

STORMWATER UTILITY FEE

In 1998, a Citizen's Stormwater Advisory Committee recommended that City Council create a stormwater utility to generate funds for stormwater facility maintenance, construction, and State and Federal Clean Water Quality mandates.

In 2004 the City Council adopted Ordinance No.22 creating a Stormwater Utility Fee providing funding for implementation of the City's federally mandated MS4 permit requirements which regulate stormwater quality to protect streams and rivers.

Because "impervious surface" is the primary contributor to polluted urban runoff, the fee is equitably based upon the extent of impervious surface found on a tract of land.

Impervious surface is best defined as any surface which inhibits precipitation from directly percolating through the soil and into groundwater. Examples include pavement, sidewalks, buildings and lined gravel beds.

Questions? Call 269-9010 and ask for:

Rik Gay - Stormwater Quality & Projects
Don Palumbo - GIS Analyst



During runoff events stormwater picks up sediment and other pollutants deposited on impervious surfaces during dry periods and then is "flushed" into storm sewers and ultimately into nearby rivers

New Stormwater Program Staff

We are pleased to announce the addition of Rik Gay to our staff as the Stormwater Program Technician. Rik comes to Cañon City from Wyoming and has 15 years of experience with water quality and related issues.

His duties with the Stormwater Program include but are not limited to:

- Illicit discharge, erosion and sediment control training - public and staff
 - Stormwater education, public outreach and participation
 - Illicit discharge detection and elimination
 - Stormwater ordinance development and implementation
 - Develop and maintain manual for illicit discharge, inspection, and post-construction policy
 - Permit tracking and management
- And any other issues related to water quality and/or stormwater runoff. He can be reached at the City with the information below.

City of Cañon City Stormwater Program

Rik Gay
P.O. Box 1460
Cañon City, CO 81215-1460
Phone:(719) 276-5265
Cell: (719) 240-5325
e-mail: rlgay@canoncity.org

City of Cañon City
Engineering Dept.

Stormwater Management Program News

COMMERCIAL / INDUSTRIAL EDITION



Stormwater Management for Business

- Many commercial activities contribute to storm water pollution, such as lack of parking area maintenance, landscape fertilization, and improper hazardous waste disposal.
- Polluted runoff, also known as non-point source pollution, occurs when contaminants are picked up by rainwater, snowmelt or landscape irrigation, then carried off to be deposited in lakes, rivers and streams. Some examples are: oil and sand from roads, sediment from disturbed soil, lawn and garden products, and toxic materials from urban and suburban areas.
- Polluted runoff can have a number of negative impacts on water quality. For example, increasing the sediment and nutrient loads upsets nature's balance in streams and lakes. Excess nutrients, such as nitrogen and phosphorus, lead to algae blooms and a condition known as eutrophication, which damages aquatic ecosystems. Metals and other toxic chemicals in polluted runoff negatively impact aquatic life and human health. Finally, polluted runoff can introduce bacteria, viruses and other pathogens into local water bodies.
- **Polluted runoff can have a number of impacts on water quality, with negative consequences for the environment and human health.**

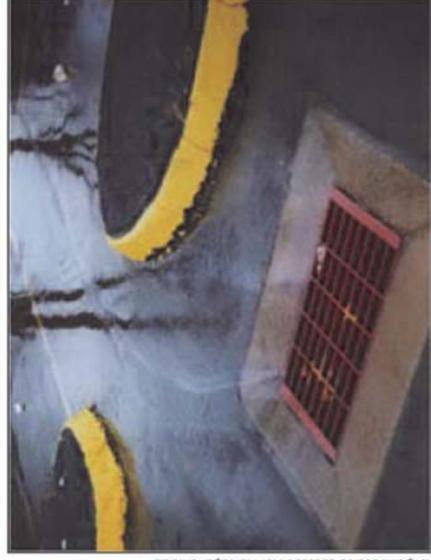
Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Business

Commercial and industrial business is responsible for a majority of total impervious surface area. This however also provides a huge opportunity for business to have the greatest influence on protecting future water quality. Impervious surface is the number one problem. There are two primary approaches to *best manage* the problem.

- Reduce the percentage of impervious surface
- Maintain existing impervious surface

Business BMPs

- When it comes time to replace impervious surface, redesigning parking and landscaped areas to include storm water management features (i.e. rain gardens, bio-retention areas, collection areas for roof runoff, and shared parking)
- Property maintenance – sweeping (not washing) parking lots including proper disposal of dirt and trash collected



Rain and snowmelt wash contaminants into storm drain.

More Business BMPs

- Training and Education for Employees. Workers should "know their site," notice where runoff from the property goes, and know where their drain inlets go. Good housekeeping practices are required to keep pollutants out of storm drains and are also a good idea if a property drains to the sanitary sewer or combined sewer.
- Spill Prevention and Clean Up. Businesses should avoid toxic materials to the extent possible, store liquids where they cannot be knocked over, and consider the best place to conduct specific activities. For example, businesses should keep their property clean, but not by washing grit and grime into the storm drainage system. Instead litter should be removed, all impervious areas swept with material collected and disposed of in the garbage (unless it contains hazardous material and requires special disposal) and use absorbent materials to absorb oils.
- Good Storage and Waste Management. To help keep rain from washing away pollutants, companies should be advised to keep dumpsters and other containers securely closed; store containers under cover; and cover stockpiled materials such as gravel, wood chips, and building materials (for example, by using plastic sheeting).