



FORT BUCHANAN

Storm Water Protection Program



*Sustaining
the Environment*



The Environmental Division would like to thank all military, civilian and students that have helped reduce the amount of pollution entering storm water runoff.



The Fort Buchanan Phase II Storm Water Plan (EPA permit # PRR04001F), required under the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Storm Water Program relies on the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit coverage for a “Small” Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4s) like Fort Buchanan’s. The purpose of the Phase II regulation is to provide a flexible approach for reducing environmental harm caused by storm water discharges from point sources that were not regulated before. Military installations that have a separate storm water sewer system within an urbanized area are considered to be “Small” MS4s and must meet the requirements of the aforementioned rules. Requirements include development and implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) that reduce pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, protect water quality, and satisfy EPA water quality criteria. The following are some minimum control measures to be established abroad and other ways that you might get involved and help us prevent Storm Water Runoff Pollution under the goals of Environmental Management Action Plans of the Environmental Management System Significant Aspects # 7 Real Property Management (Storm water runoff from C&D) and #8 Storage, Transfer and Release of Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants (POL).

Why is the Fort Buchanan Storm Water Management Plan Important to Me?

The Fort Buchanan is designed to prevent pollution from entering into waterways and improve overall water quality. The importance of protecting storm water is to ensure that bodies of water receiving storm water will remain free of pollution while allowing fish populations to remain healthy, recreational waters to stay clean, drinking water to be free of contaminants, and to keep Fort Buchanan in compliance with EPAs standards.



How is Storm Water Polluted?

Pollution in storm water is the result of contaminants entering storm water runoff. These contaminants can include, but are not limited to, oils, yard clippings, chemicals, and soap. Storm water pollution can occur from a large variety of sources located throughout campus. Below, see some examples of how storm water pollution can occur, and ways to prevent pollution.



Motor Oil, Oil Filters, Detergents, Antifreeze & Transmission Fluid

- Washing cars and degreasing auto parts can send detergents and other contaminants through the storm sewer system.
- Dumping automotive fluids into drains has the same result as dumping the materials directly into the body of water.
- Repair auto leaks and dispose of used auto fluids at automotive repairs shops.
- Contain and clean up spills immediately.



Pesticides and Fertilizers, Yard Waste and Excessive Dirt

- Excess fertilizers and pesticides applied to lawns and gardens wash off and pollute streams. Pesticides and fertilizers should be used sparingly, while organic mulch or safer pest control methods should be used, whenever possible. Don't over-water lawns and consider using a soaker hose instead of a sprinkler.
- Lawn clippings and leaves can wash into storm drains and contribute nutrients and organic matter to streams. Sweep up yard debris rather than hosing down areas. Cover piles of dirt or mulch being used in landscaping projects.



Pet Waste

- Pet waste can be a major source of bacteria and excess nutrients in local waters. When walking pets, remember to pick up the waste, and dispose of it properly. Flushing pet waste is the best disposal method. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into the storm drain and eventually into local bodies of water.

Trash

- Make sure all outside trash receptacles are covered and anchored properly. **DO NOT LITTER!** Trash can pollute ground and surface water. Rainwater washes over trash and percolates into groundwater. Report illegal dumping to the proper authorities (Fort Buchanan Installation—call Environmental Office at (787) 707-3575/3572)



LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO REDUCE POLLUTION

What Can You Do to Help Prevent Storm Water Pollution?

Listed below are ten ways all members of the Fort Buchanan Community can help prevent storm water pollution both on the Installation and at home.

1. Do not litter.
2. For those of us who are pet lovers, make sure all pet waste is properly disposed of into a closed trash can.
3. When performing yard work, be sure to properly dispose of all yard clippings into closed trash cans which will prevent clipped grass and other debris from entering the storm drains.
3. Dispose of excess pesticides and fertilizers properly.
4. When using paints and solvents, make sure they are properly disposed and not poured down storm drains.
5. Be sure not to over-use pesticides and fertilizers on your yard.
6. When performing any automotive maintenance, be sure to conduct in a proper location such as an auto garage so that oil and other petroleum products are not accidentally spilled where they can enter the storm water drains.
7. Wash your automobile in designated car wash areas away from storm drains.
8. Perform regular automotive maintenance to be sure that your car is not leaking any fluids that could drain into the storm drains.
9. Make sure trash is properly stored in closed trash cans and is taken out weekly so that excess trash and debris will not have the potential to be spilled into our storm drains.

Resources

For more information check out the links below:

<http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/dosdont.html>
<http://www.epa.gov/OWOW/NPS/kids/>
<http://aec.army.mil/usaec/>

Be Storm water Smart!

For additional information, visit the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division at Fort Buchanan Internet Site;

<http://www.buchanan.army.mil/dpw/home.html>

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