

Subject: Concrete Washout

# COMPLIANCE CONNECTION

Volume 7

## Washout Procedure

- Avoid leaving excess mud in the chute or hopper
- Scrape as much material from the chute as possible
- Stop washing out if you observe water running off the designated area or if the containment systems is leaking or overflowing
- Do not back flush equipment at the project site
- Never use additives such as solvents or cleaners on site
- Use as little water as possible
- Wash from the top down, starting with fins and load hopper

### FREE

Concrete washout training videos and booklets are available from both Stormwater Management and the Indiana Ready Mix Association. Video may also be accessed at the websites for both.

**For More Information,  
Contact::**

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## IMPLEMENTATION OF SWPPP

Your Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) requires a designated concrete washout area be provided. The discharge of untreated waters or contaminated stormwater violates the Federal Clean Water Act and can subject the discharger to fines of up to \$25,000 per day of violation. Such fines can be levied against the developer, contractor, ready mix driver, plant of origin, or all these individuals collectively.

The washout location must be sited so that heavy rainfall or rapid snow melt will not carry wastes into local surface or ground waters. The location chosen should not impact future land development.

Design plans include specifications for the concrete washout area. Site managers should have the flexibility to



change the locations according to the progress of work. It should be accessible to trucks, pumps, and tools.

Uncured concrete and associated liquids are highly alkaline which may leach into soil and contaminate ground water. Elevated pH levels are harmful to aquatic life.

Accumulation of washout in storm drain systems causes blockages and expensive repair of conveyance systems.

***Convenience is the key  
to success.***

## WASHOUT REQUIREMENTS (IDEM STORMWATER QUALITY MANUAL)

### Prefabricated Washout Systems:

- Self-contained
- Delivered to site
- Maintain according to manufacturer's specifications

### Designed or Installed Systems:

- **Below Grade:**
- Minimum 10' x 10'
- Polyethylene lining

should be sized to extend over the entire excavation

- Include a min. 12" freeboard to prevent overtopping
- Minimum 10 mil lining

### Above Grade:

- Minimum 10' x 10'
- Polyethylene lining should be sized to extend over the entire excavation
- Design may utilize an

earthen berm or straw bales, or other acceptable barriers that will maintain shape and support lining

- Min. 4" freeboard

### All Washout Systems:

- Signage, clearly marked
- Orange safety fencing or equivalent
- 10 mil lining, free of holes or tears
- Watchful inspection