



PAINTING AND BLASTING ACTIVITIES – BMP FACTSHEET 2.8



U.S. ARMY GARRISON FORT BELVOIR, VIRGINIA

Definition and Purpose

To prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to stormwater. To provide guidance on the correct procedures, operations, and pollution prevention practices when performing painting and blasting activities. The goal of regulating these procedures is to prevent unnecessary and unlawful discharges of harmful pollutants into our waterways. Facility owners will be required to comply with various safeguard requirements as per the new VAR0092771 Industrial Stormwater Permit.



It is very important to follow the proper procedures and guidelines that will be discussed in this factsheet so that byproducts of painting and blasting **do not** come into contact with stormwater. If proper procedures are not followed, harmful pollutants can migrate by means of stormwater run-off into our natural waterways.

Approach

The new permit authorizes certain new and existing discharges of stormwater to receiving waters in accordance with your facility's effluent limitations and includes the development and implementation of BMPs (Best Management Practices). In order to ensure BMPs are being implemented, visual inspections and sampling of stormwater outfalls will be performed periodically and during the course of the SWPPP annual inspections and permit driven inspections.

Existing and New Facilities: When complaint investigations or routine stormwater audits for current facilities indicate impacts to water resources due to poor management practices, ENRD can evaluate and provide guidance when taking action to address any problems identified. Infrastructure and equipment, in addition to BMP implementation, are evaluated during inspections. To minimize the potential for compliance issues and to reduce liability, the recommendations in this document should be followed at all times.



Painting and Blasting Activities and Potential Pollutants

A fresh coat of paint on buildings and outside fixtures keeps a business looking good. However, it is important to remember that blasting particulates, paints, and solvents, cause sediment accumulation and contain chemicals that are harmful to wildlife and humans. Proper handling, storage, and disposal of these products can prevent pollutants from entering storm drains and causing water pollution.



Apply Best Management Practices (BMPs)

When performing ANY painting or blasting activity ALL of these BMP Guidelines MUST be followed:

- Secure paint and chemicals during transport to avoid spills.



- Use less toxic, water-based paints whenever possible. Look for the words “latex” or “cleans up with water” on the label.
- Never clean paintbrushes/rollers or rinse out paint containers in the street or near a storm drain.
- Filter and reuse thinners and solvents when cleaning up oil-based paints.
- Use tarps to catch drips and spills. Clean up spills immediately with absorbent rags.
- When grinding or blasting to remove old paint, spread a tarp below the work area to collect dust and paint chips. Cover nearby storm drain inlets and avoid using hoses or blowers.
- Never dispose of unused paint in the street or storm drain.

- Sweep, vacuum, shovel, and if necessary, use absorbent materials to collect particulate wastes not contained on tarps.

Waste Disposal

- Water-based paint can be washed off in any internal sink that is connected to the sanitary sewer system.



- Treat leftover cleaning fluids, materials, and oil-based paints as hazardous waste and dispose of them properly. Refer to Fort Belvoir’s Hazardous Waste Minimization and Management Plan for information on how to dispose of unused oil-based paints and solvents.
- Collect and Dispose of debris from all grinding and blasting in the garbage.
- Recycle, return to the supplier, or donate unwanted water based (latex) paint. Dried latex paint and empty paint cans may be disposed of in the garbage. Ensure paint cans remain under cover while drying



For questions and additional information
contact DPW / ENRD at
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