New Westminster

Concrete Works & City Requirements

for owners, developers or builders

Will you or your contractors be pouring concrete or taking part in concrete washing activities during the course of your development? *This includes building construction and driveway, road, curb or sidewalk construction.*



If **YES**, please familiarize yourself with the information on this sheet.

The City of New Westminster's *Sewerage & Drainage Regulation Bylaw No. 7863, 2016* prohibits concrete wash-off waters from concrete works from entering the storm water drainage system.

Please ensure your contractors are abiding by city regulations.

Prevent harmful substances from entering the city's drainage system and avoid fines or delays to your project:



- Has your contractor identified a designated concrete washout area on-site? *(applicable for larger construction sites)*
    - Establish a protocol for discarding wash-off water and unused concrete with the Site Superintendent or ESC Supervisor to the satisfaction of the City.
    - You will be asked in your pre-construction meeting to identify a washout area and a person who will direct concrete trucks to the washout area.
- Concrete must not be washed out on city streets. Take necessary measures to ensure that concrete wash-off water from trucks, chutes, and other equipment does not enter into the city's drainage systems or watercourses. Concrete trucks should be taken back to the plant for washing.
- Will you be acid washing concrete in your project? If so, employ an on-site containment system, vacuum system or absorbents that will prevent harmful substances from entering drainage systems.



Environmental protection is an important and integral part of conducting business.

Environmental Protection



Concrete and concrete wash-off water forms a very high pH solution that is highly toxic to fish and other aquatic life. Once concrete has cured, it is no longer a threat to the environment.

The City of New Westminster's Erosion and Sediment Control Bylaw prohibits the discharge of sediment or sediment-laden water having a pH value outside the range of 6.5 to 9.0.

Concrete cutting best management practices:

- **When cutting wet:** Divert water away from storm drains or vacuum the slurry while curing concrete.
- **When cutting dry:** Sweep up cuttings and dispose of properly.
- **When work is complete:** Sweep or schedule a vacuum truck to clean street(s) depending on project size.



Persons responsible for storm drain contamination could also be liable under the federal and provincial environmental legislation including the Federal Fisheries Act and the BC Waste Management Act.

For more information on Fisheries & Oceans (DFO) Land Development Guidelines for the Protection of Aquatic Habitat: http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/Library/165353.pdf

Further Information

For more information, please contact the City of New Westminster Engineering Department at 604-527-4592.

This bulletin is provided as a reference guide only. It is the responsibility of the owner (and his or her contractors and trades) to ensure compliance with all applicable bylaws and legislation.

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Contact Us

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