

WHY ARE THERE NEW REQUIREMENTS?

The Clean Water Act addresses water pollution issues in many ways, one of which is by regulating stormwater runoff and discharges from construction sites.

Stormwater runoff is rain that flows over land and does not percolate into the soil. Stormwater runoff occurs naturally, in small amounts, from almost any type of land surface, especially during large storm events. Impervious surfaces, such as buildings, homes, roads, and parking lots can significantly alter the natural hydrology of the land by increasing the volume and velocity of the runoff which can cause severe stream bank erosion, flooding, and degrade the biological habitat of the streams.

The construction industry is a critical participant in the nation's efforts to protect streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands and oceans. Through the use of proper erosion and sediment control and stormwater management practices, construction site operators are the key defenders against stormwater impacts. Additionally, as storm water runoff moves across surface, it picks up trash, debris, and pollutants such as sediment, oil and grease, pesticides, and other toxins. Storm water and the pollutants it carries are deposited untreated into local bodies of water. In addition to environmental impacts, uncontrolled erosion can have a significant financial impact on a construction project. It costs time and money to replace vegetation, clean sediment-clogged storm drains and inlets, replace poorly installed BMP's and mitigate damage to other people's property or to natural resources.

Typically sediment runoff rates from construction sites are 10 to 20 times greater than those from agricultural lands and 1,000 to 2,000 times greater than those of forest lands. During a short period of time, construction activity can contribute more sediment to water bodies than is naturally deposited over several decades. The requirements of the Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) and subsequently the Construction General Permit aim to address these concerns.



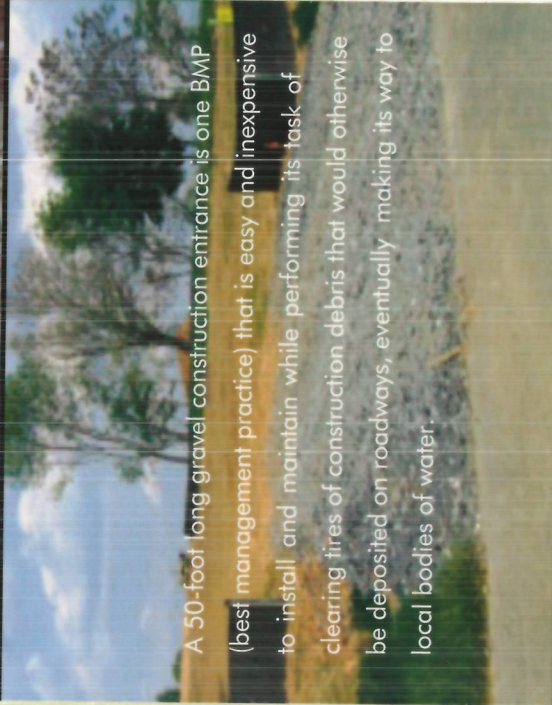
To learn more, please visit these Web sites:

www.iswm.nctog.org/index

www.cicacenter.org/swp2.html

www.tceq.state.tx.us/nav/permits/sw_permits.html

www.cfpub.epa.gov/ipdes/stormwater/swppp.cfm

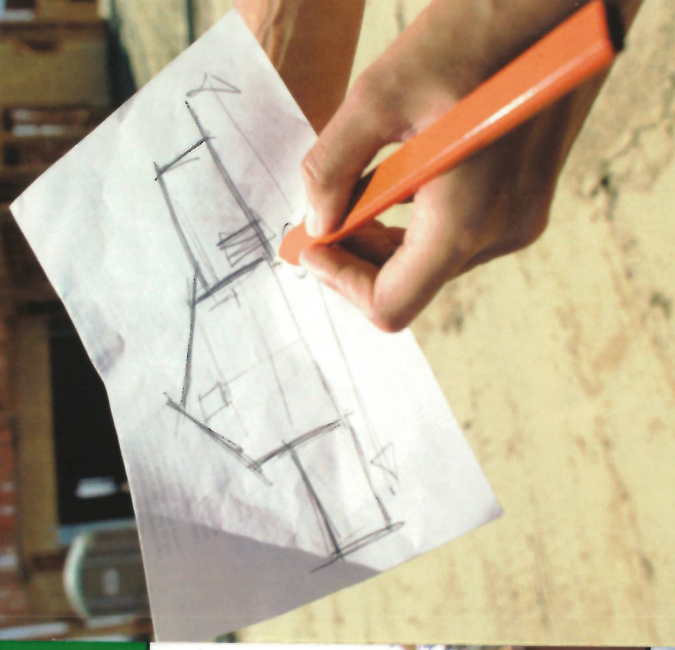
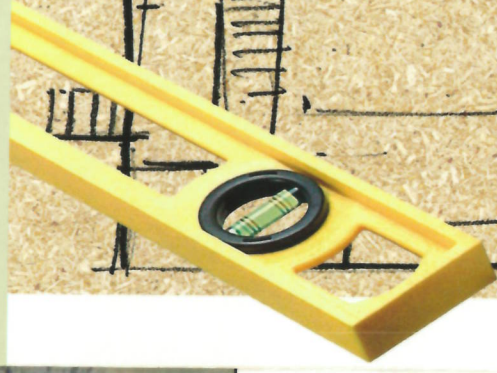


A 50-foot long gravel construction entrance is one BMP (best management practice) that is easy and inexpensive to install and maintain while performing its task of clearing tires of construction debris that would otherwise be deposited on roadways, eventually making its way to local bodies of water.

For questions concerning the requirements of the City of University Park, please call 214.987.5421 or visit the Storm Water Quality Management page of the City's Web site at www.uptexas.org.



New Requirements for Builders in University Park



WHAT IS A SWPPP?

A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, also known as a SWPPP or SW3P, is a site-specific written document that identifies potential pollutants at a construction site, defines specific practices for reducing pollutants in storm water discharges from the site, and identifies procedures and timelines for the implementation of best management practices that will be used to reduce pollutant discharges and comply with the conditions of the Construction General Permit TXR150000. In University Park, a SWPPP is required for all construction sites greater than one (1) acre.

A SWPPP IS A LIVING DOCUMENT AND CHANGES TO CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULES SHOULD BE REFLECTED IN YOUR SWPPP

WHAT SHOULD MY SWPPP INCLUDE?

(This is not an inclusive list of all SWPPP requirements, please see the Community Development Department for a complete list of requirements.)

- Site description, project and soil conditions, including maps
- List of potential pollutants
- Erosion Control Plan
- Anticipated construction schedule and phasing of BMP's
- Locations where storm water discharges from the site directly to a surface water body or to a MS4 (the City of University Park)
- Responsibilities of primary and secondary operators and owners
- Areas where soil disturbance will occur

