

# New EPA storm water rules

*New EPA Phase II storm water rules require storm water plans for an additional 56 county and city governments in Cache, Weber, Davis, Salt Lake and Utah counties. The Phase II Storm water Final Rule released October 29, 1999, by the EPA requires that affected municipalities apply for a storm water permit by December 8, 2002.*

*Local plans and ordinances will need to be in place to address storm water runoff from construction sites and urban areas by March 8, 2003.*

*Simply, the following explains why plans are needed and the six minimum control measures expected in a plan so that a city or county can obtain the required permit.*



## Who is affected?

All municipalities with separate storm sewer systems within the urban areas of Logan, Ogden, Provo-Orem and Salt Lake City. Other municipalities that

contribute substantial pollutants to their rivers and lakes may also need to obtain a permit.



## Why is EPA requiring these permits?

In urban areas, roads, buildings and parking lots restrict the ability of storm water to soak into the soil. Instead it runs off directly into streams or into sewer systems which dump into our streams. This storm water can carry a heavy load of

pollutants, including sediments, oil and grease, fertilizers, and bacteria. These pollutants can seriously harm our water and the many animals that depend on our streams and lakes.



## What are the permit requirements?

In Utah, the Division of Water Quality will issue the permits. The permits will emphasize reducing the source of pollutants, and reducing the volume of runoff from communities through best management practices (BMPs). To obtain a per-

mit a city or county will need a storm water management plan which identifies six minimum control measures. In addition, measurable goals, a timeline for implementation and the responsible persons must be identified.



## For more information contact:

Tom Rushing, Utah Division of Water Quality, (801) 538-695

Nancy Mesner, Utah State University Extension, (435) 797-2465.

Prepared and distributed by the Utah Association of Conservation Districts in partnership with North Logan City and USU Extension.

**UACD**



**Utah State  
UNIVERSITY  
EXTENSION**

# Six minimum control measures

## **Public education and outreach**

- These materials must educate the public on the impacts of pollutants on water quality and how to prevent pollution
- Information must be distributed directly to target groups
- The viewpoints and concerns of all members of the community should be addressed

## **Public involvement and participation**

- The public must be involved in developing the storm water program
- Communities must follow state and local public notice requirements
- A citizen advisory groups should be involved in decision making
- Volunteer involvement is encouraged

## **Illicit discharge detection and elimination**

- The plan should include maps of the stormwater system, showing topography, and including pipes, inlets, outfalls, and other structures
- The community must prohibit illicit discharges through ordinances and enforcement and through inspections and testing
- The public should be informed of the hazards from illegal discharges and improper disposal

## **Construction site runoff control**

- All construction sites of an acre or more are affected (including smaller sites if part of a larger development)
- A plan must Identified mechanisms to control erosion and sediment to the maximum extent practicable
- Pre-construction review of plans and an opportunity for the public input
- Regular inspections during construction and penalties for non-compliance

## **New Development and Redevelopment**

- This applies to all projects which affect an acre or more
- The areas must have appropriate structural and non-structural BMPs
- Water quality should be maintained at pre-development conditions
- There must be long term operation and maintenance

## **Pollution prevention and good housekeeping for municipal operations**

- Should include in-house training, regular scheduled maintenance of equipment and operations, identification of illicit discharges and inspection of facilities