

## **FORT CARSON STORMWATER PROGRAM DEWATERING REQUIREMENTS & GUIDANCE**

*The Construction General Permit (CGP) allows for uncontaminated excavation dewatering as an allowable non-stormwater discharge. Contaminated (e.g., sediment-laden) discharges must be done in a manner in which all dewatering discharges infiltrate, evapotransporate or are treated in such a way that a runoff to a water of the United States does not occur. Any dewatering activities must be outlined in the project-specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The following is specific guidance for dewatering activities on Fort Carson Military Installation.*

In the event of discovery of ground water, the following actions should be taken:

- To verify that the groundwater is not in a Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) area or a chemically contaminated plume, please call or e-mail the Installation Restoration Program in the DPW- Environmental Division at: 719.526.8001 or [joe.a.gallegos@us.army.mil](mailto:joe.a.gallegos@us.army.mil). You must determine that any excavation dewatering discharges are not chemically contaminated before it will be authorized as an allowable non-stormwater discharge under the Construction General Permit.
- Notification of dewatering activities should be sent to the Stormwater Program in the DPW - Environmental Division. The site specific SWPPP should be updated according to actions conducted. Please send an email to [usarmy.carson.imcom-central.list.dpw-ed-storm-water@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.carson.imcom-central.list.dpw-ed-storm-water@mail.mil) or call 719.526.1697.
- Chemically non-contaminated excavation dewatering discharges must be treated as necessary to remove any suspended solids and turbidity. Land application of groundwater into a vegetated area is desired method. If this is not possible, a system should be in place to allow sediments to fall out. Examples can include; pumping the water into a sediment trap, dewatering bag or a filter system. Velocity Dissipation at the outlet must be used. Some guidance is available in our Stormwater Management Plan which can be downloaded at: <http://www.carson.army.mil/DPW/environmental/stormwater/index.html>
- At no time should the groundwater be discharged from the site directly to adjacent surface waters, ditches or storm sewer systems, the guidance in bullet 3 should always be followed.



- Inspection and maintenance of the dewatering devices and system must be conducted regularly to ensure effectiveness and water discharge is not sediment laden. Replace material eroded from earthen embankments, displaced rip rap or other BMPs used. Remove accumulated sediment, trash or debris from around dewatering devices promptly.
- In the event that a substantial amount of ground water is encountered or the ability to allow the ground water to infiltrate the ground on site is unattainable the contractor should contact the Fort Carson Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) at 719.526.4074 to request discharge to the sanitary or industrial sewer system. Ensure no sediments are allowed to enter the sewer collection system.
- Records of dewatering activities should be maintained and kept with the SWPPP for three years after final site stabilization.

Water main and fire hydrant flushing at construction sites includes two distinct operations. 1) Flushing to dislodge debris and contaminants. 2) Flushing to clear chlorinated disinfection water. Both operations produce wastewater. These are the requirements:

- Water from hydrostatic testing and flushing of lines shall be discharged to a sanitary sewer. Discharge to ground, storm sewers or ditches is not permitted. Coordination with the Fort Carson Waste Water Treatment Plant is required. Phone 719.526.4074.
- Effluent from the disinfection of water lines shall be dechlorinated and discharged to a sanitary sewer. Discharge to ground, storm sewers or ditches is not permitted. Coordination with the Fort Carson Waste Water Treatment Plant is required. Phone 719.526.4074.

Following are the requirements for buildings with potable water lines and have means to access the sanitary sewers:

- Water from hydrostatic testing and flushing of lines shall be discharged to the sanitary sewer. Discharge to ground, storm sewers or ditches is not permitted. Coordination with the Fort Carson Waste Water Treatment Plant is not required for insignificant discharges.



- Effluent from the disinfection of water lines shall be dechlorinated and discharged to the sanitary sewer. Discharge to ground, storm sewers or ditches is not permitted. Coordination with the Fort Carson Waste Water Treatment Plant is not required for insignificant discharges.
- Chlorine should be non-detectable (<0.1 ppm) using standard test methods. Dechlorination can be accomplished by the use of commercially available equipment that employs chemical neutralization and aeration. Dechlorination is not specifically required by the CGP, but is a Fort Carson requirement that has been included in design.
- Contaminated water, to include chlorinated water, can have a detrimental effect on the biological processes at the WWTP. The release of large volumes of otherwise uncontaminated water can upset the normal operation of the WWTP, hence the requirement for prior coordination.
- Common sense should be used for significant discharges. A few hundred gallons would not be a problem. If unsure, contact the WWTP.
- Please be sure to contact the Stormwater Coordinator for questions regarding this document at 719.526.1697.

