

Operations and Maintenance Plan **For Public Parking Lots**

Updated August 2024

General

As part of the MS4 Stormwater Program, the City is required to develop and implement an operations and maintenance program to prevent or reduce pollutant runoff from public parking lots.

Training

Employees responsible for operations and maintenance of municipal facilities shall be provided sufficient training to identify and prevent or reduce stormwater pollution. New employees should be trained within 6 months of their hire date. Existing employees should have training or re-training at least once every 5 years.

Potential Pollutants

Potential pollutants on public parking lots are, but not limited to, the following:

- Mechanical fluids such as oil, grease, fuel, etc. from vehicles
- Metal brake dust from vehicles
- Spills from accidents
- Debris and trash
- Salt or other chemical use for safety during winter weather events
- Sediment
- Nutrients from fertilizer
- Pesticides or herbicides

It is important to collect, absorb, or prevent pollutants from being washed from the parking lot surfaces because they then enter the storm drain system. Once in the storm drain system, it is difficult to prevent the pollutants from reaching the streams within the City limits.

Operations

Spills and Vehicle Accidents

The Street Department should discuss spill prevention and cleanup with the Police and Fire Departments so that spills can be contained quickly before they reach the storm drain system. The Street and Fire Departments should have spill kits with absorbent material available at short notice. They should also have other devices such as spill

control booms or socks or other devices to place in swales and ditches or around storm inlets to stop the spill from reaching the storm drain system.

Trash and Debris Pickup

Trash and debris should be collected as noticed during normal day to day operations and when citizen complaints or information is provided. All collected trash and debris shall be disposed of properly. At least once a quarter during the year, the Street Department (and/or other departments) should make a specific detailed visual inspection of the parking lots to collect trash and debris. This could be done in conjunction with the storm drain system inspections.

Street Cleaning

If the City has a street cleaner/sweeper, a maintenance schedule should be created for a periodic cleaning/sweeping of the public parking lots. All collected material shall be disposed of properly.

Winter Weather Safety

While the use of salt or other chemicals to maintain safe parking lots during winter weather events are necessary, the operators of the equipment should be well trained in their use so that excessive salts or chemicals are not applied. The spreading of the salts or chemicals should be carefully applied near streams or near storm drain systems that discharge directly into a stream.

Erosion

The parking lots should be inspected on at least a quarterly basis for bare soil and erosion. The inspection can occur in conjunction with other routine operations and does not need to be a separate inspection. If bare soils or erosion are present, schedule needed repairs to occur in a timely manner.

Storm Drain System

See Public Street and Storm Drain System Operation and Maintenance Plan for any storm drain system in the parking lots.