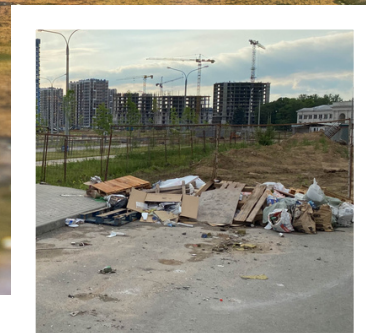


WASTE NOT, POLLUTE NOT...

SMART STORAGE FOR CLEANER WATER

Improper storage of waste and materials at commercial facilities can lead to leaks, spills, and runoff—carrying harmful pollutants straight into storm drains and local waterways. Preventing pollution is not only good for the environment—it protects your business from violations and promotes a safer, cleaner community.

Top BMPs for Material & Waste Storage

- Dispose of materials responsibly – never dump into storm drains.
- Keep materials under cover and in sealed containers.
- Inspect for leaks or damage regularly.
- Mark all containers to avoid mix-ups.
- Tidy up any spills right away.
- Prevent rain from reaching stored waste.
- Separate hazardous materials from storm drains.



**Think Inside the Box:
Safer Material Storage**

THINK BLUE
MASSACHUSETTS

Learn more online:
ThinkBlueMA.org



BMPs for Waste and Material Storage

Most of the Best Management Practices (BMPs) identified below are non-structural and cost little or nothing to implement. This listing is not all-inclusive and other non-structural and structural BMPs can be implemented to further reduce the potential of contributing to stormwater pollution.

DO'S

- Store all waste and raw materials indoors or under secure, watertight cover.
- Place secondary containment (like trays or berms) under liquid containers to catch spills or leaks.
- Label hazardous materials and ensure Safety Data Sheets (SDS) are accessible to staff.
- Keep outdoor dumpsters closed and inspect them regularly for leaks.
- Train staff on proper disposal and material handling protocols.
- Keep spill kits stocked, visible, and accessible in all material handling areas.

DON'TS

- Leave containers uncovered or exposed to rain.
- Place waste or materials directly on bare ground or near storm drains.
- Mix incompatible materials that could react or cause contamination.
- Ignore signs of leakage or corrosion on storage containers.
- Overfill dumpsters or allow waste to spill out onto surrounding surfaces.
- Dispose of liquids in dumpsters or storm drains.

***Think Blue Means
Clean Water for You!***

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