

Controlling and Collecting Contaminated Runoff

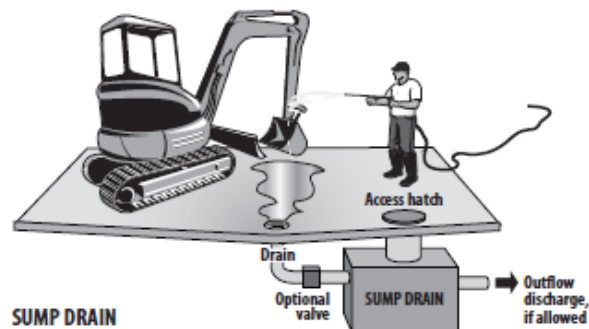
This BMP applies to activities that cannot be covered effectively yet require a method of controlling and containing contaminated runoff. It is particularly suited to activities with the potential for spills and leaks, but that otherwise do not generate excessive amounts of polluted runoff or that are intermittent such as washing or cleaning operations. A sump or holding tank can provide containment until the liquids can be pumped out of the tank and disposed of properly. If the activity produces large amounts of runoff or wastewater, this BMP will not be effective because contaminated water will overflow the sump or pass through the sump before collection and disposal are possible. A designated area must be paved and sloped to a drain connected to a central collection point. A sump, vault, or holding tank must be installed to capture the wastewater. Some materials, such as gasoline, can react with and cause deterioration of asphalt pavement. It is preferable for the area to be paved with Portland cement concrete. If the area is already paved with asphalt, an asphalt sealant should be applied to the pavement surface. Whatever material is used, the paved surface must be free of gaps and cracks.



The sump or holding tank should have a large enough capacity to contain the entire volume of wastewater or potential spill generated by the activity. Depending on the circumstances, the sump or tank can be equipped with an outflow pipe to allow discharge of uncontaminated runoff to the storm drainage system, along with a shutoff valve to prevent

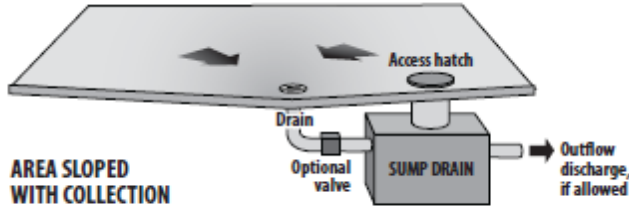
outflows in the case of a spill. The local sewer authority may, in some instances, allow a connection to the sanitary sewer system.

The paved activity area must also be contained to prevent stormwater runoff and runoff. Curbs, dikes, or berms direct uncontaminated runoff away from the area so that only the precipitation falling within the activity area is discharged (and/or treated) along with the process water. See the [Containment](#) information sheet for more information.



The catch basin/tank/sump must have a two-way valve installed at the outflow pipe so that uncontaminated runoff can flow to the storm drainage system when the pollutant-generating activity is not occurring. The two-way valve must easily switch between discharges to the sanitary sewer, holding tank, or treatment facility, and discharges to the storm drainage system. When the activity is occurring, the two-way valve must be set so

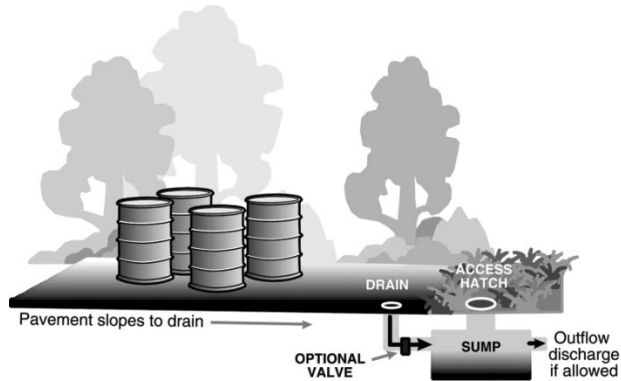
the polluted runoff discharges to the sanitary sewer, holding tank, or treatment system. After the pollutant-generating activity operation is finished and no more process water is generated, the area must be washed down so that the wash water discharges to the sanitary sewer, holding tank, or treatment facility. The two-way valve must be switched after clean-up is completed so that subsequent runoff is discharged to the storm drainage system until the activity resumes. It is critical this valve is always switched to the correct position. Just as contaminated stormwater cannot be discharged to the storm drain system, uncontaminated stormwater cannot be discharged to the sanitary sewer.



Approval for discharges with a two-way valve should be obtained from the King County Industrial Waste Program, the local sewer authority and King County Water and Land Resources Division, Water Quality Compliance Unit.

If discharges to the storm drainage system or sanitary sewer are not allowed, the sump or holding tank contents must be pumped out periodically and disposed of properly. This requirement can make this BMP costly, especially during the wet season. See the [Disposal](#) information sheet for disposal options. To keep disposal costs down, use a drain cover, plug, or shutoff valve in the pipe leading to the sump when the activity is not occurring. Before starting the activity (if the activity is intermittent), open the cover, plug, or valve.

Constructing a sump and disposing of accumulated contents can be expensive, so businesses should consider other BMP alternatives. Your local sewer agency may charge additional fees for a sanitary sewer hookup. The fees depend on location, quantity of discharge, and whether the hookup is for a business or residence. A King County industrial waste discharge permit may also be required.



Paved Area with Sump Drain

Several commercial services are available for pumping out sumps and holding tanks. Information on these services can be found on the King County Stormwater Services website at www.kingcounty.gov/stormwater and the [Drainage Maintenance Contractors](#) information sheet. Septage hauling contractors may not be used for this type of service.

Additional Information

Local Sewer Agency

The name and phone number are identified on your water and sewer bill.

King County Wastewater Division – Industrial Waste Program

(206) 263-3000

www.kingcounty.gov/environment/wastewater/IndustrialWaste

King County Business Waste Line

(206) 263-8899

www.hazwastehelp.org

King County Stormwater Services

(206) 477-4811

www.kingcounty.gov/stormwater

King County Surface Water Design Manual

www.kingcounty.gov/swdm

For more information or assistance contact the King County Stormwater Services at 206-477-4811 and visit kingcounty.gov/stormwater.