

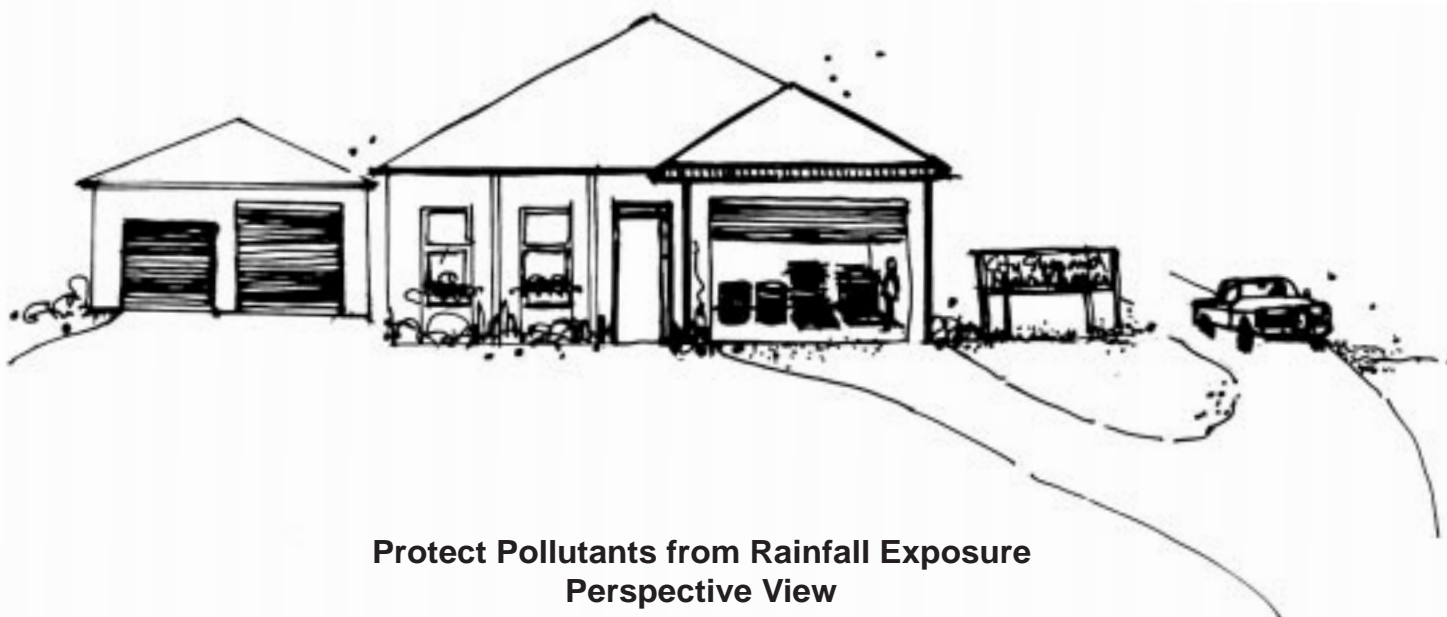
PRIMARY USE: Reduction of pollutants of all kinds in stormwater runoff.
ADDITIONAL USES: Aesthetic improvements.

EXPOSURE REDUCTION

What is it? A non-structural practice to reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff.

Purpose

The best and one of the least expensive ways to reduce or eliminate pollutants in stormwater is to limit the exposure of materials that are potential pollutants to rainfall or runoff.



**Protect Pollutants from Rainfall Exposure
Perspective View**

Limitations

Compliance will be voluntary unless mandated with sanctions in appropriate ordinances.

Materials

Appropriate permanent and temporary coverings.

Installation

Perhaps the best example is the now-required use of covered storage facilities for road salt. Covering the salt prevents exposure of the salt to rain, which reduces the pollution of the streams and ground water. Maintenance: site cleaning to reduce the amount of pollutants available to enter stormwater (recycling of empty drums and removal of hazardous substances and wastes as soon as possible; grading and seeding of old stockpile areas and bare areas to reduce erosion and improve appearance; preventive maintenance to reduce leaks, breakdowns, spills and accidents; replacement of worn seals, fittings and other parts before they leak or break; maintenance of all pollution control devices in good working order).

Source: Watershed Science Institute.

EXPOSURE REDUCTION

Good Housekeeping

Cleaning and trash pick up of grounds, parking lot and road sweeping, and disposal of old, unused equipment.

Training, Prevention Programs

Spill prevention and response programs and training to prepare commercial and industrial employees to prevent and respond to spills.

Move or Remove

Industries, municipalities and homeowners can eliminate much pollution by reducing or eliminating exposure by simply moving materials indoors or removing materials, products, devices and outdoor manufacturing activities that contribute to stormwater pollution when exposed to the weather. Particularly, use or removal of rarely used materials that are stored outdoors can be simple and effective.

Inventory

An inventory of the items on commercial and industrial sites that are exposed to rain may provide useful information and a starting point for exposure-reduction activities. Examples are raw material stockpiles, stored finished products, and machinery or engines which leak fuel and oil.

Covering

The partial or total physical enclosure of stockpiled or stored material, loading/unloading areas, or processing operations, this BMP is applicable to industrial, commercial, and residential source elements such as storage areas for dry chemicals, plant impervious areas, and surface impoundments used for waste storage and disposal. Drainage from a covering is captured and directed around potential contamination areas. This measure is useful for mitigating pollutants such as metals, oils and greases, and toxic and hazardous chemicals. Covering is most effective as part of a system of BMPs which also addresses interception of runoff prior to contact with potential sources of contamination, as well as BMPs which address treatment of contaminated discharge from such sources.