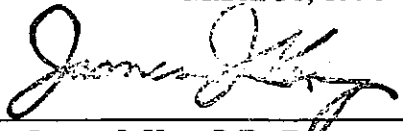


DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS BULLETIN

BULLETIN NO. 25

Subject: DISCHARGE OF EXCAVATION WASTE WATER, EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL FOR CONSTRUCTION SITES

Issue Date: March 31, 1998 (Rev.)

Approved: 
James J. Kay, P.E., Director

The Code of the City of Miami contains the following provisions:

Sec. 49-4.

"It shall be illegal to discharge wastewater, stormwater or groundwater from a construction excavation into a city storm sewer until the rules, regulation and requirements of the Department of Public Works governing such discharge have been fulfilled and a permit has been obtained from such department allowing same."

Sec. 49-5.

"It shall be illegal to dump or discharge the contents of septic tanks into city sanitary or storm sewers by any manner or means whatsoever."

Upon conviction, violators of these provisions shall be fined and / or imprisoned. Each day the violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

Pursuant to Sec. 49-4 and the City's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit FLS000002, the Department of Public Works has established the Rules, Regulations and Requirements relating to discharges originating from construction activities and construction sites including but not limited to: discharge of construction excavation water to the public right-of-way, sediment runoff and erosion. Copies are on file in the Department and are available for all concerned.

It shall be the duty of City of Miami inspectors to enforce City Code Sections 49-4, 49-5, in addition to complying with the requirements of the City NPDES permit and the above mentioned Rules. Where violation is observed, the inspector shall in proper form and manner enforce the violation and pursue the matter in the courts where necessary.

Rules, Regulations and Requirements

of the

Department of Public Works

The City of Miami, Florida

relating to

DISCHARGES ORIGINATING FROM CONSTRUCTION SITES OR RESULTING FROM CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

- I. The Code of the City of Miami contains the following restrictions regarding the Discharge of Construction Excavation Waste Water.

Sec. 49-4.

"It shall be illegal to discharge wastewater, stormwater or groundwater from a construction excavation into a city storm sewer until the rules, regulation and requirements of the Department of Public Works governing such discharge have been fulfilled and a permit has been obtained from such department allowing same."

- II. The Rules, Regulations and Requirements of the Department of Public Works in this matter are as follows:
- A. The discharge of wastewater from a construction excavation into a City storm sewer is prohibited unless a permit authorizing the discharge is obtained from the Department of Public Works:
1. All contractors are required to obtain approval from the Department of Public Works as to their proposed method, manner and location for the disposal of waste water from any excavation, prior to their application for permit, for such de-watering from the Building Department.
 2. The following procedures shall be followed for wastewater discharges from construction excavations:
 - a) All necessary pumping shall be performed in a workmanlike manner.
 - b) All necessary labor, equipment and appurtenances for final disposition of the wastewater shall be provided at no expense to the City of Miami.

- c) Waste water shall be disposed of in such manner as not be injurious to the public health and welfare, or to public or private property, or the surface of streets.
- d) The discharge of waste water shall not limit the full use of public streets or private driveways except as approved in writing by the Department of Public Works.
- e) The contractor shall be fully responsible for the settlement of or damage to any street or adjacent property due to pumping or other operations necessary to dispose of waste water.
- f) All gutters, drains, culverts and the like shall be kept clean and open at all times for normal surface drainage, unless certain damming or ponding is approved in writing by the Department of Public Works.
- g) No flow of water may be directed across or over a sidewalk or pavement except through pipe, troughs or flumes approved in writing by the Department of Public Works. Placement and removal of such pipes, troughs or flumes shall be done at no expense to the City.
- h) The used of sanitary sewers, french drains, covered ditches, and/or rock drains for the disposal of waste water is expressly prohibited.
- i) Where conditions warrant, the Department of Public Works may approve the pumping of waste water into a storm sewer, but prior approval shall be obtained in writing and the waste water shall be filtered (or settled) in a manner approved by the Department. Discharge of waste water under these conditions shall be stopped immediately if the filtering device becomes silted, clogged, ineffective or inoperative for any reason. When the unsatisfactory condition has been corrected, pumping may be resumed.
- j) If it is the opinion of the Department of Public Works that excessive solids or fines have been discharged into a storm sewer, the Contractor shall, upon written order, clean the storm sewer in a manner satisfactory to the Department.

B. Direct or indirect runoff and / or erosion from any site of construction to the public right-of-way shall be deemed a nuisance and a violation of the City of Miami National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (NPDES), to be ceased immediately. Non compliance is subject to enforcement action and / or withholding of Certificate of Occupancy, and in the case of a City contract, withholding of payment.

1. Acceptable best management practices and / or structural and non structural controls shall be implemented for erosion and sediment control during construction activities. These controls consist of, but are not limited to: temporary grassing, temporary sodding, temporary mulching, sandbagging, slope drains, sediment basins, sediment checks, berms, baled hay or straw, floating turbidity barrier, staked turbidity barrier, and silt fence.
 2. Design details are available in the City of Miami Engineering Standards for Design and Construction on file in the Public Works Department. Alternative methods of control must be approved by the Director of Public Works, or his designee.
- III. On-site inspection and approval of construction sites shall be enforced by the City of Miami Building Department, Inspection Services Division.
- IV. Inspection and approval of public right-of-way adjacent to the construction site shall be enforced by the City of Miami Department of Public Works, Construction Division.

THE FOREGOING RULES, REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS ARE HEREBY ESTABLISHED, PUBLISHED AND ORDERED, EFFECTIVE MARCH 31, 1998