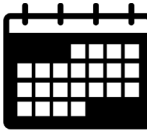


## UNDERSTANDING STORMWATER SAMPLING

*As required by the Industrial Stormwater General Permit*

### SAMPLING BASICS



Sample stormwater from each designated location on your site at least **once per quarter**.



Have an **accredited laboratory** analyze your samples.



Submit an online **Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR)** to the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) with your results.

### BEFORE SAMPLING, YOU SHOULD KNOW...

#### Your permit requirements

- Which parameters apply to your facility (check section S5 of the permit)
- Number and location of your facility's designated sampling locations

#### Where to send your samples

- Which laboratory your company uses  
*If you don't have one, find a local laboratory that is accredited for the analyses needed. Download the list of labs accredited by the WA Dept of Ecology (PDF): [bit.ly/walabs](http://bit.ly/walabs)*
- Make sure your laboratory knows your samples are for the **Industrial Stormwater General Permit**

*This will help ensure they follow sample preservation, analysis and data reporting requirements. Refer to "Issues you may want to cover with the lab" on page 8 of Ecology's Stormwater Sampling Manual (PDF): [bit.ly/samplingmanual](http://bit.ly/samplingmanual)*

#### SUPPLIES: sampling kit, rain gear, and PPE



#### Required parameters for ALL permits:

- Turbidity
- pH
- Total zinc
- Total copper
- Visible oil sheen



Additional parameters may be required, so be sure to check your permit requirements!

### PROCESS OVERVIEW



## 1 PLANNING A SAMPLING EVENT

### Gather sampling supplies

- Sampling bottles will be supplied by your lab. The number and type provided is based on your required parameters and number of outfalls.
- Ensure sampling personnel have appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), wet weather gear, and a sampling kit.
- Confirm your lab is able to meet holding times and ask for expected turn-around time to get your analysis results. Make sure you will be able to submit your DMR on time!

### Watch weather forecasts

- You should sample during the first 12 hours of stormwater runoff.
- You can sample any storm(s) during the first, second, and third quarters.
- You are required to collect a fourth quarter sample during the **first fall rain event**.



*Sampling is not required outside of your normal business hours. However, if your business operates 24 hours a day, you must be prepared to sample at any time!*

## 2 SAMPLING YOUR STORMWATER

For help on how to collect your samples, check out these resources:



Stormwater Sampling Manual: A guide for the Industrial Stormwater General Permit (PDF) by WA Dept of Ecology  
[bit.ly/samplingmanual](http://bit.ly/samplingmanual)



Stormwater Sampling Techniques (instructional video) by Washington Stormwater Center  
[bit.ly/samplingvideo](http://bit.ly/samplingvideo)

## 3 REPORTING YOUR RESULTS

Submit your results online through your WQWebDMR account

- Submit a DMR every quarter, even if there was no discharge to sample.
- You may take additional samples over the quarter and report average pollutant concentrations.
- You must report results from any sample taken from your **discharge point(s)**. You do **not** need to report samples taken from other areas as part of source tracing.
- If you report pollutant concentrations that are above your benchmark limit, you must perform a Corrective Action. See our related technical assistance document, or the WA Dept of Ecology website, for more information.
- Submit your DMR to Ecology within 45 days of the end of the quarter. See table:

QUARTER	MONTHS	DMR DUE DATE
1st	Jan - Mar	May 15
2nd	Apr - Jun	Aug 15
3rd	Jul - Sep	Nov 15
4th	Oct - Dec	Feb 15

### NEED HELP



*For assistance with the  
Water Quality Permitting Portal,  
contact the WA Dept of Ecology  
by email or phone:*

[WQWebPortal@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:WQWebPortal@ecy.wa.gov)

or

800-633-6193/option 3