

STORMWATER GUIDELINES FOR SPECIAL EVENTS



City of Phoenix
Only Rain In The Storm Drain 



PHOENIX CITY CODE

Event organizers are responsible for complying with Phoenix City Code, Chapter 32C, *Stormwater Quality Protection*, which prohibits discharging anything other than rainwater into the storm drains. This flyer includes tips to make sure that events follow city code and put practices in place to ensure that only rain goes in the storm drain.

POLLUTION PREVENTION

Water that flows into the storm drain system does not go to a treatment plant, like sanitary sewer water does. Instead, it flows directly into our rivers, lakes, washes, and other surface waters. Stormwater pollution is easily prevented by ensuring that materials such as detergents, paints, grease, fats, oils, trash, or mop and dish water are properly managed, and **NEVER** make their way into parking areas, streets, and storm drains.

POLLUTION PREVENTION

Best Management Practices (BMP's) are measures put in place to prevent potential pollutants from entering the storm drain. As an event organizer, you will need to implement BMPs to protect the storm drain, and may need to submit a Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP), based on your potential to discharge pollutants to the storm drain system. Below are examples of effective BMP's that you may use.

Below are examples of effective BMP's that you may use. Keep in mind that these examples are non-exhaustive, and you are expected to develop and implement your own BMP's that are applicable to your specific event.

- Train event staff, volunteers, and vendors on stormwater pollution control measures.
- Place wattles or other filtering and absorbent material over storm drains for the duration of your event.
- Create and clearly label spill-kit stations comprised of a dry cleanup method (sawdust, kitty litter, etc.), a broom, and a disposable bag.
- Properly contain/dispose all grease used by food vendors.
- Place fluids of five-gallons or more in secondary containment, away from storm drains, and cover when not in use.
- Place temporary tarps to catch any potential pollutants so they may be collected and disposed of properly.
- Notify the City of Phoenix of significant spills in the street or storm drains before, during, or after your event.
- Sweep your event site on a regular basis.
- Vendors must not discharge waste into the storm drain or sanitary sewer. Discharges from food vendors must be plumbed to a grease trap before discharging into the sanitary sewer.

EVENT BARRIERS

Due to Homeland Security stipulations, the City of Phoenix has new requirements for implementation of water-filled jersey barriers to protect crowds on City property during rallies, marches, and other such events.

USE CONSIDERATIONS

1. Fill containers with potable water.
2. Use best management practices, which include:
 - Sweeping up trash and debris prior to emptying the containers so garbage and sediment are not carried into the storm drain system.
 - Empty containers in a manner that does not damage or impact landscaping or create mud.
 - Be courteous of neighboring businesses and public perception.
3. Limit discharges up to 1,000 gallons. If more than 1,000 gallons is expected to be discharged in a single setup, notify the City a minimum of 10 days prior to the event for approval and a discharge permit.

For more information and the permit email ask.water@phoenix.gov.



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Failure to comply with Phoenix City Code, Chapter 32C may result in a Notice of Violation (NOV) and possible fines up to \$2,500 per day, per violation. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact the City of Phoenix Stormwater Management Section at (602) 256-3190, English or Spanish. To learn more about BMP's, please visit our website at www.phoenix.gov/stormwater.



CITY OF PHOENIX
WATER SERVICES DEPARTMENT
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