



5. Employee Education

Employees can help prevent pollution when you include water quality training in employee orientation and reviews. Promote these Best Management Practices (BMPs):

Storage containers should be regularly inspected and kept in good condition.

1. Place materials inside rigid, durable, water-tight and rodent-proof containers with tight fitting covers.
2. Store materials inside a building or build a covered area that is paved and designed to prevent runoff from entering storm drains.
3. Place plastic sheeting over materials or containers and secure the cover with ties and weighted objects. (Not appropriate for storing liquids.)

Post BMPs where employees and customers can see them. Showing customers you protect the ocean is good public relations. Explain BMPs to other food businesses through your merchant associations or chambers of commerce.



Spill Response Agencies

Broward County DPEP

954-519-1499

To report illegal dumping call the same number

Hazardous Material Disposal

Pollution Prevention and Remediation Program

954-519-1468

If you are interested in finding out about water conservation, please try this Web page address www.everydropcounts.com



Board of County Commissioners

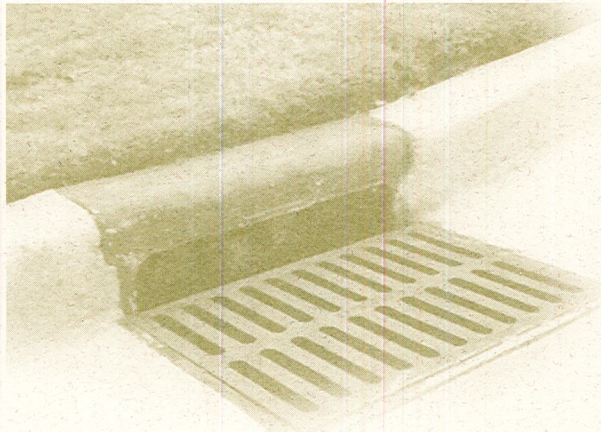
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This public document was promulgated at a cost of \$786.66, or \$0.174 per copy to inform Broward County food service business about proper liquid waste disposal.



Stormwater Best Management Practices for the Food Service Industry

Safe Environmental Habits & Procedures for:
Restaurants
Food Producers & Distributors
Grocery Stores
Bakeries



Only Rain Down the Drain

Did you know that every street in Broward County is like a water front property?

It's true. Just take a walk down your street. Before long, you will likely come to a storm drain. Water that runs down this drain flows directly into our waterways. It does not pass through the sanitary sewer system, and in many instances it does not receive any kind of treatment.

Whatever we put down these storm drains winds up in canals, the Intra coastal waterway, the Everglades and ocean where we fish, boat and swim.

Why bother keeping storm drains clean?

There are plenty of reasons to clean our drains clean, including aesthetic, recreational, ecological and legal motivations. Our beaches and the Everglades are beautiful amenities and add value to our region. Recreation such as boating, fishing and swimming would be eliminated if our waters are too polluted. Many native plants, birds, fish and wildlife depend on the environment for food and habitat. Clogged gutters and catch basins also increase the risk of inland flooding.

Food Industry Problems

The by-products of food-related business can harm the ocean and sea life if they enter the storm drain system.

Your business can cause harm to the environment if you put food waste in leaky dumpsters, do not clean up outdoor food or chemical spills, or if you wash outdoor spills into the storm drain system. Other routine activities such as cleaning oily vents and operating and maintaining delivery trucks are sources of pollution, unless proper precautions are taken. When it rains, motor oil that has dripped onto parking lots from business and customer vehicles is washed into the waterways via the storm drain system.

Oil and grease can reduce the oxygen level in water and increase the chances of a fish kill. Also, toxins found in oven and floor cleaners harm aquatic life in high concentration.

Solutions

Best Management Practices that include the proper handling, storage and disposal of materials can prevent pollution from entering the environment through the storm drain system

1. Minimize wastes

Use non-disposable products as much as possible. Serve food on reusable dishware rather than paper, plastic or styrofoam and use cloth napkins rather than paper ones. If you must use disposable products, use paper instead of styrofoam.

Buy the least toxic products available.

- Look for "non-toxic," "non-petroleum based," "free of ammonia, phosphates, dyes or perfumes," or "readily biodegradable" on the label. Avoid chlorinated compounds, petroleum distillates, phenol and formaldehyde.
- Use water-based products.
- Look for and use "recycled" and "recyclable" containers.

2. Keep Work Sites Clean

Cover, repair or replace leaky dumpsters and compactors. Rain or wet cleaning can wash oil, grease and substances into storm drains. Try sweeping or dry cleaning as much as possible. If you must use water after sweeping, block the storm drain or contain runoff and put the water in sanitary sewer with the permission of utility.

Wash greasy equipment such as vents and vehicles in designated wash areas with an appropriate oil/water separator before storing outside. Ensure that designated wash areas are properly connected to the sewer system or waste water collection system.

3. Recycle Wastes

Purchase recycled products. By doing so, you help ensure use of recyclable materials. Recycle the following materials:

- Food waste (non-greasy, non-animal food waste can be composted)
- Paper and cardboard
- Glass, aluminum and tin containers
- Pallets and drums
- Oil and grease

Separate wastes. Keep your recyclable waste in separate containers according to the type of material. They are easier to recycle if they are separated.

Recycle oil and grease wastes. Never dump them down storm drains or on the ground. Look in the yellow pages for "Renderers" or call one of the disposal numbers listed in the brochures.

4. Hazardous Material Disposal

Toxic waste includes used cleaners, rags (soaked with solvents, floor cleaners, drain cleaner and detergents), automotive products (such as coolant, brake fluid, radiator flush and used batteries), paint, pool chemicals, and bug spray. For disposal information call: **954-519-1468**