



# Stormwater Permit Program for Construction Activities



## QUICK COMPLIANCE TIPS CONCRETE WASHOUT

### Attention Concrete Masonry and Ready Mix Professionals

### All Concrete Washout Must Be Contained in a Defined Wash Out Area

#### State Law Requires Concrete Washout Containment

After you finish the pour, locate the designated and confined area for concrete washout!

When concrete slurry (wet mortar, grout, plaster, stucco, cement) enters curb and gutter, ditches or Stormwater ponds it causes significant harm to surface waters and watersheds.



To protect the water quality of local lakes, streams and wetlands, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) requires concrete washout areas occur in a defined area and the slurry be contained. *Arkansas State Law under the Arkansas Solid Waste Management Act A.C.A. 8-6-205(a)(5)(a)* "... dispose of solid waste contrary to the rules, regulations, or orders of the department or in such a manner or place as to create or be likely to create a public nuisance or public health hazard or to cause or be likely to cause water or air pollution ..."

Uncontrolled concrete washout discharges can result in fines up to \$25,000 and/or one (1) year in jail or subject to both.

#### Concrete Slurry Impacts Water Quality

While concrete can be safely land filled once it has dried, wet concrete slurry is a hazardous mix that severely impairs water quality and impacts fish.

Concrete slurry chemicals that are suspended in water and enter into storm drains, stormwater ponds and ditches discharge directly into our local water resources. Concrete slurry significantly impacts fish and habitat by killing their food sources and causing damage to their outer surfaces like gills, eyes, and skin.



EPA considers this type of pollution to be one of the most important sources of contamination of the nation's waters. Some of the principal contaminants include substances that are carcinogenic; others lead to reproductive, developmental, or other health problems that are associated with long-term exposure. Pathogens can cause illness, even from short-term exposure, that can be fatal.





# Stormwater Permit Program for Construction Activities



## QUICK COMPLIANCE TIPS CONCRETE WASHOUT



### Legal Concrete Washout Requirements

Three components are required for compliant concrete washout:

#### 1. Contained Area

To prevent concrete slurry from entering storm sewers, ditches stormwater ponds or other surface waters.

#### 2. Defined Area

Signage identifying where concrete washout should be performed.

#### 3. Rock Entrance

To prevent sediment tracking.



Designated Concrete Washout Bin



Designated Concrete Washout Containment Areas



Designated Concrete Washout Areas with a Rock Entrance

This information provided by:  
Benton County Environmental Enforcement Office  
Jim Ecker, Director  
905 NW 8th Street  
Bentonville, AR 72712  
(479) 271-1083

