

# MATERIALS STORAGE AND HANDLING



Shelter used to protect materials from rain.  
Secondary containment used to capture any spills.



Photo credit: Barry Tanning, Tetra Tech

Cover materials using tarps or plastic sheeting to prevent precipitation from contacting construction site materials. Direct work crews to replace material stockpile covers at the end of the day and before rain.



Provided to you by Calcasieu Parish  
Police Jury Environmental Department



**USE:** Prevent the discharge of leached pollutants and contaminated runoff from construction material stockpiles, chemicals, and hazardous waste.

**DESIGN CRITERIA:**

- Designate separate waste collection areas for hazardous waste, construction waste, and domestic waste. Choose areas that do not receive a substantial amount of runoff and do not drain directly to a waterbody.
- Provide adequate signage marking each area in relevant languages (English, Spanish, etc.).
- Always unload and store materials away from storm drains and ditches.
- Use tarps, plastic sheeting, or other cover to protect stored construction materials. Use rope, bungee cords, heavy tape, etc. to secure tarps against wind.

*Fuel, hazardous waste, chemicals and fertilizers:*

- Store fuel, hazardous waste, and chemical products in sealed containers, which are constructed of suitable materials to prevent leakage and corrosion. Provide cover from rain, or provide a similarly effective means to prevent pollutant discharges. Provide secondary containment where necessary (e.g., spill berms, decks, and spill containment pallets).
- Label chemicals in accordance with applicable Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) requirements and all other applicable federal, state, tribal, or local requirements. Comply with all application and disposal requirements on any applicable labels.
- Apply pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers only as necessary, and at rates and in amounts consistent with manufacturer's specifications, or document differences where appropriate. Apply fertilizers appropriately for the location, coinciding as closely as possible with maximum vegetation uptake and growth.
- Clean up spills immediately. For hazardous materials, follow clean up instructions on the package. Use dry, absorbent clean-up methods where possible, such as sawdust or kitty litter, to contain the spill. Do not clean surfaces or spills by hosing the area down. Eliminate the source of the spill to prevent further discharges.

**MAINTENANCE:**

- Check downhill locations for storm drains and make sure they are protected.
- Direct staff to replace tarps and covers daily, especially before rain.

**TIPS:**

- Coordinate with other site operators to ensure availability of clean up supplies.
- Know who to call – and their phone numbers – if major spills occur.