

storm water contamination from these areas. Based upon the information provided in part 1 of the group application process, some of the suggested management processes are being used at leather tanning facilities. In addition, EPA believes that these requirements continue to provide the necessary flexibility to address the variable risk for pollutants in storm water discharges associated with different facilities. Further, many facilities will find that management measures that they have already incorporated into the facilities operation, such as the use of covers and roofing, containers, and berms and dikes will meet the requirements of this section.

(b) *Preventive Maintenance*—Under the preventive maintenance requirements of the pollution prevention plan, permittees are required to develop a preventive maintenance program that includes regular inspections and maintenance of storm water BMPs. The maintenance program requires periodic removal of debris from discharge diversions. Permittees using ponds to control their effluent limitation frequently use impoundments or sedimentation ponds as their BAT/BCT. Maintenance schedules and maintenance measures for these ponds must be provided in the pollution prevention plan.

The purpose of the inspections is to check on the accuracy of the description of potential pollution sources contained in the plan, determine the effectiveness of the plan and implementation of the storm water pollution prevention plan. The inspections allow facility personnel to monitor the success or failure of elements of the plan on a regular basis. The use of an inspection checklist is recommended. The checklist will ensure that all required areas are inspected, as well as help to meet the record keeping requirements. Based on the results of each inspection, the description of potential pollution sources, and measures and controls, the plan must be revised as appropriate within 2 weeks after each inspection. Changes in the measures and controls must be implemented on the site in a timely manner, and never more than 12 weeks after completion of the inspection.

(c) *Inspections*—Under the inspection requirements of the storm water pollution prevention plan elements, qualified facility personnel shall be identified to inspect designated areas of the facility, at a minimum of every 3 months. The individual or individuals who will conduct the inspections must be identified in the plan and should be

members of the pollution prevention team. The following areas shall be included in all inspections: storage areas for equipment and vehicles awaiting maintenance, facility yard area where outdoor storage occurs, receiving and unloading areas and waste management areas. A set of tracking or follow-up procedures shall be used to ensure that appropriate actions are taken in response to the inspections. Records of inspections shall be maintained and the pollution prevention plan modified where necessary.

In addition, qualified personnel must conduct quarterly visual inspections of all BMPs. The inspections shall include an assessment of the effectiveness and need for maintenance of storm water roofing and covers, dikes and curbs, discharge diversions, sediment control and collection systems and all other BMPs.

Quarterly visual inspections must be made at least once in each of the following designated periods during daylight hours. January–March (storm water runoff or snow melt), April–June (storm water runoff), July–September (storm water runoff), and October–December (snow melt runoff). Records shall be maintained as part of the pollution prevention plan.

(d) *Employee Training*—Under the employee training component of the storm water pollution prevention plan requirements, the permittee is required to identify annual (once per year) dates for training. Employee training must, at a minimum, address the following areas when applicable to a facility: general good housekeeping practices, spill prevention and control, waste management, inspections, preventive maintenance, detection of non-storm water discharges and other areas. EPA requires that facilities conduct training annually at a minimum. However, more frequent training may be necessary at facilities with high turnover of employees or where employee participation is essential to the storm water pollution prevention plan.

(e) *Recordkeeping and Internal Reporting*—Permittees must describe procedures for developing and retaining records on the status and effectiveness of plan implementation. The plan must address spills, monitoring, and BMP inspection and maintenance activities. Ineffective BMPs must be reported and the date of their corrective action recorded. Employees must report incidents of leaking fluids to facility management and these reports must be incorporated into the plan.

(f) *Storm Water Management*—The permittee must evaluate the

appropriateness of each storm water BMP that diverts, infiltrates, reuses, or otherwise reduces the discharge of contaminated storm water. In addition, the permittee must describe the storm water pollutant source or activity (i.e., loading and unloading operations, raw material storage piles, waste piles, etc.) to be controlled by each storm water management practice.

(3) *Comprehensive Site Compliance Evaluation*. The storm water pollution prevention plan must describe the scope and content of comprehensive site evaluation that qualified personnel will conduct to: 1) confirm the accuracy of the description of potential pollution sources contained in the plan; 2) determine the effectiveness of the plan; and 3) assess compliance with the terms and conditions of this section. Comprehensive site compliance evaluations must be conducted once a year for leather tanning facilities. These evaluations are intended to be more in depth than the quarterly visual inspections. The individual or individuals who will conduct the evaluation must be identified in the plan and should be members of the pollution prevention team. Evaluation reports must be retained for at least 3 years after the date of the evaluation. Based on the results of each evaluation, the description of potential pollution sources, and measures and controls, the plan must be revised as appropriate within 2 weeks after each inspection. Changes in the measures and controls must be implemented on the site in a timely manner, and never more than 12 weeks after completion of the evaluation.

6. Numeric Effluent Limitations

There are no numeric effluent limitations for storm water discharges from leather tanning facilities beyond those described in Part VI.E. of the fact sheet.

7. Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

a. *Analytical Monitoring Requirements*. The regulatory modifications at 40 CFR 122.44 (i)(2) established on April 2, 1992, grant permit writers the flexibility to reduce monitoring requirements in storm water discharge permits. EPA has determined that the potential for storm water discharges to contain pollutants above benchmark levels, because of the industrial activities and materials exposed to precipitation, does not support sampling at leather tanning and finishing facilities. Under the Storm Water Regulations at 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14), EPA defined “storm water