BMP: Street Cleaning

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PROGRAM ELEMENTS

☐ New Development
☐ Residential
☐ Commercial Activities
☐ Industrial Activities
☒ Municipal Facilities
☒ Illegal Discharges

ADAPTED FROM ALT LAKE COUNTY BMP FACTSHEET

TARGETED POLLUTANTS

■ Sediment
■ Nutrients
■ Heavy Metals
☒ Toxic Materials
■ Oxygen Demanding Substances
☐ Oil & Grease
☒ Floatable Materials
☐ Bacteria & Viruses

■ High Impact
☒ Medium Impact
☐ Low or Unknown Impact

IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

■ Capital Costs
■ O&M Costs
☒ Regulatory
☒ Training
■ Staffing
☒ Administrative

■ High   ☒ Medium   ☐ Low

DESCRIPTION:

Reduce the discharges of pollutants to stormwater from street surfaces by conducting street cleaning on a regular basis.

APPROACH:

▸ Prioritize cleaning to use the most sophisticated sweepers, at the highest frequency, and in areas with the highest pollutant loading.
▸ Restrict street parking prior to and during sweeping.
▸ Increase sweeping frequency just before the rainy season.
▸ Proper maintenance and operation of sweepers greatly increase their efficiency.
▸ Keep accurate operation logs to track programs.
▸ Reduce the number of parked vehicles using regulations.
▸ Sweepers effective at removing smaller particles (less than 10 microns) may generate dust that would lead to concerns over worker and public safety.
▸ Equipment selection can be key for this particular BMP. There are two types used, the mechanical broom sweepers (more effective at picking up large debris and cleaning wet streets), and the vacuum sweepers (more effective at removing fine particles and associated heavy metals). Many communities find it useful to have a compliment of both types in their fleet.

LIMITATIONS:

▸ Conventional sweepers are not able to remove oil and grease.
▸ Mechanical sweepers are not effective at removing finer sediments.
▸ Effectiveness may also be limited by street conditions, traffic congestion, presence of construction projects, climatic conditions and condition of curbs.

MAINTENANCE:

▸ Replace worn parts as necessary.
▸ Install main and gutter brooms of the appropriate weight.