City of Tacoma 2024 Annual Report

Q. 45. Attach a summary of actions taken to implement the source control program, per S5.C.8.a.

The City of Tacoma (City) Environmental Compliance (EC) group implements the City's Source Control program and manages an inventory of commercial businesses and industrial facilities that are determined to be potential pollutant generating sources. The inventory and inspections are managed within the City's Tacoma Stormwater Inventory (TSWI) database.

Companies determined to be potential pollution generating sites are identified in the database as Surface Water Inventory (SWI), and NAICS codes are included to help provide additional detail of business type. The inspection program annually inspects 20% of the inventory, with a goal to visit 100% of all businesses over the five-year permit term.

Updates to the inventory outside of routine inspections, include the processes listed below:
- User Survey Program - Review of Tax & Licensing records to determine the nature of existing and new businesses.
- GIS Map Assessment – Staff review EC Map that shows existing companies.
- Spill Response – When EC respond to spill events at a commercial property, they would determine if the site should be inventoried as SWI.

All SWI business are provided information about the City of Tacoma Stormwater Management Manual (SWMM), Volume 6 Source Control Best Management Practices that may apply to their activities. This occurs during inspections or through mailings and emails as needed.

To ensure an equitable distribution of information, several of our handouts have been translated into various languages that include Spanish, Russian, Cambodian, Korean and Vietnamese. The City also provides stormwater and source control related messages using citywide education and outreach tools including the City website and social media sites, TV Tacoma programming, Tacoma Environews listserv, and community event information booths.

Subchapter 12.08D of the Tacoma Municipal Code (TMC) outlines surface water management regulations and provides a mechanism to take enforcement actions for any code violations. Enforcement actions are based on a process outlined in the City's Stormwater Compliance Policy that was codified in 2022. Enforcement procedures may include field inspection reports, phone calls, letters, follow-up inspections, warning letters, Notices of Violation, and civil penalties.