

## INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT PROGRAM BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR LABORATORIES



**Best Management Practices (BMPs) are enforceable procedures that your business performs to comply with wastewater regulations and prevent adverse effects at treatment plants.**



### ◆ Regulation

Dangerous and hazardous wastes are prohibited from being discharged to the sanitary sewer. It is your responsibility under federal, state and local law to designate, manage and dispose of each waste properly.

#### **BMPs**

- Designate each waste material to determine which are dangerous and what the hazards are. Helpful information on this process can be found at [ecy.wa.gov](http://ecy.wa.gov). Search keyword "designation." Some waste streams of concern include:

Solvents

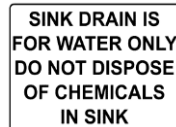
Alcohols

Explosive liquids

Caustic or corrosive cleaning solutions



- Wash waters, solvents and flammable liquids must be disposed of in accordance with the regulations set forth by the Washington State Department of Ecology.
- Post signs above all sinks and drains prohibiting discharge of unapproved wastes.



### ◆ Regulation

All industrial users of the sanitary sewer must comply with Prohibited Discharge Standards. In addition to explosive, oily or greasy, toxic, foamy, and smelly discharges, Prohibited Discharge Standards include wastewater with high or low pH, high temperatures, and viscous or solid content. Prohibited pollutants, substances, or wastewater shall not be processed or stored in such a manner that they could be discharged to the sanitary sewer. Prohibited Discharge Standards can be found online by searching "Spokane prohibited discharge standards" for Spokane and Airway Heights standards or "Spokane County industrial pretreatment program" for County standards.

#### **BMPs**

- Filter or settle solids from wastewater prior to discharge.
- Cool wastewater to less than 130° Fahrenheit (54° Celsius) before discharge.
- Check pH of wastewater and adjust before discharge. Businesses serviced by the City of Spokane must adjust pH to between 5.0 and 12.0. For businesses discharging to the County plant, pH must be between 5.0 and 11.0.
- Install secondary containment for all liquid storage, capable of holding 110% of the largest possible spill.
- Keep adequate spill prevention and clean-up materials on-site and available for use.
- Keep containers closed except when adding or removing materials.
- Immediately clean up spills and replace any leaking containers.
- Develop and implement written spill response procedures, and train employees.
- Clearly label all storage and waste container with content information.
- Limits can be found online at <https://my.spokanecity.org/smc/?Section=13.03A.0204> or <http://www.spokanecounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/1721/Local-Limits-PDF>

## Free Technical Advice Available for Environmental Compliance

The Local Source Control (LSC) program at Spokane Regional Health District (SRHD) visits small businesses that generate hazardous waste to evaluate their handling practices. Program specialists assess these businesses for regulatory compliance, while offering new and best management practices for improvements.

A visit from a pollution prevention specialist does not mean there is a violation or problem. If a practice needs improvement, the specialist will work with the owners to properly manage the pollutants. The goal of the program is to identify and control contaminants entering wastewater, groundwater and stormwater at the source. Technical assistance visits are offered without charge to small quantity generators. SRHD LSC specialists can be reached at 509-324-1560 ext. 3 or by email at: [pollutionprevention@srhd.org](mailto:pollutionprevention@srhd.org).

### Pollution Prevention Tips for Laboratories

These tips are not enforceable, but will help your business reduce its impact on the environment.

- Develop and follow a written Environmental Management Plan, periodically inspecting shop equipment and repairing defects.
- Use spigots, pumps, and funnels when pouring solvents and cleaners.
- Spot clean spills immediately. This will cause total floor cleaning to occur less often.
- Only allow wash water to enter your floor drain. Non-caustic, non-organic cleaners may be rinsed down the floor drain.
- Use environmentally preferable cleaning products.

### **If you have any questions about how to handle your wastewater, please contact us:**

City of Spokane Riverside Park Water Reclamation Facility	(509) 625-4600
Spokane County Regional Water Reclamation Facility	(509) 536-3703
Airway Heights Water Reclamation Plant	(509) 443-5667
Hazardous waste handling: Department of Ecology	(509) 329-3400
Hazardous spills: Spokane Fire Department	9-1-1

#### Large volumes of spills to a drain:

City of Spokane:	Sewer Maintenance	(509) 625-7900
	RPWRF	(509) 625-4600
Spokane County:	Sewer Maintenance	(509) 477-1984
	SCRWRF	(509) 536-3703

City of Airway Heights:	Public Works	(509) 244-5429
	AWHWRP	(509) 443-5667

#### Solid materials & recycling:

City of Spokane Solid Waste	(509) 625-7878
Spokane County Solid Waste	(509) 477-6800

Spokane Regional Health District Local Source Control  
or by email at: [pollutionprevention@srhd.org](mailto:pollutionprevention@srhd.org) 509-324-1560 ext. 3