A-23: Wood Treatment and Preserving

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 wood treatment performed outdoors including storage of freshly treated wood materials outdoors. It includes permanent sites as well as temporary sites.

Large-scale commercial operations are required to have a stormwater National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit from the Washington State Department of Ecology.

Required BMPs

- Collect drips and spills using ground cloths or drip pans.
- Store portable containers of wood preservative compounds indoors or in a covered location with appropriate secondary containment when not in use.
- Hold dipped lumber over dip tanks until dripping ceases (if applicable).
- Store treated lumber in a covered and paved area until fully dry.
- Cover and contain the storage area to prevent stormwater from running into the covered area.
- Stormwater runoff from wood treatment and preserving areas may not be discharged to underground injection control (UIC) wells. For additional information, refer to BMP activity sheet A-57: Underground Injection Control (UIC).

Required Routine Maintenance

- Cover outdoor dip tanks when not in use.

Additional Information

- Potential pollutants can include: hydrocarbons—such as gasoline and diesel, metals, oil and grease, oxygen demanding substances, pH, sediment, and other pollutants.
- *Stormwater Pollution Prevention Manual*, Chapter 3: Commercial and Multifamily BMPs
    - A-3: Storage of Liquid Materials in Portable Containers
    - A-57: Underground Injection Control (UIC)
- *Stormwater Pollution Prevention Manual*, Chapter 5: Information Sheets
    - Containment
    - Covering
    - Spill Response and Cleanup Plan

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