Storm Water Permits

The University of Illinois holds a municipal storm water permit from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) that specifically prohibits non-storm water discharges. This permit is governed by the federal Clean Water Act which requires the University to report certain amounts of released pollutants to emergency management officials. All projects are subject to these requirements.

In addition to the municipal permit, any construction site greater than or equal to one acre soil disturbance requires approved coverage under the IEPA general construction storm water permit. To obtain approval, a Notice of Intent (NOI) permit application and a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) are required. The application also needs site Illinois Historic Preservation and Endangered Species clearance. The University Division of Safety & Compliance will review these documents and assist with signatures and IEPA submittal. The IEPA has a 30 day review period to either approve or deny permit coverage. Construction can began after approval is received.

Approved Construction Permit Record Requirements

- A hardcopy of the SWPPP must be kept at the construction site;
- Approved storm water permit coverage must be posted on the construction site fence;
- Contractors must complete and document storm water erosion control inspections weekly and after rainfall events ½" or greater, and correct issues.
- Changes to the SWPPP or construction timeline must be forwarded to the Division of Safety & Compliance for review and agency submittal.



Noncompliance Issues

If a contractor refuses to follow federal, state and campus requirements, the University Project Manager should work with Safety & Compliance to fill out an Incident of Noncompliance. The contractor will be subject to progressive written notifications of noncompliance. Ignored notifications can lead to stop work orders, payment withholding, back charges, and report submittal to the IEPA. The project may also be subject to civil penalties.







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