

How concrete affects water quality



The EPA considers concrete in its liquid state to be an environmentally-hazardous material. Concrete has an extremely high alkaline content (has a high pH value), and can seriously damage the municipal storm sewer system, streams, rivers and lakes if not properly discarded. It is illegal to wash out concrete trucks in an area where liquid concrete or concrete dust could enter a storm drain.

The City of Hot Springs Stormwater Division has educated contractors and construction superintendents on the required procedures for providing concrete washout facilities on job sites.



City of Hot Springs STORMWATER HOTLINE (501) 321-6808



The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) recognized The City of Hot Springs as the first "Qualifying Local Program" (QLP) in the state.

STORMWATER Division

City of Hot Springs
Stormwater Division
Post Office Box 700
Hot Springs, AR 71902

Office (501) 321-6773
Fax (501) 321-6868
mstelli@cityhs.net



GUIDELINES FOR CONCRETE TRUCK WASHOUTS, DEWATERING AND CONCRETE SAW CUTTING

STORMWATER
Division

Concrete truck washout guidelines

Washout facilities should be located a minimum of 50 feet away from any storm drain inlets, open drainage ditches, and water courses.

A sign should be installed adjacent to each washout facility to inform concrete equipment operators to utilize the proper facilities.

Washout of concrete trucks should be performed in designated areas only.

Only concrete from mixer truck chutes should be washed into the concrete washout facility.

Concrete washout from concrete pumper bins can be washed into concrete pumper trucks and discharged into designated washout areas, or properly disposed of off site.

Once concrete wastes are washed into the designated facility and allowed to harden, the concrete can be broken up and safely discarded.



Concrete Saw Cutting



Concrete saw cutting can result in a large amount of hazardous material entering the storm sewer system.

Best management practices (BMPs) must be implemented to protect the storm sewer system and reduce pollutants from entering the system.

Dewatering Activities



EPA, ADEQ, and The City of Hot Springs requires that all discharged water associated with dewatering activities must be processed through a filtering device before entering a storm sewer system. Filter bags, (as pictured above) gravel, fiber rolls, or grassy areas may be utilized to improve water quality.

What you can do

Concrete company owners and managers should educate their operators on concrete washout rules and techniques.

Work with your clients. Ask them, prior to delivery, if they have a designated washout area.

Try to pinpoint the washout area prior to the pour so that time won't be wasted searching while the concrete in the chute hardens.

If no washout facility is provided, have a simple bermed washout area constructed.

Help us keep Hot Springs' creeks, streams and lakes the most beautiful in the country!

