

## Appendix 5: Street Waste Disposal Guidelines

### Street Waste Liquids General Guidance

**1. Street waste collection should emphasize solids in preference to liquids.** Street waste solids are the principal objective in street waste collection and are substantially easier to store and treat than liquids.

**2. Street waste liquids require treatment and/or must follow location limitations before their discharge.** Street waste liquids usually contain high amounts of suspended and total solids and adsorbed metals. Treatment requirements depend on the discharge location.

**3. Discharges to sanitary sewer and storm sewer systems must be approved by the entity responsible for operation and maintenance of the system.** Ecology will not generally require waste discharge permits for discharge of stormwater decant to sanitary sewers or to stormwater treatment BMPs constructed and maintained in accordance with Ecology's Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington.

### Catch Basin and Stormwater Treatment Facility General Guidance

The following order of preference, for disposal of catch basin decant liquid and water removed from stormwater treatment facilities, is required.

**1. Discharge of catch basin decant liquids to a municipal sanitary sewer connected to a Public Owned Treatment Works (POTW) is the preferred disposal option.** Discharge to a municipal sanitary sewer requires the approval of the sewer authority. Street waste liquids discharged to a POTW may be treated at a combined street waste liquid and solid facility (decant facility) or at separate liquids only facilities. These liquid only facilities may consist of modified type 2 catch basins (with a flow restrictor or oil/water separator) or water quality vaults, strategically located through the sanitary collection system. These should provide 24-hour detention for the expected volumes and should be constructed and operated to ensure that the decant discharge does not resuspend sediments. Sewer authorities should require periodic sampling and decant facility operators should test their waste effluent on a regular basis, but street waste decant liquid should meet the most restrictive local limits with 24 hours of undisturbed gravity settling. Overnight settling is more practical and will likely meet most local pretreatment requirements.

State and local regulations generally prohibit discharge of stormwater runoff into sanitary sewers, to avoid hydraulic overloads and treatment performance problems. The volume of storm water discharged from catch basins and small stormwater treatment facilities is generally not sufficient to be a problem, provided the discharge point is properly selected and designed.

**2. Discharge of catch basin decant liquids may be allowed into a Basic or Enhanced Stormwater Treatment BMP, if option 1 is not available.**

Decant liquid collected from cleaning catch basins and stormwater treatment wetvaults may be discharged back into the storm sewer system under the following conditions:

- The preferred disposal option of discharge to sanitary sewer is not reasonably available, **and**
- The discharge is to a Basic or Enhanced Stormwater Treatment Facility, **and**
- The storm sewer system owner/operator has granted approval and has determined that the treatment facility will accommodate the increased loading.

Pretreatment may be required to protect the treatment BMP.

Reasonably available will be determined by the stormwater utility and by the circumstances, including such factors as distance, time of travel, load restrictions, and capacity of the stormwater treatment facility.

**3. Discharge of catch basin decant liquid back into the storm sewer may be allowed, under certain conditions:**

- Other practical means are not reasonably available, **and**
- Pretreatment is provided by discharging to a modified type 2 catch basin (with a flow restrictor or oil/water separator) or water quality vault, **and**
- The discharge is upstream of a basic or enhanced stormwater treatment BMP, **and**
- The storm sewer system owner/operator has granted approval.

Other practical means includes the use of decanting facilities and field decant sites that discharge to sanitary sewers or discharge to an approved stormwater treatment BMP.

Limited field testing of flocculent aids has been conducted. While the use of flocculent aids is promising, sufficient testing has not been conducted to allow approval of any specific product or process. In general, the following conditions must be met for flocculent use to be approved:

- The flocculent must be non-toxic under circumstances of use and approved for use by the Department of Ecology
- The decant must be discharged to an approved basic or enhanced stormwater treatment BMP, with sufficient capacity and appropriate design to handle the anticipated volume and pollutant loading
- The discharge must be approved by the storm sewer system owner/operator.

**4. Water removed from stormwater ponds, vaults and oversized catch basins may be returned to the storm sewer system.** Stormwater ponds, vaults and

oversized catch basins contain substantial amounts of liquid, which hampers the collection of solids and pose problems if the removed waste must be hauled away from the site. Water removed from these facilities may be discharged back into the pond, vault or catch basin provided:

- Clear water removed from a stormwater treatment structure may be discharged directly to a downgradient cell of a treatment pond or into the storm sewer system.
- Turbid water may be discharged back into the structure it was removed from if
  - the removed water has been stored in a clean container (eductor truck, Baker tank or other appropriate container used specifically for handling stormwater or clean water) and
  - there will be no discharge from the treatment structure for at least 24 hours.
- The discharge must be approved by the storm sewer system owner/operator.

Vegetation management and structural integrity concerns sometimes require that the ponds be refilled as soon after solids removal as possible. For ponds and other systems relying on biological processes for waste treatment, it is often preferable to reuse at least some portion of the removed water.