Outdoor Container Storage SOP-31.0

Description of SOP:

Accidental release of materials from above ground liquid storage tanks, drums, and dumpsters present the potential for contaminating storm waters with many different pollutants. Materials spilled, leaked, or lost from storage tanks may accumulate in soils or on other surfaces and be carried away by rainfall runoff.

Purpose of SOP:

The following procedures are for containers located outside of a building used to temporarily store liquid materials

Suggested Protocols:

General

- Protect materials from rainfall, run on, runoff, and wind dispersal by covering the storage area with a roof, enclosing the area or building a berm around it, or use covered dumpsters for waste product containers
- Employ safeguards against accidental release by providing protection guards (bollards) around tanks and piping to prevent vehicle or forklift damage
- Berm or surround tank or container with secondary containment systems using dikes, liners, vaults, or double walled tanks.

Storage Areas

- Provide barriers such as post or guardrails, where tanks are exposed, to prevent collision damage with vehicles
- Provide secure storage to prevent vandalism
- Place tight-fitting lids on all containers
- Enclose or cover the containers where they are stored.
- Raise the containers off the ground by use of pallet or similar method, with provisions for spill control and secondary containment
- Contain the material on such a manner that is the container leaks or spills, the contents will not discharge, flow, or be washed into the storm drain system, surface waters or ground water
- Place drip pans or absorbent material beneath all mounted container taps, and at all potential drip and spill locations during filling and unloading of containers. Drip pans must be cleaned periodically, and shall collect liquids and soiled absorbent materials must be reused/recycled or properly disposed.

Container Management

- Keep containers in good condition without corrosion or leaky seams

- Place containers in a lean-to structure or otherwise covered to keep rainfall from reaching the drums
- Replace containers if they are deteriorating to the point where leakage is occurring. Keep all containers undercover to prevent the entry of stormwater.
- Keep waste container drums in an area such as a service bay. Drums stored outside must be stored in a lean-to type structure, shed or walk-in container

Storage of Hazardous Materials

- Storage of reactive, ignitable, or flammable liquids must comply with the fire and hazardous waste codes.
- Place containers in a designated area that is paved, free of cracks and gaps, and impervious in order to contain leaks and spills. The area should also be covered.

Inspection

- Conduct regular inspections of storage areas so that leaks and spills are detected as soon as possible
- Conduct routine inspections and check for external corrosion of material containers. Also check for structural failure, spills and overfills due to operator error, or failure of piping systems
- Visually inspect new tank or containers for damages
- Label new or secondary containers with the product name and hazards
- Replace containers that are leaking, corroded, or otherwise deteriorating with ones in good condition.

Training:

- Train crews in proper material storage
- All employees shall understand stormwater discharge prohibitions, wastewater discharge requirements, and the best management practices (BMPs).
- A training log/sign-in sheet will be used to document training
- Employees will be familiar with the sites spill control plan and/or proper spill cleanup procedures

Spill Response and Prevention:

- Refer to SOP 11.0 Spill Prevention, Control, and Cleanup
- Have spill cleanup materials readily available and in a known location
- Clean up spills immediately and use dry methods (absorbents)
- Properly dispose of spill cleanup material (absorbents)
- Collected waste shall be disposed of properly