

STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION

AN ILLUSTRATED SERIES TO HELP PREVENT STORM WATER POLLUTION

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#CS0016-76

Company Name: _____ Date: _____

Chemical Storage

The Construction General Permit and CASQA state that construction sites must, **“store chemicals in watertight containers (with appropriate secondary containment to prevent any spillage or leakage) or in a storage shed (completely enclosed)”**. The purpose of properly storing chemicals is to prevent pollutants from washing down storm drains and seeping into the underlying soil. A method to mitigate pollution from chemical contamination is to place secondary containment beneath chemicals to provide a second line of defense in case of a spill. Not only will a secondary containment catch any spilled chemicals, but it will keep your site in compliance as the pH range for storm water quality needs to be within a **pH range of 6.5-8.5**.

Constant spills from; stucco, mortar, cement, epoxy coatings, waterproofing, dam proofing, gypsum, lead, roof tiles, pesticides, fertilizers, and fuels are absorbed into the soil and are carried off by storm water into the drainage systems. The pH levels of these materials mixed with water surpasses the threshold, 6.5-8.5, and therefore need to be properly contained. In addition, any spills containing these chemicals needs to be cleaned immediately.



In the event of a semi-significant spill without secondary containment, superintendents need to be notified immediately. **Preventing leaks and spills is inexpensive with secondary containment. Treating and/or disposing of contaminated soil can be costly.** Secondary containment is essential, along with routine inspections and maintenance to act as a safety net for spilled chemicals.

- ❖ These photos display secondary containment to either store chemicals or execute cementitious activities to prevent contamination into the soil and storm water

