



Photo Credit: Geoff Brosseau

Design Objectives

- Maximize Infiltration
 - Provide Retention
 - Slow Runoff
 - Minimize Impervious Land Coverage
 - Prohibit Dumping of Improper Materials
 - Contain Pollutants
 - Collect and Convey
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Description

Fueling areas have the potential to contribute oil and grease, solvents, car battery acid, coolant and gasoline to the stormwater conveyance system. Spills at vehicle and equipment fueling areas can be a significant source of pollution because fuels contain toxic materials and heavy metals that are not easily removed by stormwater treatment devices.

Approach

Project plans must be developed for cleaning near fuel dispensers, emergency spill cleanup, containment, and leak prevention.

Suitable Applications

Appropriate applications include commercial, industrial, and any other areas planned to have fuel dispensing equipment, including retail gasoline outlets, automotive repair shops, and major non-retail dispensing areas.

Design Considerations

Design requirements for fueling areas are governed by Building and Fire Codes and by current local agency ordinances and zoning requirements. Design requirements described in this fact sheet are meant to enhance and be consistent with these code and ordinance requirements.

Designing New Installations

Covering



Fuel dispensing areas should provide an overhanging roof structure or canopy. The cover's minimum dimensions must be equal to or greater than the area within the grade break. The cover must not drain onto the fuel dispensing area and the downspouts must be routed to prevent drainage across the fueling area. The fueling area should drain to the project's treatment control BMP(s) prior to discharging to the stormwater conveyance system. Note - If fueling large equipment or vehicles that would prohibit the use of covers or roofs, the fueling island should be designed to sufficiently accommodate the larger vehicles and equipment and to prevent stormwater run-on and runoff. Grade to direct stormwater to a dead-end sump.

Surfacing

Fuel dispensing areas should be paved with Portland cement concrete (or equivalent smooth impervious surface). The use of asphalt concrete should be prohibited. Use asphalt sealant to protect asphalt paved areas surrounding the fueling area. This provision may be made to sites that have pre-existing asphalt surfaces.

The concrete fuel dispensing area should be extended a minimum of 6.5 ft from the corner of each fuel dispenser, or the length at which the hose and nozzle assembly may be operated plus 1 ft, whichever is less.

Grading/Contouring

Dispensing areas should have an appropriate slope to prevent ponding, and be separated from the rest of the site by a grade break that prevents run-on of urban runoff. (Slope is required to be 2 to 4% in some jurisdictions' stormwater management and mitigation plans.)

Fueling areas should be graded to drain toward a dead-end sump. Runoff from downspouts/roofs should be directed away from fueling areas. Do not locate storm drains in the immediate vicinity of the fueling area.

Redeveloping Existing Installations

Various jurisdictional stormwater management and mitigation plans (SUSMP, WQMP, etc.) define "redevelopment" in terms of amounts of additional impervious area, increases in gross floor area and/or exterior construction, and land disturbing activities with structural or impervious surfaces. The definition of "redevelopment" must be consulted to determine whether or not the requirements for new development apply to areas intended for redevelopment. If the definition applies, the steps outlined under "designing new installations" above should be followed.

Additional Information

- In the case of an emergency, provide storm drain seals, such as isolation valves, drain plugs, or drain covers, to prevent spills or contaminated stormwater from entering the stormwater conveyance system.

Other Resources

A Manual for the Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan (SUSMP), Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, May 2002.

Model Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan (SUSMP) for San Diego County, Port of San Diego, and Cities in San Diego County, February 14, 2002.

Model Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) for County of Orange, Orange County Flood Control District, and the Incorporated Cities of Orange County, Draft February 2003.

Ventura Countywide Technical Guidance Manual for Stormwater Quality Control Measures, July 2002.