

BG-30 Food Service Facilities



Photo Credit: Geoff Brosseau

Description

This category includes:

- Restaurants
- Food truck commissaries
- Institutional cafeterias
- Grocery stores, bakeries, and delicatessens
- Any facility requiring a Health Department permit for food preparation

Pollutant Sources

The following are sources of pollutants:

- Cleaning of equipment
- Grease handling and disposal
- Spills
- Surface cleaning
- Cooling and refrigeration equipment maintenance
- Landscaping and grounds maintenance
- Dumpster and loading dock area
- Parking lots
- Illicit connections to storm drain system

Pollutants can include:

- Organic materials (food wastes)



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- Oil and grease
- Toxic chemicals in cleaning products, disinfectants, and pesticides

Approach

Minimize exposure of rain and runoff to outdoor cleaning and storage areas by using cover and containment. In and around these areas, use good housekeeping to minimize the generation of pollutants. Make stormwater pollution prevention BMPs a part of standard operating procedures and the employee training program. Provide employee education materials in the first language of employees.

Source Control BMPs

The best management practices are listed by activity or area in the following table.

Dumpster and Loading Dock Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">□ Store and transfer all solid and liquid wastes, such as tallow, in watertight covered containers.□ Keep litter from accumulating around loading docks by providing trash receptacles and encouraging employees to use them.□ Bag and seal food waste before putting it in the dumpster. Do not place uncontained liquids, or leaking containers or garbage bags into a dumpster.□ Keep dumpster lids closed to keep out rainwater and to prevent trash from spilling out.□ If the dumpster regularly overflows, get a bigger one or arrange for more frequent collection. If the dumpster is shared with other tenants, speak with the property/lease manager about scheduling more frequent trash pickups or a larger dumpster.□ Don't hose out dumpsters. Apply absorbent over any fluids spilled in dumpster. Absorbent will usually be knocked out when the dumpster is emptied.□ Have the dumpster leasing company repair or replace leaky dumpsters and compactors, and have them clean out dirty dumpsters.□ Install a spill cleanup kit near the dumpster and loading dock areas.□ Post employee reminder signs such as "Keep lid closed" near tallow bins and dumpsters.□ Consider enclosing the dumpster in a roofed and bermed area to prevent exposure to rainwater, and draining the area to the sanitary sewer. Contact the local wastewater treatment plant or the county environmental health department for guidance.□ Keep dumpsters or the dumpster enclosure locked to prevent illegal dumping.□ For more information on cleaning dumpster areas see the Mobile Cleaning - Food Service Business-related business guide sheet in this series.
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<p>Equipment and Outdoor Cleaning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Make sure all discharges from cooling equipment go to the sanitary sewer and not the street, gutter, or storm drain. ❑ Clean floor mats, filters, and garbage cans in a mop sink, floor drain, or proper outside area connected to the sanitary sewer with an oil and water separator. Don't wash them in a parking lot, alley, sidewalk, or street. ❑ Consider installing anti-slip floors when you remodel. ❑ Consider cleaning filters in the dishwasher. Contact the local wastewater treatment plant or the county environmental health department for guidance. ❑ Pour wash water into a janitorial or mop sink. Don't pour it out onto a parking lot, alley, sidewalk, or street. ❑ For outdoor cleaning, have employees or contractors follow the instructions in the following business guide sheet in this series: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Mobile Cleaning - Food Service Business-related ✓ Mobile Cleaning – Surface cleaning ❑ For more information in general on cleaning floor mats, equipment, exhaust filters, and outdoor surfaces see the Mobile Cleaning - Food Service Business-related business guide sheet in this series.
<p>Spill Cleanup</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Prepare a spill cleanup plan that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Procedures for different types of spills ✓ Schedule for initial and annual training of employees ✓ Cleanup kits in well-marked, accessible areas ✓ Designation of key employee who monitors cleanup ✓ Posting the plan in the work area ❑ If a spill occurs, immediately stop the spill at its source. ❑ Keep the spill from entering the street, gutter, or storm drain. ❑ Use dry methods for spill cleanup (sweeping, cat litter, etc.). Don't hose down spills. ❑ If wet cleaning (including high-temperature or high pressure washing) is required, dry clean first and then mop (or if it is absolutely necessary, wash) and collect the water. Dispose of water in sink or other indoor drain, not in the street, gutter, or storm drain. ❑ If a final rinse is necessary for health reasons, collect the rinsewater and dispose it to the sink or indoor floor drain. If outdoors, block the storm drain before applying water. Mop up or wet-vacuum water, and dispose it to a sink or indoor drain. ❑ Do not use bleach or disinfectants if there is a possibility that rinsewater could flow to a street, gutter, or storm drain.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ For more information on cleaning outdoor surfaces see the Mobile Cleaning - Surface Cleaning business guide sheet in this series.
<p>Recycling and Disposal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Separate wastes. Keep your recyclable wastes in separate containers according to the type of material. They are easier to recycle if separated. □ Recycle the following materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Food waste (non-greasy, non-animal food waste can be composted). Donate leftover, edible food whenever possible to local food banks. ✓ Paper and cardboard ✓ Container glass, aluminum, and tin ✓ Pallets and drums □ Dispose of toxic waste properly. Toxic waste includes used cleaners, and rags (soaked with solvents, floor cleaners, and detergents).
<p>Grease Handling and Disposal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Never pour oil, grease, or large quantities of oily liquids such as sauces or salad dressings or waste grease down a sink, floor drain, storm drain, or into a dumpster. □ Install screens and solid traps in sink and floor drains to catch larger solids. Clean these screens and traps frequently. □ Don't try to "dissolve" grease by adding hot water or emulsifying chemicals – it will only move the grease further down the building's sewer line and make it harder to remove later. □ Recycle grease and oil. Don't pour it into sinks, floor drains, or onto a parking lot or street. Look in the phone book for "Renderers" or call the local recycling or household hazardous waste information line. □ Use tallow bins or sealed containers with tamper-proof lids. Keep the exterior of the container clean. Check for leaks. Ask the recycler for a leak-free tallow bin and replace any leaky grease containers. If grease is stored outside, keep it under a roof, if possible. □ Do not contaminate the recyclable oils and grease in the tallow bin with the waste grease from the grease trap or grease interceptor. □ Inspect and clean all waste grease removal devices (grease trap or grease interceptor) often enough to keep them functioning properly and efficiently. □ For disposal of waste grease from the grease trap or grease interceptor, see "Grease Traps" or "Septic Tanks" in the phone book.

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<p>Land-scaping and Grounds Maintenance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Never dispose of leftover pesticides in the gutter, street, or storm drain. Leftover pesticides must be either used up or disposed of as hazardous waste. <input type="checkbox"/> Do not blow or rake leaves, grass, or garden clippings into the street, gutter, or storm drain. <input type="checkbox"/> If pesticides are used, do not over apply or apply when rain is forecast. <input type="checkbox"/> Do not use copper-based algaecides in pools or fountains. Control algae with chlorine or other alternatives to copper-based products.
<p>Pest Control</p>	<p>Food Sources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Keep the kitchen free of food scraps. <input type="checkbox"/> Take out garbage each night in a closed container. <input type="checkbox"/> Refrigerate all food or store in pest-proof containers each night. <input type="checkbox"/> Keep ventilation system working properly to keep greasy residue off walls. <p>Appliances</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Keep dishwasher area clean. Check the trap nightly. <input type="checkbox"/> Where possible, elevate appliances at least 6 inches off the floor. <input type="checkbox"/> Clean under appliances nightly. <input type="checkbox"/> Steam clean or wash appliances weekly. <input type="checkbox"/> Remember to clean under the counter, under the sink, and the refrigerator vent. <p>Drains and Trash Cans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Steam clean or scrub floor drains with a brush to help eliminate fruit flies. <input type="checkbox"/> Keep dumpster area clean – inside and out. <input type="checkbox"/> Wash garbage cans regularly. <p>Supplies and Entry Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Check for pests before bringing supplies in to the kitchen. Roaches like corrugated boxes. <input type="checkbox"/> Don't store boxes in the kitchen – take boxes away or store in a refrigerated area. <input type="checkbox"/> Seal any gaps below doors. <p>Reduce Habitat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Inspect the entire establishment – inside and out. <input type="checkbox"/> Suggest physical modifications that may help to eliminate pest behavior.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Suggest changes in food storage or cleanup practices to eliminate food sources for pests. <input type="checkbox"/> Place boric acid powder in wall voids. <input type="checkbox"/> Seal cracks and crevices. <p>Monitor for Pests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Use sticky traps to monitor how well the pest control program is working. Pests caught in the traps warn of a possible problem. <input type="checkbox"/> When hiring a pest control service, look for a company that provides Integrated Pest Management (IPM) services. <p>Use Baits First</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Use baits for controlling pests. Remove bait when pests are gone, or else the bait may attract more pests. <input type="checkbox"/> Use chemicals only as a last resort. If absolutely necessary, choose less-toxic chemicals, and ask the pest service to provide label information. <input type="checkbox"/> Apply pesticides only if necessary, not on a regular schedule. Follow label directions. Do not apply pesticides around floor drains, sinks, or food. <p>Purchasing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Use non-disposable products. Serve food on ceramic dishware rather than paper, plastic or Styrofoam, and use cloth napkins rather than paper ones. If you must use disposable products, use paper instead of Styrofoam. <input type="checkbox"/> Buy the least toxic products available: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Look for “non-toxic,” “non-petroleum based,” “free of ammonia, phosphates, dye, or perfume,” or “readily biodegradable” on the label. Don’t assume biodegradable products are safe. Biodegradable means the product will eventually break down, but it may harm the environment in the meantime. ✓ Avoid chlorinated compounds, petroleum distillates, phenols, formaldehyde, and caustic or acidic products. ✓ Use water-based products. ✓ Look for and purchase “recycled” and “recyclable” containers. By doing so, you help ensure a use for the recyclable materials that people collect and recycle.
<p>Education and Training</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Employees can help prevent pollution when urban runoff training is included in employee orientations and reviews. <input type="checkbox"/> Train all employees upon hiring and annually thereafter. <input type="checkbox"/> Use a training log to document employee training.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">□ Post information about or labels for BMPs where employees and customers can see them.□ Remember the facility is liable for the behavior of contractors. Be sure all contractors hired to clean inside or outside are aware of and implement these BMPs.□ Explain BMPs to other food businesses through your business associations or chambers of commerce.
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Treatment Control BMPs

If treatment controls are installed at the facility, see Section 4 of this Handbook for information on inspecting and maintaining the BMPs.

For information on designing treatment controls, see Section 5 of the Development and Redevelopment Handbook.

References

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