A properly maintained and organized construction site can partially reduce the amount of contaminated sediment, nutrients, toxic materials, oil and grease and floatables from leaving the vicinity. By limiting the amount of onsite hazardous materials, storing materials in designated areas, installing secondary containment, conducting regular inspections and training employees and subcontractors, pollution can be prevented or reduced.

**Approach**

The following materials are commonly stored on construction sites:

- Soil
- Concrete compounds
- Pesticides and herbicides
- Fertilizers
- Detergents
- Plaster or other products
- Petroleum products such as fuel, oil, and grease
- Other hazardous chemicals such as acids, lime, glues, paints, solvents, and curing compounds.
Storage of these materials on-site can pose various degrees of the following risks:

- Stormwater pollution,
- Injury to workers or visitors,
- Groundwater pollution, and
- Soil contamination.

Therefore, the following steps should be taken to minimize your risk:

1. Designate areas of the construction site for material delivery and storage.
2. Place near the construction entrances and away from waterways.
3. Avoid transport near drainage paths or waterways.
4. Surround with earth berms, dikes, swales or other containment practices.
5. Place in an area which will be paved.
6. Storage of reactive, ignitable, or flammable liquids must comply with the fire codes of your area. Contact the local Fire Marshal to review site materials, quantities, and proposed storage area to determine specific requirements. See the Flammable and Combustible Liquid Code, NFPA30.
7. Follow manufacturer's instructions regarding uses, protective equipment, ventilation, flammability, and mixing of chemicals.
8. For a quick reference on disposal alternatives for specific wastes, see the table presented in the Employee/Subcontractor Training BMP fact sheet, Table GHP-14-1.
9. Keep an accurate, up-to-date inventory of materials delivered and stored on-site.
10. Keep your inventory as close to "when you need it" levels as possible.
11. Minimize hazardous materials stored on-site and handle hazardous materials as infrequently as possible.
12. Consider storing materials in a covered area. Store materials in secondary containment's such as an earthen dike, horse trough, or even a children's wading pool for non-reactive materials such as detergents, oil, grease, and paints. Small amounts of material may be secondarily contained in 'bus boy' trays or concrete mixing trays.
13. Do not store chemicals, drums, or bagged materials directly on the ground unless otherwise contained. Place these items on a pallet and, when possible, in secondary containment.
14. Try to keep chemicals in their original containers, and keep them well labeled. If other containers are used then be sure they are well marked and can be adequately sealed and stored in an appropriate place.
15. Train employees and subcontractors.

Maintenance

- Keep designated storage areas clean and organized.
- Conduct routine weekly inspections and check for external corrosion of material containers.
- Keep an ample supply of clean up material on hand.
- Inspect storage areas before and after rainfall events.
- Repair or replace perimeter controls, containment structures and covers needed for functionality.

Inspection Checklist

- Inspect storage area frequently for cleanliness and spills and leaks.
- Functions are appropriately utilized and ensured to allow proper procedures for delivery, storage and use.