



STORMWATER BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP's)

RESTAURANTS AND FOOD SERVICES

Guidance for the Food Service Industry

The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO) is signatory to a regional *Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit* from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ). As such, SWBNO is obligated to prevent pollutants from entering the drainage system in order to mitigate the cumulative adverse effects of pollutants to any waters of the State; in particular Lake Pontchartrain, where the vast majority of stormwater from the East Bank of New Orleans is discharged. Our standard is that only rainwater is to be discharged to the storm drainage system. All other discharges are violations (unless regulated or permitted by SWBNO or LDEQ).

Stormwater Runoff is the Biggest Contributor to Water Pollution

Rainwater runs off streets, roofs, and parking lots, flows into the storm drain system without treatment, and is transported directly to Lake Ponchartrain.

Best Management Practices (BMP's) can be defined as schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the pollution of waters of the United States - *in New Orleans, Lake Pontchartrain and the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet.*

BMP's for Restaurants include:

- Clean up trash and litter in your area and encourage patrons to do so with well posted signs.
- Maintain dumpster area by not allowing leaks. Keep lids closed or locked when not in use.
- Pressure wash sidewalks with water only.
- Pressure wash greasy equipment in containment areas such as a small inflatable pool.
- Dispose of this wastewater in the mop sink or other conduit to the sewer. This applies to any washwater!
- Wash floor mats in a mop sink or indoors near floor drains that discharge to the sewer.
- Keep spent oil disposal area clean and inspect regularly for leaks or spills.
- Use dry, clean material (i.e. kitty litter) to absorb any oily or greasy spill. Dispose of this material with solid waste.
- Train employees on these techniques.

Implementing Best Management Practices makes you a better neighbor and citizen; and besides

IT'S THE LAW!