



City of Cañon City

***P.O. Box 1460 – 128 Main Street – Cañon City, CO 81215-1460
(719) 269-9011 – Fax: (719) 269-9017***

***Engineering
Department***

Illicit Discharges From Detached Single-Family Residential Project Sites

With the renewal of the MS4 General Permit, effective July 1, 2016, DESC permits are no longer required for detached single-family residential projects less than one acre in size in the following developments: Dawson Ranch, Four Mile Ranch, Gold Cañon, and Skyline Villas PUD. **Only the permit requirement is being changed. Erosion and sediment control measures are still required and all projects are still subject to the illicit discharge regulations.**

Chapter 8.70 of the Cañon City Municipal Code, as well as State and Federal laws, prohibit illicit discharges. An illicit discharge is generally defined as “*any direct or indirect release of pollutants to the stormwater system and/or waters of the State.*” Pollutants include, but are not limited to, chemicals, yard and pet wastes, trash, sewage, sediments, paint, concrete wash-out residues, and any other material that is considered harmful to humans, animals, or aquatic life and its habitat.

Additionally, it is unlawful to store materials in a manner and/or location that will comprise a threatened discharge. Threatened discharges include the unprotected storage of materials including, but not limited to, stockpiles of excavation spoils or landscaping materials, sediment deposited on the paved roadways, or other bulk storage of materials that could be classified as a pollutant.

Control of pollutants is best accomplished through the use of structural or non-structural Best Management Practices (BMP’s). BMP’s are permanent or temporary measures installed to prevent the accidental discharge of pollutants from the site. BMP’s shall be installed and maintained, at the owner’s or operator’s expense, until final stabilization of the site disturbance has been achieved. Final stabilization is achieved when all ground disturbances have been completed and uniform vegetative cover has been established to at least 70 percent of pre-disturbance levels or implementation of equivalent permanent, physical erosion reduction methods such as landscaping, hardscaping, or other permanent measures.

An illicit discharge from the site or failure to implement BMP’s can result in enforcement actions and civil penalties imposed on the owner and/or operator and may be up to \$250.00 per day per violation.

DESC permits must still be obtained for new construction in the Elizabeth Street P.U.D subdivision and will be required in all future subdivisions. Projects that will disturb more than 1 acre will still be subject to City and State permitting requirements.

To aid in pollution prevention, a DESC permit may be obtained for any site. For a nominal fee, a completed DESC application and site plan will be reviewed by the Engineering Department and returned with comments to assist in the prevention of discharges of pollutants, and subsequent violations, from the site.

For more information, please contact the City of Cañon City’s Engineering or Stormwater Departments. Additional information can be found at <http://www.canoncity.org>.