

Maintenance facilities store a variety of raw materials and refuse that may be harmful to the environment if significant quantities are released in storm water runoff. These materials include:

- Vegetative debris and mulches
- Road abrasives, salt, sand and cinders
- Aggregates, asphalt and concrete products
- Chemically-treated wood products
- Trash and debris

The use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) described below can reduce or eliminate the release of sediments and pollutants from these materials.

BMP Goals

The goals of the outdoor storage of raw material and refuse BMPs are: sediment control; preventing leaching of chemicals from asphalt, treated wood, and other raw materials and refuse that contain potentially hazardous materials; and protecting storm drain systems or watercourses from receiving such pollutants.

General Operational Procedures

- Avoid storm water run-on. Store materials out of storm water flow paths, as practical.
- If possible, store materials away from drain inlets.
- Where feasible, cover the storage area with a canopy or roof that is designed to direct the runoff away from the storage area. When permanent cover is unavailable, in the event of rain, cover materials with a tarp or plastic sheeting or implement sediment control devices. Tarps or plastic can be held down with permanent tie downs or sand bags.
- Another good BMP is to protect the storm drainage system from sediment with sand bags, geotextile dams, filtration socks, berms, or straw bales.



GOOD Cover: Temporary cover held down with sand



BETTER Cover: Tarp with permanent built-in tie downs.



BEST Cover: Permanent pole barn cover above storage bunkers.

Other Recommended Practices

- Cover materials such as asphalt, salt, and chemically-treated wood, in the event of rain and when practical, to prevent leaching of pollutants to the storm drain.
- Inspect storage areas regularly.
- Maintain storage containers.
- Promote good housekeeping practices (see the May 1998 Maintenance Bulletin for more details).
- Regulate inventory to avoid over-stocking of materials.
- Review special requirements for outdoor hazardous material and waste storage in the March 1998 Maintenance Bulletin.
- Sweep surfaces where materials are tracked, spilled, or blown from the storage area.

A low rolled asphalt concrete berm in front of the material storage bunker can contain sediment within the covered bunker.



Storage bunker with berm, straw bale and sand bags to

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Storm Water Management Practices for Outdoor Storage of Raw Materials

Additional information is available in the Caltrans Maintenance Manual, Chapter C-6, or from your District Maintenance Storm Water Coordinator. Questions or comments may be directed to Jack Broadbent, Maintenance Storm Water Coordinator, (916) 653-0361