A-7: Food and Beverage Manufacturing and Storage

Stormwater runoff (rainwater and snow melt) is the largest source of pollution to our lakes, streams and Puget Sound. King County requires businesses to implement measures to protect our shared waters. If the requirements below do not prevent pollution, additional measures are necessary.

The following best management practices (BMPs) apply to the outdoor storage and/or processing of raw materials for food or beverage items prior to or after packing, processing, or sale, or that crush, cut, ferment, distill or shred food items for fermented beverages, juices, and other food and beverage products.

Additional BMPs may be required for wineries covered under the Washington State Department of Ecology's Winery general permit. Brewery, distillery, cidery general permits may be created by the Department of Ecology in the future. Contact the Department of Ecology's Northwest Regional Office at 206-594-0000 for more information.

Required BMPs – Temporary Outdoor Storage

- Train employees to keep a clean storage area.
- Store all food and beverage items in leak-proof containers. The edge of the container should be higher than the items stored within. Do not allow food items to drape over the side of the container.
- Make sure all outside materials that have the potential to leach or spill to the stormwater drainage system are covered, contained, or moved to an indoor location.
- For fruits, vegetables, and grains stored outside for a week or more, cover with a tarp or other waterproof material. Make sure coverings are secured from wind.
- Do not drain water or ice that was in contact with food or beverage items to the stormwater drainage system.
- Dispose of perished items in a timely manner.
- Stock cleanup materials, such as brooms and dustpans, near the storage area.
- Sweep and/or pick up dirt and food fragments daily. Place collected waste in covered leak-proof containers prior to disposal. Do not hose down the storage area to the stormwater drainage system. If water is used for clean-up, it must be collected and treated as wastewater.

Required BMPs – Processing

- Enclose the processing area in a building or shed or cover the area to prevent stormwater run-on. Pave and slope the processing area to capture the water used for cleaning, rinsing, and processing. Collect all wastewater and drain to a holding tank, the sanitary sewer or other treatment facility.
- Do not discharge the wastewater to the stormwater drainage system or to ground.

- If a holding tank is used for the storage of wastewater, pump out the contents before the tank is full and dispose of the wastewater to the sanitary sewer or an approved wastewater treatment system.

Required BMPs – Wineries, Breweries, Distilleries and Cideries

- Wastewater may not be discharged to the stormwater drainage system, surface waters or an on-site septic system.
- Implement a waste management plan that includes how to manage and dispose of all solid organic waste and wastewater created by production, cleaning, rinsing, and bottling and shall include the following:
    - Identification of all solid and liquid waste streams and what steps in the process they are generated;
    - How these waste streams will be collected, stored, and disposed of; and
    - Spill prevention and clean up procedures.
- Disposal options include:
    - Solid organic wastes
        - On-site composting
        - Off-site composting
        - Animal feedstock
    - Wastewater
        - Animal feedstock – contact Washington State Department of Agriculture for approval.
        - Sewer discharge – contact King County Industrial Waste for approval.
        - Land treatment systems – the controlled application of wastewater to irrigation lands for treatment. Irrigation to managed vegetation includes discharging to crops, landscaped areas, or other vegetated areas as long as the vegetation is healthy and maintained. Contact Washington State Department of Ecology for approval.
        - Infiltration basin: A structure where treated wastewater is discharged and allowed to infiltrate to ground. Contact Washington State Department of Ecology for approval.
        - Subsurface Infiltration: An onsite system that treats wastewater before discharging it to a drain field where additional treatment occurs. This is a separate system from a domestic onsite sewage system (septic system). Contact Washington State Department of Ecology for approval.

Supplemental BMPs

- Cover outdoor storage areas.
- Use a containment curb, dike, or berm to prevent off-site runoff from storage or processing areas and to prevent stormwater run-on

Additional Information

- Potential pollutants can include: nutrients, oxygen demanding substances, and sediment.
- *Stormwater Pollution Prevention Manual*, Chapter 3: Commercial and Multifamily BMPs
    - A-8: Storage of Solid Waste and Food Waste (Including Cooking Grease)
    - A-12: Cleaning or Washing of Food Service Areas and Equipment
- *Stormwater Pollution Prevention Manual*, Chapter 5: Information Sheets
    - Containment
    - Controlling and Collecting Contaminated Runoff
    - Covering
    - Disposal
- Contact the local sewer authority and the King County Wastewater Treatment Division Industrial Waste Section at 206-477-5371 for more information on disposal to the sanitary sewer system.

For more information or assistance contact the King County Stormwater Services at 206–477–4811 and visit kingcounty.gov/stormwater.