

# STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION

## AN ILLUSTRATED SERIES TO HELP PREVENT STORM WATER POLLUTION

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Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Rain Gauge

#### BMP Factsheet 7.3.2 Rain Gauge

The importance of rain gauges are paramount to Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) at all risk levels, including LUP sites. Rain gauges are required under the Construction General Permit (CGP) for record keeping purposes and visual monitoring for the entire duration of a project.

Rain gauges allow superintendents and SWPPP monitoring personnel to determine if a qualified rain event (QRE) has occurred. This is done by observing if 0.50 inches of precipitation has accumulated in the rain gauge within a 48-hour or greater period between rain events. The CGP delegates the daily record keeping to the discharger, which includes the documentation of the **time, date, and rain gauge readings**.

To assist in this task, SWPPP books should include a **rain gauge log under, "Weather Records"**. If such a document does not exist, Scott Environmental is able to provide a rain gauge log. Once the rain gauge reading has been recorded, accumulated rain should be emptied and gauge reset.

This is a rain gauge log that has been filled out **daily** to record rainfall totals.

| Rain Gauge Log Sheet          |              |          |                         |                   |
|-------------------------------|--------------|----------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Construction Site Name: _____ |              |          |                         |                   |
| WFOID #: _____                |              |          |                         |                   |
| Date (mm/dd/yy)               | Time (24 hr) | Initials | Rainfall Depth (inches) | Notes             |
| 5/15/15                       | 8:00         | BB       | 0"                      | 0% CHANCE OF RAIN |
| 5/16/15                       | 8:00         | BB       | 0"                      | 0% " " "          |
| 5/17/15                       | 8:00         | BB       | 0"                      | 20% " " "         |
| 5/18/15                       | 8:00         | BB       | 0.21"                   | 50% " " "         |
| 5/19/15                       | 8:00         | BB       | 0"                      | 0% " " "          |
| 5/20/15                       | 8:00         | BB       | 0"                      | 0% " " "          |
| 5/21/15                       | 8:00         | BB       | 0.69"                   | 80% " " "         |
| 5/22/15                       | 8:00         | BB       | 0.03"                   | 60% " " "         |
| 5/23/15                       | 8:00         | BB       | 0.00"                   | 0% " " "          |
| 5/24/15                       | 8:00         | BB       | 0.00"                   | 0% " " "          |
| 5/25/15                       | 8:00         | BB       | 0.00"                   | 0% " " "          |
| 5/26/15                       | 8:00         | BB       | 0.00"                   | 0% " " "          |
| 5/27/15                       | 8:00         | BB       | 0"                      | 0% " " "          |
| 5/28/15                       | 8:00         | BB       | 0"                      | 0% " " "          |

This is a **properly installed** rain gauge because it is 3-5 feet above the ground, level, and in an open area that should result in more accurate readings.



This is an **improperly installed** rain gauge because it is against a wooden post, thereby allowing indirect water to splash in and result in inaccurate readings.



When readings are unavailable, data from the closest rain gauge or publically available data such as the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) may be used. <http://www.noaa.gov/>. In addition, weekly weather reports should be printed and kept on site in the SWPPP book and monitored daily on NOAA for chances of rain over 50%.

If there is a 50% chance of rain, Scott Environmental will be on site within 48 hours of the rain event to perform a Rain Event Action Plan (REAP) inspection. REAPS are used to ensure all measures have been taken on site to prevent turbidity and pH exceedances.