



Chapter 7 SPECIAL POLLUTION ABATEMENT PERMIT

A special pollution abatement permit (SPAP) may be required for new development or redevelopment projects on the basis of: 1) the type of business or land use, 2) a history of air or water pollution at this site, 3) a history of air or water pollution by this owner/operator at other sites, 4) the potential to impact environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands, or 5) at the discretion of the Engineering Director upon sound engineering judgment. The SPAP form is included in the BMP Manual as a 3-page downloadable file.

The SPAP was established by the Knoxville Stormwater and Street Ordinance (Section 22.5-37), which can be viewed at the city website listed in Chapter 8. The SPAP is not required for any stormwater outfalls which were previously permitted under the NPDES program. A copy of the NPDES permit must be submitted to the City of Knoxville Engineering Department if it is not currently on file. The ordinance requires that a copy of any NPDES permit must be submitted to the City of Knoxville Engineering Department within 60 days of issuance.

The SPAP process requires that the developer or operator to submit a \$100 fee and a permit application form. This requirement to submit the SPAP is usually identified by the city plans reviewer during the first drawing submittal, such as when plans are submitted for a grading permit. Any supporting drawings or specifications are attached to the SPAP for review by the Stormwater Management Section within the Engineering Department. The permit will expire five years from the date of issuance. The Stormwater and Street Ordinance states that the technical requirements shall be based on the current BMPs subject to approval of the Director of Engineering. The ordinance requires a SPAP for:

1. Property containing more than 400 parking spaces.
2. Property containing more than 120,000 square feet of total pavement area.
3. Businesses with vehicle fueling, vehicle repair, vehicle storage, or vehicle washing such as automotive dealerships, automotive repair shops, and car wash facilities.
4. Businesses with heavy equipment fueling, repair, storage or washing.
5. Recycling or salvage yard facilities.
6. Restaurants, grocery stores, food preparation facilities (wholesale or retail).
7. Commercial facilities with animal housing areas such as animal shelters, fisheries, kennels, livestock stables, veterinary clinics or zoos.

In addition, the Engineering Director may require a SPAP for other potential producers of pollutants based upon information estimated or reasonably deduced from engineering or scientific study. Upon approval, the SPAP will be valid for a period of five years. The SPAP may be changed or altered during the five years by submitting new information or replacement pages as necessary. After five years, the SPAP form must be resubmitted with current information and management practices along with a \$100 reapplication fee.

Part B of the SPAP form requires the applicant to obtain the official street address (as determined by MPC, Addressing Section), the city block number (determined by ward maps at the Technical Service Counter, 4th floor, City County Building), and the CLT number (available from the



Property Assessor’s office, 2nd floor, City County Building). The city block number and CLT number can also be obtained from KnoxnetWhere? on the KGIS website (<http://www.kgis.org>).

The following definitions apply to Item 3 and Item 10:

- Waters of the State -- Defined as a blue-line stream on a USGS quadrangle map, which is any point downstream from where the blue line begins.
- Community Waters -- Defined as any stream or channel which crossed a property line at an upstream location.

Chapter 6 contains information on how to prepare a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). Even when a SWPPP is not required for this project by TDEC or by the City of Knoxville, the elements of Chapter 6 generally apply to preparing a SPAP. Site evaluation must include a review of all historical information, an inventory of onsite materials and structures, and monitoring data. Planning must include requirements for good housekeeping BMPs, maintenance, spill and leak response, recordkeeping, and employee training.

Other portions of the BMP Manual that are typically considered when preparing a SPAP are:

Item #	Topic	BMP Manual
4	Employee training	AM-01, IC-01
4	Spill protection plan	AM-07 & Table AM-07-1
5	Materials management and storage	AM-06, AM-08, IC-02, IC-03
7	Preventive maintenance program	See BMP categories for AM, ES, IC.
7	Stormwater management devices	See ST measures for maintenance.
9	Estimate quantity of stormwater	ST-10, ST-11, ST-12, ST-13
9	Types of pollutants, typical removal rate	Chapter 3 and Chapter 4
10	Vegetative measures to protect outfalls	ST-01, ST-02, ST-03, ST-04, ST-05
10	Structural measures to protect outfalls	ST-06, ST-07

The SPAP requirements must be based upon site-specific data, configurations, and business practices. Usually, a combination of management controls and structural controls are necessary to reduce pollution to acceptable levels. Management controls may include spill protection plans, parking lot vacuuming and sweeping, recovery plans for power washing, employee training, etc.

Structural controls must be designed to treat the 1-year storm event and shall effectively prevent nonpoint source pollutants from leaving the project site. Common structural controls include sand/media filters, vortex chambers, oil/water separators, dry detention basins, wet detention basins, filter/buffer strips and setbacks, etc. Structural controls are usually located within dedicated easements shown on official plats to be recorded at the Knox County Register of Deeds. A permanent maintenance agreement is required to ensure that such structures are kept operational and functioning by the property owner in perpetuity.