

If you have any questions about this procedures sheet contact Auckland Council

1. When should I use this sheet?

This applies to all sites involving contamination or works on potentially contaminated land.

2. What's the aim?

Stormwater systems must only drain rain.

To make sure no contamination enters the receiving environment (stormwater, streams, air or the sea) and that communities are protected during works.

3. What's the problem with contaminated land?

Exposure to contaminated land can have significant adverse effects on human health and on soil, surface water, groundwater and ecosystems.

4. Site management and environmental controls.

Forward Planning - before you start works.

- When a project is being scoped, an assessment should be carried out by an experienced Environmental Planner which will usually identify whether works are within or close to an area which is recorded as being potentially contaminated.
- However, we don't always know where potentially contaminated sites are located, which means it is possible that you will need to be prepared to stop work immediately if you come across any contamination.

- Any works to be carried out within potentially contaminated land will need to be well planned out, and will be typically authorised by resource consents.
- These legal requirements will be defined in the project Compliance Management Plan (CMP) - these may include Resource Consent Conditions, Permitted Activities, other Statutory Requirements and best practice guidelines.
- Complete the Environmental Task Analysis Form to identify potential environmental risks and define how they can be mitigated or reduced through site practices or environmental controls – your 'environmental toolbox'. Remember your activities will need to be in accordance with the legal requirements defined in the CMP.
- Check the lay of the land and decide where any run-off is likely to go.
- Identify receiving environments (e.g. kerb channels, stormwater drains and natural water bodies).
- Make sure the person responsible (identified in Task Analysis) for ensuring environmental practices and controls has followed / implemented these prior to starting works.



Environmental Practices and Controls.

- Excavations to be undertaken during dry weather, when possible.
- Install clean water diversion measures (e.g. sandbags or bunding) to divert surface water around the work site. This will prevent run off from washing through the site.
- Identify and prepare an area on site which could act as a temporarily store for any unforeseen contamination.
- Excess soil should be loaded directly onto trucks and shall be transported to an appropriate licensed facility in secure and covered trucks.
- Any loose soil on the side of the trucks and wheels should be brushed off before the trucks leave the site to minimise sediment deposits on the road.
- Contaminated water / groundwater should be removed and transported off-site to an appropriate facility, unless otherwise stipulated in a resource consent.

Stockpiling of soil and spoil.

- As soon as practical, remove soil and spoil from the site and dispose of it to an appropriate licensed facility.
- Do not stockpile material near stormwater catchpits, kerb channels, in over-land flow paths or on gradients steeper than 15%.
- Regularly sweep up any dust and dispose of it properly so that it will not become airborne or enter surface water.
- Divert surface water away from stockpiles to stop it washing underneath the stockpiled material.

- For large sites or work areas, especially when working close to a watercourse, install a silt fence around works area and stockpiles.
- Cover excavations and stockpiles securely with impermeable material like a tarpaulin or polythene sheet to avoid erosion and slumping.

Monitoring and maintenance.

- Regularly assess site practices and environmental controls to make sure that they are mitigating or reducing environmental risk to an acceptable level.
- All materials, whether bulk asbestos or soil, will be tracked when it leaves site. Records will be kept onsite of the trucks leaving the site noting their registration, estimated volume, the type of material carried and destination.

5. Tips.

- Inspect site controls at least once a day to ensure they are working properly.
- Have a spill response plan and a spill kit handy and make sure staff are well trained.

If a discharge occurs that has the potential to, or has entered the stormwater system or natural receiving environments, contact the Auckland Council 24 HOUR POLLUTION HOTLINE on (09) 377 3107 immediately.

For access to this BMP and to find the other BMP information sheets, go to the link below:
www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/stormwater

Important Notice: © Auckland Council 2011. This best management practice sheet is an information guide only and is not technical or compliance advice. Its recommendations may not be complete or appropriate for all situations, and the person doing/arranging the work remains solely responsible for making their own assessments and doing the work properly, safely and in compliance with all laws and regulations.