

Cleanup

- Never hose down dirty pavement or surfaces. Cleanup all spills and leaks using "dry" methods (with absorbent materials and/or rags), or dig up and remove contaminated soil. For disposal information contact Elko Landfill 775-777-7395.
- When cleaning up after driveway or sidewalk construction, wash concrete dust onto dirt areas, not down the driveway or into the street or storm drain.
- Petroleum spills (diesel, gasoline, hydraulic oil, etc.) to the environment of 25 gallons or more must be reported to the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection; Bureau of Corrective Actions at 775-687-9368 during normal business hours (8:00 am - 5:00 pm PST).
- Wash out concrete mixers and equipment only in designated wash-out areas, where the water flows into containment ponds.
- Never dispose of cement washout into driveways, streets, gutters, storm drains or drainage ditches.
- Sweep up dry spilled materials immediately. Never attempt to bury them or "wash them away" with water.

Employee & Customer Education

Please provide water quality training annually to your customers and employees. Providing education to others will help the City of Elko keep pollution out of storm drains.

Spill Response Agencies

Elko City Dispatch 775-777-7300

Report Illegal Dumping

Elko City Dispatch 775-777-7300

Recycling & Hazardous Waste Disposal

Elko Solid Waste Facility 775-777-7395

Report a Clogged Stormwater Drain

Elko Public Works - Street Dept. 775-777-7230



CLEAN
Water is
Accomplished by
Team Work
Education and
Responsibility

This brochure is one of a series describing storm drain protection measures.

Other brochures include:

Automotive Maintenance & Car Care

Tourism and Food Service Industry

Home Repair, Landscaping and Painting

For more information about storm water pollution contact

*City of Elko Engineering Department
775-777-7210*



*The information is provided through a grant from the
USDA; Natural Resource Conservation Service.*

Construction Industry

Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Driveways
Sidewalks
Parking



Construction Crews
Earthwork Contractors
Equipment Operators



Construction Inspectors
General Contractors
Developers
Home Builders



Stormwater Pollution

Prevention - Help Your Community Stay Clean

The City of Elko has two drainage systems; the sewers and the storm drains. The storm drain system was designed to prevent flooding by carrying excess rainwater away from city streets to the Humboldt River.

Sewer systems flow to the Water Reclamation Facility where it is treated. The storm drains flow directly to local creeks and the Humboldt River without treatment. Common sources of stormwater pollution are oil, fuel, and fluids from vehicles. Additional sources of water pollutants are heavy equipment, construction debris, sediments, and landscaping runoff containing pesticides or weed killers. Other materials include motor oil, antifreeze, and paint products that people pour or spill into a street or storm drain.

Stormwater pollution contaminates the Humboldt River, harming livestock and wildlife, including fish, waterfowl, and other animals. It also increases the risk of inland flooding by clogging gutters and catch basins.

An average rainstorm can cause several million gallons or more of polluted urban runoff to flow into the Humboldt River untreated. Even on a clear day, up to a hundred thousand gallons or more of concentrated polluted water may flow to the river, caused by careless use of domestic water.

The Best Management Practices (BMPs) will ensure a cleaner river, contribute to a more attractive city, as well as help to conserve water.



General Construction Problems

Construction sites are common sources of urban runoff pollution. Materials and wastes blown or washed into streets, gutters, or storm drains flow directly into the Humboldt River.

Sediment clogs the gills of fish, blocks light transmission, destroys fish spawning beds, harms native aquatic species, and increases reliance on less hardy stocked fish.

Sediment also carries with it other work site pollutants such as pesticides, cleaning solvents, cement wash, asphalt and car fluids like motor oil, grease and fuel. Poorly maintained vehicles and heavy equipment leaking fuel and oil on the construction site also contributes to river pollution.

Equipment Maintenance

Maintain all vehicles and heavy equipment. Inspect or repair as needed.

Conduct all vehicle/equipment parking, maintenance and refueling at one location away from storm drains.

Perform major equipment/vehicle repairs and cleaning off-site.

Use drip pans, absorbent materials or drop cloths for spills. Collect all used fluids, store in separate containers and dispose of properly, including recycling when possible.

Do not use diesel oil to lubricate equipment or parts.



Advanced Planning Prevent Pollution



In order to minimize erosion and sedimentation problems, have a sediment and erosion control program in place prior to construction activities.

Inform employees and subcontractors about stormwater requirements and their responsibility to prevent stormwater pollution.

Schedule excavation and grading activities for dry weather periods.

Control surface runoff to reduce erosion, especially during excavation.

Use gravel approaches to reduce the tracking of sediments on to streets where there is frequent truck traffic.

Prevent erosion by planting fast growing annual and perennial grasses. These will shield and bind the soil.

Do not remove trees or shrubs unnecessarily. They help decrease erosion.

During Construction

After breaking up paving, be sure to remove all material. Reuse them in other construction where allowed. Dispose of unused material at the Elko Solid Waste Facility.

Make sure broken pavement does not come in contact with rainfall or runoff.

Cover or dam storm drain openings during saw cutting.

Shovel or vacuum saw-cut slurry and remove from the site.

Dispose of small amounts of excess dry concrete and grout mortar in the trash.

Cover catch basins and maintenance holes when applying seal coat, slurry seal or fog seal.

Never wash excess materials from exposed aggregate concrete or similar treatments into streets, gutters, or storm drain. Collect and dispose of properly.

Collect and recycle excess abrasive gravel or sand.

