



Your Actions Prevent Stormwater Pollution!

Standard Operating Procedures for Water Quality Protection

Snow Removal SOP

Why

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) have been prepared for all activities conducted as part of the City's Municipal Operations that have the potential to impact 'waters of the state.

One of the primary goals of these SOPs is to **provide time-tested, generally accepted routine procedures that minimize the potential for release of pollutants from a site during the performance of municipal operations activities.**

What

Snow removal is an operational best management practice (BMP) developed to control pollutant discharges by **promoting efficient storage and disposal of snow** from City streets and roads, bridges, public right-of-way, parking lots, and other large outdoor paved surfaces that have the potential of carrying a substantial portion of a winter pollutant load, in the form of debris and/or sand and salt. These procedures are critical steps that must be included in every trip out to remove snow from City streets or similar, during snow removal, placement, and disposal, and the trip back in after plowing.



Who

All City employees or City-contracted personnel who operate a snow plow or perform equipment maintenance.

Where

All city streets, roads, bridges, public right-of-way, parking lots, and other large outdoor paved surfaces where snow will be removed, temporarily stored or disposed.

DO

Before starting out, check pavement for leaks from the equipment; if leak observed, make note to repair and consider drip pan use.

Operate all snow removal equipment according to manufacturer's recommended settings and standards.

Perform regular maintenance of plows per schedule or as needed.

Leave all street inlets free and clear to accept snowmelt runoff.

Limit sand or salt applications to the minimum, and only at dangerous locations, to limit additional sediments to the drainage system.

Coordinate all snow placement activities to coincide with follow-up street sweeping if large amounts of sediment remain after melting.

Washing of snow plows should take place only at wash rack to trap grease, oils and sediment.

DON'T

DO NOT ignore routine maintenance requirements for the Snow Plow equipment that can possibly mitigate future problems and nip potential equipment leaks in the bud.

DO NOT place removed snow in front of inlets or on the streets as these should remain open to accept snowmelt runoff.

DO NOT over-apply snow control chemicals, sand or salt additions, as these will provide additional sediments to the drainage system.

DO NOT wash snowplow equipment outside except at the Road & Bridge Vehicle Wash area which has the benefit of the oil and grease trap to collect pollutants.