**Description and Purpose**

Water conservation practices are activities that use water during the construction of a project in a manner that avoids causing erosion and the transport of pollutants offsite. These practices can reduce or eliminate non-stormwater discharges.

**Suitable Applications**

Water conservation practices are suitable for all construction sites where water is used, including piped water, metered water, trucked water, and water from a reservoir.

**Limitations**

- None identified.

**Implementation**

- Keep water equipment in good working condition.
- Stabilize water truck filling area.
- Repair water leaks promptly.
- Washing of vehicles and equipment on the construction site is discouraged.
- Avoid using water to clean construction areas. If water must be used for cleaning or surface preparation, surface should be swept and vacuumed first to remove dirt. This will minimize amount of water required.

**Categories**

| EC | Erosion Control |
| SE | Sediment Control |
| TC | Tracking Control |
| WE | Wind Erosion Control |
| NS | Non-Stormwater Management Control |
| WM | Waste Management and Materials Pollution Control |

**Legend:**

- Primary Objective
- Secondary Objective

**Targeted Constituents**

- Sediment
- Nutrients
- Trash
- Metals
- Bacteria
- Oil and Grease
- Organics

**Potential Alternatives**

None

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Direct construction water runoff to areas where it can soak into the ground or be collected and reused.

Authorized non-stormwater discharges to the storm drain system, channels, or receiving waters are acceptable with the implementation of appropriate BMPs.

Lock water tank valves to prevent unauthorized use.

**Costs**
The cost is small to none compared to the benefits of conserving water.

**Inspection and Maintenance**
- Inspect and verify that activity based BMPs are in place prior to the commencement of authorized non-stormwater discharges.
- Inspect BMPs in accordance with General Permit requirements for the associated project type and risk level. It is recommended that at a minimum, BMPs be inspected weekly, prior to forecasted rain events, daily during extended rain events, and after the conclusion of rain events.
- Inspect BMPs subject to non-stormwater discharges daily while non-stormwater discharges are occurring.
- Repair water equipment as needed to prevent unintended discharges.
  - Water trucks
  - Water reservoirs (water buffalos)
  - Irrigation systems
  - Hydrant connections

**References**