

STORM WATER (NON-CONSTRUCTION)

Introduction

Arizona State University (ASU) generates storm water through a number of sources and enters "waters of the State". Discharges to surface water are controlled under regulations promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ). In Arizona, ADEQ is authorized to carry out the Federal program.

This fact sheet provides guidance based on applicable regulations and ASU's site specific permit. The permit prohibits certain types of pollutants from entering storm water that is discharged to waters of the State.

Applicable ASU Policies

- ASU Environmental Health & Safety Management Policy
- ASU Storm Water Management Plan (ADEQ General Permit AZG2002-002). Refer to link: <http://www.asu.edu/fm/stormwater.htm>

Applicable Regulations

- 40 CFR Part 122 - EPA Administered Permit Programs: The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
- Arizona Administrative Code 18 A.A.C. 9, Article 3
- Maricopa County

Summary of Requirements

In 1987, Congress amended the Clean Water Act that requires the development of a storm water permitting program by the USEPA. The agency requires permits for the discharge of pollutants into surface and groundwater under its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. This program was expanded to address storm water issues.

The regulatory program regulates the largest storm water discharges including discharges associated with industrial activity from medium and large municipal separate storm sewer systems from entities already permitted under the NPDES program, and other discharges that contribute to a violation of water quality standards that are considered significant contributors of pollutants. Recognizing that the permitting of over 100,000 entities would pose significant resource requirements, two types of permits were provided. General permits were established for the large majority of industrial dischargers. The regulations specify the types of discharges that may qualify for a General Permit. An entity must file a Notice of Intent (NOI) with the regulatory agency who will make a final determination regarding the issuance of a General Permit.

The General Permit contains standard requirements and limitations including the preparation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan. General Permits are available for industrial activities, construction activities and specific industrial/commercial sectors.

In some cases, the agency may require that a regulated entity obtain an Individual Permit. To obtain such a permit, the entity must file a site specific application that identifies the discharge points, the receiving water body, the flow rates and pollutant information. The regulatory agency reviews the information and establishes site specific pollutant discharge permits and issues an Individual Permit. ASU holds a General Permit that contains specific monitoring and reporting requirements based upon the ASU's activities and discharge points.

In Arizona , ADEQ is authorized and administers the NPDES permit program for the USEPA. ASU provides annual reports to ADEQ who is responsible for enforcement activities. Under the permit, ASU may not discharge toxic or radioactive substances, sewage, nutrients, foam and other pollutants which may cause a deleterious effect on water quality. ASU Tempe campus has retention areas for storm water that eventually drain to the Salt River; ASU West has a detention area (100-year, 2-hour storm) that drains to the Sweetwater Avenue and eventually drains to Aqua Fria River ; ASU Polytechnic drains into East Maricopa Floodway through the North Perimeter Channel. At this time, a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) has not been established to the receiving waters. Also, none of these areas are listed on the Arizona 303(d) list. Therefore, ASU is not sampling and analyzing discharges at this time.

Inspections

ASU evaluates program compliance, the appropriateness of identified Best Management Practices (BMPs) and progress towards achieving identified measurable goals on a regular basis.

Recordkeeping

Records must be maintained of all inspections, equipment calibrations, monitoring activities and laboratory analyses for a minimum period of three years.

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