

## Maintenance of Public and Private Utility Corridors and Facilities

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This activity applies to maintenance activities associated with the transmission and distribution of public and private utilities such as petroleum products, natural gas, water, sewage, and electrical power. This includes the maintenance of underground utility vaults, pump stations, and similar facilities. Access roads and equipment maintenance can be sources of pollutants to stormwater runoff, including suspended solids, oil and grease, petroleum hydrocarbons, harmful pH, pesticides, and metals.

### **MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS**

**The following BMPs, or equivalent measures, methods, or practices, are required if you are engaged in maintaining public and private utility corridors and facilities:**

- 1** Minimize the amount of herbicides and other pesticides used to maintain access roads and facilities. See Activity Sheet A-26, "Landscaping Activities and Vegetation Management," for BMPs associated with managing vegetation for access roads and maintenance areas.
- 2** Stabilize access roads or areas of bare ground with gravel, crushed rock, or another method to prevent erosion. Use and manage vegetation to minimize bare ground/soils that may be susceptible to erosion. See the King County Surface Water Design Manual, Appendix D, Erosion and Sediment Control Standards for recommended erosion and sediment control practices and standards.
- 3** Provide stormwater drainage for roads and maintenance areas. Grade roads with a crown or slope to minimize the potential for erosion from runoff. Provide ditches, swales, and culverts to convey stormwater runoff.
- 4** Monitor and maintain ditches and culverts as needed to reduce the possibility of the drainage becoming plugged or blocked, which may lead to overflows and erosion.

-  5 Check utility vaults or other underground structures for pollutants prior to pumping out any collected water. If the water is contaminated, it must be collected for proper disposal. Small amounts of oil may be captured with absorbent material. Never discharge contaminated water, including high or low pH, to storm drainage facilities or surface waters.
-  6 Clean up any debris or spilled material immediately after completing maintenance and repair activities.

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For more information or assistance in implementing these best management practices, contact the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks Water and Land Resources Division at 206-296-1900.

Reader Note: The above requirements are the minimum required BMPs. If these BMPs fail to prevent discharges to the storm drainage system, you will be asked to take additional measures to correct the continued pollution discharges.