

## Control, Contain, Capture

**Control:** Control mechanisms are processes and tools that allow you to manage your work area. This can be as simple as sectioning off your activity into smaller units, sweeping up debris, using a mop instead of a hose, or using a trigger nozzle instead of allowing water to run from a hose.



**Contain:** Contain your work area by isolating debris and pollutants. Containment could include blocking water and/or debris from leaving the area and entering the storm drain. Use gravel bags, sandbags, straw wattle or a silt fence to prevent a potential discharge from leaving the area.



**Capture:** Capture all of the potential water and/or debris by using a wet-vacuum or washout area and sweeping or vacuuming up debris. Once the job is completed be sure to clean up the area and properly dispose of the debris.

## Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Reduce pollution and improve water quality by following these BMP tips:

- Avoid using water to clean outside areas.
- Sweep surfaces regularly and place waste in a dumpster or trash can.
- Do not allow concrete, paints, chemicals, dirt, or gravel to enter the storm drain system (curb, gutter, sidewalk, street, drain, or inlet).
- Store all materials on-site; not in the public right-of-way.
- Contain and cover materials to prevent leaks, spills and to keep them dry.
- Store containers and bagged materials on pallets rather than directly on the ground.
- Provide erosion control such as straw wattle, straw bales, or silt fences to prevent sediment from leaving the site.
- Protect storm drain inlets from debris and wash water runoff.
- Provide a stabilized entrance and exit for vehicles to prevent tracking dirt off-site by using gravel or corrugated steel plates. Clean plates regularly and replace gravel when no longer effective.
- When washing equipment or tools, prevent wash water from leaving the site by establishing a washout area to contain all liquids.
- Waste material should be properly disposed of and roll-off boxes and trash bins covered at the end of each day.

**To report a storm water issue at  
UNT send an email to:  
[stormwater@unt.edu](mailto:stormwater@unt.edu)**

# Storm Water Fact Sheet



[stormwater@unt.edu](mailto:stormwater@unt.edu)

## Regulations

It is illegal to discharge construction debris or wash out materials such as paint, concrete, slurry, mortar, stucco, plaster, oils or chemicals into the stormwater conveyance system or any receiving water







## Dirt and Grading

Dirt and gravel stockpiles on site should be managed for dust control and covered or stabilized during or prior to rain events. Stabilize bare slopes with erosion control materials such as straw wattles, hay bales, or erosion control blankets.



## Construction Waste

Construction sites and home repair can be sources of illegal discharges into the storm drain system. Construction waste, such as concrete, paint, chemicals or sediment, trash and debris, can be hazardous to the City of Denton community, residents, and the environment should any of these enter into the storm drain system.



## Washout Area

The disposal of “wet” construction materials (paint, stucco, concrete) should be handled in a washout area. Be sure to designate the washout area before materials arrive. A washout area provides a space in which tools and equipment can be cleaned while containing the wash water and residue on site. Use a berm with an impervious liner to contain the wet materials and prevent runoff. Avoid placing a washout area near a storm drain inlet. All dried materials should be disposed of at the end of the day.



## Keep Pollutants Out of Storm Drains

Many people believe that when water flows into a storm drain it is treated, but the storm drain system and the sanitary sewer system are not connected. Everything that enters the storm drain flows untreated directly into our creeks, rivers, lakes, bays, beaches and ultimately into the ocean. Storm water often contains pollutants, including chemicals, trash, and automobile fluids, all of which pollute our waterways and harm fish and wildlife.



Help reduce pollution and improve water quality by using Best Management Practices (BMPs) as part of your daily clean up and maintenance routine.