Environmental Quality Management

ROADSIDE LITTER AND STREET SWEEPING

WWW.UKY.ENV/STORMWATER

Streets and parking lots can accumulate litter and debris that become pollutants when it rains. These pollutants can enter storm drains and can negatively impact water quality. The University's MS4 Permit only allows clean water discharges into the stormwater system and requires that the University implement Best Management Practices to prevent the discharge of pollutants from campus. Floatables and pollutants cannot enter the stormwater system. By reducing roadside litter and street debris, floatables and pollutants can be reduced, which protects stormwater BMPs and reduces maintenance costs.

DO

- ✓ Target high pollutant load areas frequently to remove accumulated sediment and debris. Sweep areas a minimum of once annually.
- ✓ Store waste collected from cleaning activities in approved containers or temporary storage to prevent discharge to storm drains or inlets.
- ✓ Keep accurate logs of roadside litter pickup and street sweeping, including number of curb miles swept and the amount of waste collected.
- ✓ Use leaf vacuums and street sweeping to remove leaves and debris from curbs and gutters in the fall.
- ✓ Remove litter and debris from parking areas following athletic events.
- ✓ Perform daily start-up inspections to ensure the street sweeper is in good working condition before use.
- ✓ Routinely maintain street sweeping equipment to prevent breakdowns and oil leaks.
- ✓ Sweep streets after snow and ice events to reduce the amount of deicing materials, sand, and grit that can potentially enter the storm sewer system.
- ✓ Use a tree inventory to predict leaf drop and prioritize sweeping areas.



Required Training: 1 per year

Relevant UK Departments:

- Environmental Quality Management
- Grounds

DON'T

- ✗ Don't sweep or blow grass clippings or other debris down storm drains.
- ✗ Don't allow debris to clog storm drain inlets.
- ✗ Don't reuse sweepings for other purposes (i.e., beneficial fill) without first testing for pollutants of concern.
- ✗ Don't use the street sweeper to remove large debris piles as this may damage the sweeper.

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS/INFORMATION

- ➲ An effective street sweeper program has the potential to reduce the need for other structural stormwater controls.
- ➲ Create and follow a schedule to increase efficiency of the street sweeping program.
- ➲ Maintain a flexible program to accommodate weather and areas of concern.
- ➲ Develop targeted areas based on traffic volume, land use, field observations, and proximity to surface waters and outfalls. Utilize mapping to find and designate targeted areas.
- ➲ Provide secondary containment and overhead coverage for sweeper tailings to prevent stormwater from contacting the debris.
- ➲ Cover piles of sweepings with tarps to prevent dust generation.
- ➲ Develop parking policies to allow for street sweeping in problematic areas.

ACTIVITY CHECKLIST

- ☐ Sweep all designated areas ANNUALLY at a minimum to remove sediment, litter, and debris.
- ☐ Perform sweeper start-up inspections DAILY to check for leaks and confirm that equipment is operating properly.
- ☐ Sweep and vacuum leaves from storm drains in the FALL to prevent clogging.