



City of Burbank
 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
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DISCHARGE PERMIT FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS

On November 8, 2012, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) adopted the Final Waste Discharge Requirements for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Discharges within the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles County. The City of Burbank is a Co-Permittee regulated under the State-issued municipal storm water permit, which regulates discharges of storm water and urban runoff to and from the City's municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4). The current MS4 Permit can be accessed at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/stormwater/municipal/index.shtml

The MS4 Permit essentially prohibits any non-storm water discharges from entering the City's storm drain system. However, certain discharges are allowed if appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) are implemented; these are known as conditional exemptions. One of the conditionally exempt non-storm water discharges is for discharges from routine maintenance of fire suppression systems (e.g. fire sprinklers), if specific Best Management Practices are implemented prior to, during, and following the discharge. Tables 1 and 2 contain the required BMPs in order to discharge water from fire suppression systems to the City's MS4.

CITY USE ONLY

Permit processed by _____

Approved Denied

Inspection or Follow-up Required? Yes No

Inspector Assigned _____

Comments _____

Table 1. Required BMPs for Discharges from Fire Suppression Systems, Routine Maintenance

BMP Number	BMP Description
1	Obtain a permit from the City if the discharge is >10,000 gallons.
2	Maintain records if the discharge is >1,500 gallons (see Attachment 1).
3	Conduct flows for the shortest duration possible.
4	Remove all debris from the curb and gutter before initiating flushing.
5	If chlorine residual is a concern, use dechlorination. Discharges must be dechlorinated before entering a storm drain. ^a
6	Whenever possible and when safe to do so without causing damage or erosion, contain flows onsite by directing the water to landscaped or green areas.
7	When practicable and with the permission of the local sewer agency, divert sprinkler system discharge to the sewer. The local sewer agency may have additional conditions.
8	Assess the following prior to any partial or full discharge of water from a vault, substructure or building fire system into the street or storm drain system: a. Ensure the water is not cloudy, discolored and/or has no unusual odor. b. Ensure the Fire Protection System water does not have chemical additives. ^b
9	Dischargers must minimize sediments and other debris entering a storm drain.
10	Determine the flow path of the discharge from the point of release to the inlet of a storm drain.
11	Implement drain inlet protection (see table below).

^a Many, if not most, testing and maintenance discharges will not have chlorine residual due to the age of the water in the system. If CWS water is introduced during testing and then discharged, it will require dechlorination. Methods of dechlorination include aeration and/or other appropriate means such as infiltration to the ground, bags, diffusers, and at sediment traps in drop inlets where controllable.

^b If it has been determined that chemicals have been added to the fire protection system the following actions must be taken: The water should be tested by an approved testing facility to determine the chemical and the proper treatment. Upon completion of the chemical report of the water test, the results should be submitted to the City to determine the approved discharge method and location of the water discharge. Examples of the discharge location may be storm drains, sewage system or to an approved treatment facility or plant. If chemicals are to be reintroduced into a system, proper signage should be provided for guidance. Note: The following conditions may require testing by an accredited laboratory for cloudiness, discoloration and odors (sewage, chemicals, solvents, gasoline, etc.). Turbid water due to rust and musty stagnation would be subject to BMPs for containment and sediment control.

Table 2. Required BMPs for Storm Drain Inlet Protection

BMP Number	BMP Description
1	Before the drain event, check to be sure the fire protection system discharge does not interfere with or delay repairs or corrective actions undertaken by the MS4 agency.
2	Prior to the release, evaluate and determine the appropriate BMPs to use.
3	Where appropriate, place bags to either completely or partially surround drain inlet. The number of bags used will vary depending upon site conditions and the resources available. Protection should be installed around all affected drain inlets within reason. Several bags may need to be stacked on top of each other to produce the desired protection.
4	Remove grate from drain inlet and ensure that it is clear and clean of debris.
5	If appropriate, place filter bag insert so that edges are secured when grate is replaced.
6	Periodically inspect and adjust bags. Because filter bags clog quickly, pay particular attention to water backing up around the drain inlet. Where necessary, either replace the bags frequently or adjust upstream sediment dams to provide more sediment removal prior to drain inlet.
7	When the discharge is complete, allow any water that is ponded behind the dams to drain.
8	Clean the flow path and upstream dams to remove residual sediment from the street.
9	Retrieve all control equipment and remove temporary drain inlet bag.

I. Required Information:

Today's Date	
Responsible Party	
Phone Number	
Address/Location of Discharge	
Location of Nearest Storm Drain Inlet	
Date and Time of Anticipated Discharge	
Duration of Discharge	
Estimated Volume of Discharge	

II. Best Management Practices to be implemented:

1. How will the pathway to the storm drain inlet be cleaned?

2. Does the water contain chlorine? Yes No

3. How will the water be dechlorinated?

4. How will you minimize the discharge of water to the storm drain system?

5. Are there other chemical additives in the water to be discharged?

6. How will the storm drain inlet be protected?

Attachment 1

RECORD KEEPING AND NOTIFICATION FORM DISCHARGES FROM WATER-BASED FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS

DIRECTIONS:

Discharges less than 10,000 gallons but greater than 1,500 gallons – Part A only.
Discharges equal to or greater than 10,000 gallons – Fill out entire form.
For discharges less than 1,500 gallons, record keeping is not required.
Discharger is to retain records for a period of no less than five years.

PART A

Date of Discharge: _____
Name of Discharger/Responsible Party: _____
Location of Discharge: _____
Location of Nearest Storm Drain Inlet: _____

Time Frame of Discharge:

Beginning _____ Discharge Flow Rate (gpm) _____
End _____ Total Gallons Discharged _____
Duration (minutes): _____

Dechlorination Chemicals Used: _____
Chlorine Residual Concentration
(after dechlorination): _____ mg/l
Location of Monitoring: _____
Time of Monitoring: _____
Description of Sediment Controls Used: _____

PART B

Date of Notification: _____
Method of Notification: _____
Who was notified? _____