

Multi-Sector General Permit

Stormwater Best Management Practices for
**Sector W: Wood and Metal Furniture and
Fixture Manufactures**

Wood and Metal Furniture and Fixture Manufactures and the Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP)

The MSGP is a permit designed to prevent stormwater pollution from entering into surface waters. Stormwater pollution at furniture manufacturing facilities is unlikely if manufacturing processes relevant to furniture production take place indoors. However, loading and unloading activities and the outdoor storage of raw materials and waste are potential sources of stormwater contamination. Solvents, sediment, heavy metals and zinc, and oil are potential pollutants of concern.

BMPs reduce, eliminate or prevent stormwater pollution from reaching Vermont's rivers and streams

What is a Stormwater BMP?

Best Management Practices, commonly referred to as BMPs, are effective ways to reduce the amount of pollution in stormwater leaving your facility. There are two types of BMPs:

- Structural BMPs are things that can be built on site and include physical structures like berms, settling ponds, oil-water separators, and storm resistant shelters.
- Behavioral BMPs are changes that can be made in the way a person operates their business. Behavioral BMPs include conducting regular inspections, regular maintenance of vehicles and machinery, prohibition of certain activities, and employee training.

An effective Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will include both types of BMPs.

Stormwater BMPs for Wood and Metal Furniture and Fixture Manufactures — Sector W

The following list of suggested BMPs is organized by activity and area and can be included in your facility's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The BMPs cover the following operations:

- Outdoor Loading and Unloading
- Outdoor Storage Areas (Raw materials and Waste)
- Spill Prevention and Response
- Training



Outdoor Loading and Unloading

- Confine loading and unloading activities to a designated area.
- Conduct loading and unloading indoors or in a covered area.
- Inspect all containers for leaks and damage prior to loading and unloading.
- Avoid loading and unloading materials in the rain.
- All loading operations should occur on an impervious surface.
- Cover storm drains during loading and unloading activities.
- Arrange for an employee trained in spill prevention and response to be present during loading and unloading activities.
- Build berms and dikes around loading and unloading areas. Establish a flow diversion area that redirects stormwater away from loading docks and terminals.
- Grade areas designated for transportation so that stormwater run on from other areas is minimized.
- Use catch buckets, drop cloths, and other spill prevention measures when loading or unloading liquids.
- Provide paved areas to enable easy collection of spilled materials.



Outdoor Storage Areas (Raw Materials and Waste)

- Store materials or waste indoors or under cover.
- Confine storage of materials, parts, equipment, and waste to designated areas with existing containment and stormwater flow systems.
- Use curbing, berming or diking to redirect stormwater flow away from storage areas. Use materials that will not leach or erode.



- Minimize run-on of stormwater from offsite by grading the land around storage areas to divert flow away from containers.
- Store materials on elevated concrete pads or pave storage areas.
- Store wastes in covered, leak proof, water tight, non-corrosive containers. Locate dumpsters or drums under roofs or in a three sided structure.
- Develop a regular schedule for waste pickup.
- Convey contaminated waters to sediment basins or stormwater treatment ponds.
- Ensure that all containers are closed (e. g. valves shut, lids sealed, caps closed).

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- Store containers away from storm or floor drains. Plug or disconnect floor drains that lead to the facility's stormwater system.
- Berm or slope the impervious area surrounding tank or drum storage areas to a dead end sump.
- Install dikes or other physical barriers of sufficient height to contain 110 % of the volume contained in the tanks or drums.
- Label all containers with the name of the chemical, unit number, expiration date, handling instructions, and health or environmental hazards.
- Develop and maintain a working inventory of all chemicals present at the facility. Obtain a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for each one.

Spill Prevention and Response

- Develop a spill prevention and response plan that clearly states procedures to stop the source of a spill and outlines the disposal of contaminated materials.
- Use dry clean up methods (granular absorbents, oil dry, absorbent socks, booms, and pads).
- Avoid "washing down" areas where there has been a spill.
- Establish a regular schedule for hazardous waste pick up.
- Frequently inspect storage tanks and material storage areas for leaks.

- Locate spill kits in high activity and high risk areas such as fluid draining and liquid storage areas.

Training

- Inform employees of stormwater pollution sources, prevention, and applicable BMPs.
- Train employees in proper loading and unloading techniques. Instruct employees in proper waste control and disposal.
- Ensure that all employees are familiar with the facility's spill prevention and response plan.



Questions or Assistance with your Stormwater SWPPP, contact:

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