

# Working Near Water

Supporting and protecting our water health starts with awareness. It is important to think about what you are doing and where you are doing it when working near water. Is there water nearby that needs protecting? Knowing where water sources are and managing your work in a way that supports them is essential.



- Water can be found in catch basins, maintenance holes, groundwater monitors, water wells and ditches. These all lead to streams, rivers, lakes and oceans which are important in supporting our lives and the lives of plants and other animals.
- Understand how water flows on your property. Knowing this will help you to protect our water sources. Whatever pollutants are on the ground can be transported into water.
- Know weather conditions – rain, sleet, and snow melt can all carry pollutants from land into the water.

## With awareness comes action:

- Maintain buffers between your work and water
- Install erosion control when working near water
- Manage and handle liquids away from water
- Store chemicals and waste away from water
- Keep containers covered and sealed
- Maintain equipment to prevent leaks to the ground
- Locate and mark all utilities (sewer lines, water lines, septic systems, wells, etc.) prior to excavating
- Inspect your workplace and take steps to prevent materials from entering water
- Avoid the use of fertilizers, pesticides and other hazardous materials
- Keep spill kits stocked and close by in case of a spill

Strive **FOR** Wise

## DID YOU KNOW?

- More information on working near water systems is available in Procedure R7 – Water Management in the EARTH 1st Manual.

# Working Near Water

Company \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Delivered by \_\_\_\_\_

Other topics discussed \_\_\_\_\_

Name	Signature	Name	Signature
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## QUESTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

RECORD RESPONSES SPECIFIC TO YOUR SITE

- Where can you find water at your site? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- How does stormwater flow at your site? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Where does your stormwater discharge? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What plants and animals could be effected by the water onsite? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What could you change to better support the health of our water systems? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Our EARTH 1st Champions for February are Norjohn Contracting

Norjohn Contracting is continuing to reduce their impacts! They have recently purchased a new pressure washer to clean their paving equipment. They are using the available steam option to effectively remove residual material and at the same time reducing the amount of water and cleaning products previously used. The steam also significantly reduces the amount of time it takes to remove the emulsion...by half. But that's not all! There is also an Eco switch available to run cold water through the washer, reducing the amount of diesel used to heat the water. What a great way to reduce impacts while efficiently operating.

Great job, Norjohn Contracting!



We are the environment!  
commit ■ create ■ participate