

Concrete Washout Facilities

Overland Park, KS Guidance Information

Concrete wash or rinse water from concrete trucks, chutes, mixing equipment, tools and related items may not be discharged into or be allowed to run into any water body or portion of the stormwater system including streets and storm inlets.

Concrete waste water is caustic and considered to be corrosive and potentially harmful to aquatic life. With a PH of over 12, it is in the same category as household cleaners like Liquid Drano. Concrete solids entering a storm sewer can cause clogging and subsequent flooding.

One or more locations for concrete washout will be designated on site, such that discharges during concrete washout will be contained in a small area where waste concrete can solidify in place. (This requirement is noted in the *Erosion and Sediment Control General Notes on the plans* and also in the adopted *Overland Park construction specifications.*)

Washout areas must:

1. Provide proper containment (sized adequately and fully contain washout).
2. Have gravel access to prevent tracking. Access should slope into the washout area to improve containment efficiency.
3. Have signage. Signs should be placed at the construction entrance, washout area and elsewhere as necessary to clearly show the locations of the concrete washout area(s) to operators of concrete trucks and pump trucks.
4. Be designed to accommodate the user vehicle. When utilizing pumper trucks, the washout facility must be designed to accommodate washing out the pumper trucks hopper. If elevated washout facilities are used, then ramps must be provided to accommodate pumper trucks. If subgrade washouts are provided, then a sturdy base must be provided to allow the pumper truck to drive to the edge so that the hopper can extend into the washout.



Excavated washout facility with signage and stabilized access.

Location

Concrete washout facilities should not be located within 50 feet of storm drains, open ditches, or water bodies. Any uphill drainage may need to be diverted around the washout facility. The facility should be placed in a location that allows convenient access for concrete trucks, preferably near the area where the concrete is being poured. The number of facilities installed should depend on the expected demand for storage capacity. On large sites with extensive concrete work, washouts should be placed in multiple locations for ease of use by concrete truck drivers.

Inspection and Maintenance

Check all concrete washout facilities daily to determine if they are near capacity (75% full), which is when materials need to be removed. Inspections should also note whether the facilities are being used regularly; if drivers have washed out their chutes or hoppers in other locations, you may need to provide more education, install additional signage, or place additional washouts in more convenient locations.



Unacceptable: Pit full and overflowing.

Concrete washouts are designed to promote evaporation where feasible. However, if stored liquids have not evaporated and the washout is nearing capacity, vacuum and dispose of them in an approved manner - check with the local sanitary sewer authority to determine if there are special disposal requirements for concrete wash water. Remove liquids or cover the structures before predicted rainstorms to prevent overflows.

Hardened solids can be removed whole or can be broken up first, depending on the type of equipment available at your site. The solids can be reused onsite or hauled away for recycling.

Education for Concrete Subcontractors

An important factor that dictates the success of concrete washout facilities is whether or not concrete truck drivers use concrete washouts. Make them aware of the presence of these facilities. The site superintendent can educate concrete subcontractors, post signage indicating the location and designated use of these areas, and provide careful oversight to inspect for evidence of improper dumping of concrete waste and wash water. Include requirements in contracts with concrete delivery companies that drivers must use designated concrete washout facilities.

Applicable City Codes and Requirements

Overland Park Design and Construction Standards/Volume 2 Construction Specifications/Section 44 Temporary Erosion and Pollution Control.

Specifications for temporary erosion, sediment and pollution controls shall conform to Section 2150, "Erosions and Sediment Control" of the Construction and Material Specifications as approved by the Kansas City Metropolitan Chapter, American Public Works Association (May 2008 edition).

Alternative Concrete Washout Facilities



Prefabricated – reusable washout structure.



Self-installed washout container w/ 10-mil min. plastic.



Plastic containers (from kids pools to livestock tubs may be used).