

# INSTALLATION

Regardless if above grade or below grade, systems are to be a minimum of ten feet wide by ten feet long, but sized to contain all liquid and waste that is expected to be generated between scheduled cleanout periods.



*Above Grade System: The system design may utilize an earthen berm, straw bales, sandbags, or other acceptable barriers that will maintain its shape and integrity and support the polyethylene lining. Include a minimum four-inch freeboard as part of the design.*



*Below Grade System: Excavate soil to create a pit. Include a minimum 12-inch freeboard to reasonably ensure that the structure will not overtop during a rain event. Line the pit with ten mil (0.01 inch) polyethylene lining to control seepage. The bottom of the excavated pit should be above the seasonal high water table.*

Information courtesy of:

[www.tcpwq.org](http://www.tcpwq.org)



TIPPECANOE COUNTY  
PARTNERSHIP FOR WATER QUALITY™

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Information developed  
by: [www.siswac.org](http://www.siswac.org)

Last updated October 2015



# CONCRETE WASHOUTS



Concrete washout areas are designated locations within a construction site that are either a prefabricated unit or a designed measure that is constructed to contain concrete washout. Concrete washout systems are typically used to contain washout water when chutes and hoppers are rinsed after delivery.

## **Overview:**

- Concrete washout systems are implemented to reduce the discharge of pollutants that are associated with concrete washout waste.
- Uncured concrete and associated liquids may leach into the soil and contaminate ground water or discharge to a waterbody, which can be harmful to aquatic life.
- Concrete washout systems are designed to promote evaporation. However, if the liquids do not evaporate and the system is near capacity it may be necessary to vacuum or remove the liquids and dispose of them in an acceptable method.

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# EXAMPLES

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## DO'S

- Ensure signage is used to identify concrete washout areas.
- Make sure all concrete suppliers and subs know where concrete washouts are located.
- Minimum of ten-mil (0.01-inch) polyethylene sheeting that is free of holes, tears, and other defects should be used inside the washout area.
- Inspect daily and after each storm event for leaks, spills, and adequate capacity.
- Once concrete wastes harden, remove and dispose of the material.
- Replace plastic liner after every cleaning because removal of material will usually damage the lining.
- The concrete washout system should be repaired or enlarged as necessary to maintain capacity for concrete washout.
- Dispose of all hardened concrete and other materials used to construct the system once the washout is no longer required. Holes, depressions, and other land disturbances associated with the system should be backfilled, graded, and stabilized.
- Make sure concrete washouts are placed away from the stormwater system and natural water bodies.

## DON'TS

- Do not wash out concrete trucks or equipment into storm drains, sewer systems, wetlands, streams, rivers, creeks, ditches, or streets.
- Do not dispose of excess concrete or residual loads inside of the wash out area.



Self-contained sturdy containment systems that are delivered to a site and located at strategic locations for concrete washout.



Poor job of containing washout inside of the designed area. Washout material should be removed when capacity becomes an issue.



Good example of above grade system with straw bales and a polyethylene lining. A "Concrete Washout" sign should be installed at this location.



The polyethylene lining should wrap over the straw bales and be properly secured along the top. The lining used at this washout area is not thick enough.



This above grade washout system has the correct polyethylene lining which is wrapped around the straw bales. The washout is underlain with DGA to provide a solid base for the washout and to prevent punctures in the plastic liner. Straw bales are securely anchored to the ground, and a large sign identifies the washout.