Harris County
Storm Water Inspections

A abrasive Cleaning and Coating Facilities

Presented by:
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A FEW DEFINITIONS:

- **Activity Code** - an alphabetic code that describes a particular industrial activity (e.g. HZ = Hazardous Waste Storage, LF = Landfills and Land Applications)

- **Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)** – the system of man-made conveyances owned or operated by a municipality that is designed or used for collecting or conveying storm water and is not used for collecting or conveying sewage
DEFINITIONS - CONTINUED

- **Pollutant** - Dredged soil, solid waste, incinerator residue, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, filter backwash, munitions, chemical wastes, biological materials, radioactive materials, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, cellar dirt, industrial, municipal and agricultural waste discharged into the MS4 or any waters in the state, or waters of the United States.

- **Standard Industrial Classification Code (SIC Code)** – is a 4-digit numbering system used by the federal government to classify businesses. It will be replaced at some point in the future by a 6-digit North American Industry Classification System Code (NAICS Code).
DEFINITIONS - CONTINUED

- Structural Control – a structure or vegetative practice that is generally designed to reduce pollutant levels in storm water runoff

- Water in the State – Groundwater, percolating or otherwise, lakes, bays, ponds, impounding reservoirs, springs, rivers, streams, creeks, estuaries, marshes, inlets, canals, the Gulf of Mexico, inside the territorial limits of the state, and all other bodies of surface water, natural or artificial, inland or coastal, fresh or salt, navigable or non-navigable, and including the beds and banks of all watercourses and bodies of surface water, that are wholly or partially inside or bordering the state or inside the jurisdiction of the State.
## STORM WATER PERMITTING DECISION TREE

**TPDES Storm Water Program Permitting Decision Tree**

*Is the facility’s primary source of revenue derived from an industrial activity (SIC code) on the list of SIC codes/activities in the General Storm Water Permit?*

- **Yes**
  - Is the facility covered under any TPDES Permit?
    - **Yes**
      - Does that permit cover storm water discharges associated with industrial activity from the area(s) in question?
        - **Yes**
          - This facility is compliant with the requirement to obtain a TPDES permit. Now check to make sure they are following the conditions of their permit.
        - **No**
          - Facility must obtain coverage under a TPDES Permit. It can be under:
            1. TPDES General Wastewater Permit if applicable or
            2. TPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges associated with industrial activity (TXR600000), or
            3. TPDES Individual Wastewater Permit that can cover storm water discharges also.
    - **No**
      - Facility does not need coverage under a permit to discharge storm water. However, they must still abide by the regulations in Chapter 26 of the Texas Water Code and the Solid Waste Regulations in Title 20 of the Texas Administrative Code.

*A facility that has an SIC code which requires coverage for their storm water discharges associated with industrial activity may elect to submit a No Exposure Certification to the TCEQ, exempting them from the requirement to obtain coverage. However, in order to be eligible for this exemption, the facility must strictly meet the criteria listed on the No Exposure Certification Form. A copy of this form can be obtained from the TCEQ web site. If the facility has submitted this form to the TCEQ and they do not qualify for it, they are in violation of 20 TAC 281.25 (a)(4)—failure to obtain a permit when a permit is required.

**Exception:** See Section AD of the General Permit.
TYPES OF WATER QUALITY PERMITS

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STORM WATER GENERAL PERMITS:
Industrial – TPDES Permit #TXRO50000 (aka Industrial Storm Water Multi-Sector General Permit)
Construction – TPDES Permit #TXRI50000

WASTEWATER GENERAL PERMITS:
Concrete Production Facilities Water Quality General Permit
#TXG110000 Note: Facilities with only contact storm water may seek coverage under the Industrial General Permit
Petroleum Bulk Stations and Terminals Water Quality General Permit
#TXG340000
Petroleum-Contaminated Wastewater General Permit #TXG830000
Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) Water Quality General Permit #TXG920000

WASTEWATER/STORM WATER INDIVIDUAL PERMITS
These are permits issued by the TCEQ to facilities for wastewater and/or storm water discharges. The difference between these permits and general permits is they are issued based on unique conditions at the facility as described in a lengthy application submitted by the facility. IMPORTANT! Even though a facility has coverage under an individual permit for wastewater and/or storm water discharges, they may have storm water discharges from areas of industrial activity within their facility that are not covered on their individual permit, thereby requiring coverage under a general permit, requiring an amendment to their individual permit or requiring capture of that water. In this case, they would have an unpermitted discharge (TWC 26.121).
GENERAL STORM WATER PERMIT

The Notice of Intent (NOI) for the facility listed below was received on November 19, 2001. The intent to discharge storm water associated with industrial activity under the terms and conditions imposed by the Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) storm water multi-sector general permit TXR055000 is acknowledged. Your facility’s TPDES multi-sector storm water general permit number is:

TXR0550624

TNRCC’s storm water multi-sector general permit requires certain storm water pollution prevention and control measures, possible monitoring and reporting, and periodic inspections. Among the conditions and requirements of this permit, you must have prepared and implemented a storm water pollution prevention plan (SWP) that is tailored to your industrial site. As a facility authorized to discharge under the storm water multi-sector general permit, all terms and conditions must be complied with to maintain coverage and avoid possible penalties.

This permit expires on August 20, 2006, unless otherwise amended. For additional information, see the TNRCC web site at www.tnrcc.state.tx.us or contact the Storm Water and General Permits Team by telephone at (512) 239-3700. A copy of this document should be kept with your SWP.

No Placement Designation
TYPICAL PROBLEMS

- Improper management of spent blast media
- Improper management of metal waste (e.g. tailings, turnings, fines)
- Improper management of liquids associated with fabrication and coating (e.g. cutting oil, solvents and other fluids)

Note: Sandblasting and coating may be auxiliary to the primary business. Examples: Cleaning hulls on barges and ships, pipeyards, metal fabricators, etc.
TYPICAL PROBLEMS

Blast Media
TYPICAL PROBLEMS

Metal Waste
TYPICAL PROBLEMS
Ask questions about the drains and pipes on site! The management of the facility should know where every pipe originates, what flows through it and where it terminates or leaves the property. Don’t forget about floor drains!
SAMPLING

- It would be a good idea to get set up with an approved lab before you begin collecting samples (i.e. blanket Purchase Order, correct bottles, etc.)
- Carry a small ice chest in your car—it is preferable to put most samples on ice so if you suspect you will be collecting samples take ice with you; if you do not have ice with you, collect your samples at the end of your investigation and put them on ice as soon as possible
- Carry a few pair of latex gloves, some pH strips, sample bottles and a flashlight in your car...a pair of rubber boots would be a good idea too!
RESOURCES

- TCEQ Industrial Storm Water Permitting Program:
  http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/permitting/waterperm/wwperm/industry.html

- TCEQ Small Business and Local Government Assistance Division
  713-767-3582

- A good way to check what environmental permits a facility has is to look them up in the TCEQ Central Registry Query:
  http://www4.tceq.state.tx.us/crpub/

- Obtain the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) book – it has SIC Codes cross-referenced with NAICS numbers in the back