer system and to reduce discharges of pollutants from the storm sewer system into local streams and rivers to the maximum extent practicable.

Industrial and Commercial Storm Water Management

One component of the Storm Water Management Program is directed toward controlling pollutants from industrial and commercial facilities. The MS4 permit requires the City to implement an inspection program and runoff monitoring for industrial and other high risk runoff sources. The City’s MS4 Regulations provide authority for inspection and monitoring activities and include requirements applicable to industrial and commercial sources.

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Regulations

Independence MS4 Regulations are located in Article 8, Chapter 7, of City Code and can be viewed online at http://www.ci.independence.mo.us/wpc/codes.stm. Provisions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- **Industrial Users of the MS4.** This section establishes recordkeeping and other requirements for industrial sources.
- **Illicit Discharges.** Non-storm water is prohibited from discharge to the MS4, except as allowed under City Code.
- **Spills, Dumping, and Disposal of Materials Other Than Storm Water.** Causing pollution of waters conveyed by the MS4, streams or rivers is prohibited. This section also includes requirements for:
  - Preventing accidental discharges;
  - Notifying the Water Pollution Control Department of spills and accidental discharges of significant materials;
  - Posting emergency telephone numbers for reporting spills.

State Permits for Industrial Storm Water Runoff

Some businesses are required to obtain a State permit for storm water discharge, depending on the industrial classification. To determine if your business needs a storm water permit, you may refer to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources technical bulletin, “The Storm Water Issue,” found at http://www.dnr.mo.gov/oac/pub223.pdf. If industrial materials or activities are not exposed to storm water, your business may qualify for an exemption from State storm water permitting requirements. A fact sheet and guidance document regarding this exemption and the No Exposure Certification form are available at http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/exposure.cfm. To request the exemption, complete the No Exposure Certification form and send it to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Kansas City Regional Office, 500 NE Colbern Road, Lee’s Summit, MO 64086. For additional information on State storm water requirements, you may call the Regional Office at (816) 622-7000.