

INTERIM POLICY

Effective Date: 03/18/09 revised

Approved By: FM Operations Support Manager

Authority: RCW 90.48

Cancels:

See Also: POL-U5950.01
WWU Storm water Management Program
The Federal Water Pollution Control Act

**POL-5700.13 CONTROLLING ILLICIT CONNECTION, DISCHARGE,
DUMPING TO WWU STORM WATER SYSTEM**

This policy applies at all university owned or operated facilities and properties, including main campus and off-campus locations.

1. To keep area waterways clean and healthy, it is important to keep pollutants out of the storm drain system.

Western's storm water system collects water from outside of buildings and off of streets, sidewalks and parking lots and discharges to surface waterways, such as Connelly Creek and Bellingham Bay, without treatment. Thus, disposal of harmful materials into storm drains can have an adverse effect on the environment and public health.

2. Western is permitted to discharge storm water to surface waterways by the authority of the Department of Ecology.

The Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) oversees the discharge of storm water into local waterways. As an owner/operator of a Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4), Western has been authorized through the DOE to discharge to waters of the state in accordance with the special and general conditions of permit #WAR04-5701.

3. Illicit connection, discharge and/or dumping to Western's MS4 is prohibited.

In accordance with permit #WAR04-5701, the following categories of non-storm water discharges into Western's MS4 are not allowed unless the stated conditions are met:

- Discharges from potable water sources, including water line flushing, hyperchlorinated water line flushing, fire hydrant system flushing, and pipeline hydrostatic test water

Planned discharges shall be de-chlorinated to a concentration of 0.1 ppm or less, pH-adjusted if

POLICY

necessary, and volumetrically and velocity controlled to prevent resuspension of sediments in the MS4.

- Discharges from lawn watering and other irrigation runoff

These discharges shall be minimized through ground-water absorption, water conservation, and public education.

- Dechlorinated swimming pool and fountain discharges

These discharges shall be dechlorinated to a concentration of 0.1 ppm or less, pH-adjusted and reoxygenated if necessary, and volumetrically and velocity controlled to prevent resuspension of sediments in the MS4.

Swimming pool and fountain cleaning wastewater and filter backwash shall not be discharged to the MS4.

- Street and sidewalk wash water, water used to control dust, and routine external building wash down that does not use detergents

These discharges shall be minimized through water conservation, and public education. At active construction sites, street sweeping shall be performed prior to washing the street

- Drains that are supposed to discharge to the sanitary sewer but are currently connected to the storm drain system

All non-storm water discharges to drains connected to the storm drain system will comply with this policy and be suitable for the waterways and environment without further treatment.

Any drains carrying non-storm water discharges that can not comply with this policy will be connected to Western's sanitary sewer system.

POLICY

- Dumping of common water pollutants and other hazardous substances that potentially can drain into the MS4

Dumping to the ground or improper discharge to the MS4 of the following substances is prohibited:

- Oil, automotive liquids, or greasy waste
- Heavy metals, pesticides, or fertilizers
- Food waste, cleaning waste, or chemicals
- Detergents or landscape chemicals
- Animal or human excrement

4. EHS, FM, and UP Departments provide policy compliance responsibilities.

Conformance with this policy is the responsibility of all university personnel and students. Suspected or known violations of this policy shall be reported to either of the following departments:

- Environmental Health and Safety (EHS)
- Facilities Management (FM)
- University Police (UP)

EHS is responsible for testing of hazardous materials and directing clean-up efforts of hazardous spills.

FM is responsible for inspection and maintenance of the MS4 and ensuring that all necessary regulatory permitting and reporting requirements are met.

UP is responsible for investigating and compliance follow-up of any reported dumping or discharging of illegal or hazardous substances.

EHS and FM are responsible for providing necessary training and promotional/informational material to support this policy.