AVN-Stormwater

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Greetings, Pollution Prevention Team! We're thrilled to bring you the 2024 Third Edition of the City of Phoenix Aviation Department Stormwater Pollution Prevention Newsletter. In this edition, we explore the ins and outs of our stormwater drainage system, including practices to prevent pollution from discharging into our local waterways. Read on to learn more!

Please share our newsletter with others by forwarding or inviting them to subscribe.



TACKLING THE TRASH

Addressing Debris Accumulation in Stormwater Drainage Systems

When it comes to maintaining a clean and safe environment at our airports, one issue we contend with is the accumulation of trash and debris in stormwater drainage systems, particularly during and after monsoon events. Stormwater drainage systems are designed to manage excess rainfall and mitigate flooding. However, when a downpour occurs, these systems can become overwhelmed, leading to the accumulation of litter and debris. Of note, several outfalls originate off airport property and may collect trash from streets and parking lots. It then comingles with airport stormwater drainage systems.



Addressing this issue requires a multi-pronged approach:

- Regular inspections of your areas and cleanups of the drainage systems can help prevent blockages, particularly before and immediately following a monsoon event.
- Installing debris-catching devices in the drains can also significantly reduce the amount of trash and debris that ends up in the system. These devices need to be regularly maintained to keep them clear.
- Educating staff and visitors about the importance of proper waste disposal can also go a long way in minimizing the amount of trash that finds its way into these drains.

Tackling the trash challenge on our airport and in our stormwater drains is not just about maintaining the aesthetics of our airport. It's about ensuring everyone's safety, protecting our

local environment, and preserving our precious resources. Let's all do our part to keep our airport clean and safe! Take the extra step and put your trash in a can!

See control measures in the Virtual Notebook for more guidance.



Image source: Adobe Stock

DID YOU KNOW?

All About the Salt River

Outfalls from the Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport stormwater drainage system ultimately drain into the Salt River, a perennial river of rich cultural history and ecological importance. Fed by high altitude springs and streams, the Salt River is part of a complex system of irrigation canals the construction of which dates to as early as 600 A.D. and helped to establish modern-day Phoenix as we know it. Today, the portion of the river in Phoenix fills during flooding events but is often dry. It still supports a robust desert ecosystem and offers recreational activities with the <u>Rio Salado Pathway</u> alongside it. Closer to the headwaters, the biodiversity can be seen in abundance with bald eagles, southwestern river otters, and the iconic wild horses calling the Salt River corridor home.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

2024 2nd Quarter Inspection Results

We're excited to share fantastic news from our second quarter inspections! We achieved a remarkable compliance rate of **96.3%**, a significant leap from the previous quarter's **91.5%**. Even more impressive, Deer Valley Airport reached a perfect **100%** compliance rate!

This outstanding progress highlights our commitment to excellence and sets a new benchmark for the future!



*Includes spill kits labeled, spill kits have lids, spill kits stocked, and spill kits free of trash.

WHAT CAN WE DO BETTER?

Proactive Measures in Managing Leaks, Spills, and Stains

In our continuous quest to provide a safe and clean environment, proactively handling leaks, spills, and stains remains of utmost importance.

LEAKS, SPILLS, AND STAINS

First and foremost, address any equipment leaks without delay. Immediate repair is key to preventing further issues. While awaiting repair, the use of drip pans under equipment can be an effective measure to prevent the spread of leaks. Cleaning up spills and stains right away is another crucial step. It is essential to dispose of all cleanup materials in the designated area.

SPILL KITS

NOTICE

Spill kits are important. Regular inspection and maintenance of these kits ensures clean-up materials are available when you need them, especially in areas prone to spills. A well-stocked, covered, and labeled spill kit, free of trash, is your go-to should a spill happen and an invaluable asset in managing spills effectively.

By following these simple, yet crucial steps, we can avoid polluting chemicals entering our environment! See control measures in the Virtual Notebook for more guidance.



TRAINING REMINDER

2024 Training has been assigned and is available through the <u>PHXYou</u> platform. Don't forget to complete your training by the end of the year!

If you want others to take this online course, they may have to self-register. Please email <u>avn-stormwater@phoenix.gov</u> for assistance and instructions or if you need assistance logging on.



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