

Chapter 43: [Wastewater](#)

Treatment of Pipe Flushing Water Requirements

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URL: <https://www-esh.slac.stanford.edu/eshmanual/references/iwastewaterReqPipeFlushing.pdf>

1 Purpose

The purpose of these requirements is to protect water quality and maintain compliance with SLAC's [wastewater permit](#).

They cover the disposal of water used for pipe flushing or pipe testing activities.

They apply to workers, supervisors, area/building managers, construction projects, and the Metal Finishing Pretreatment Facility.

2 Requirements

1. Water used to flush or test pipes in which chemicals have been added will need to be contained and sampled before discharge under a non-routine discharge permit, contact the wastewater program manager to coordinate sampling.
2. A limited amount of clean (no chemicals added) domestic water used to flush or test pipes may be discharged to the sanitary sewer under SLAC's wastewater permit, contact the wastewater program manager for approval. Additional water above the allowable amount may need to be discharged to the sanitary sewer under a *non-routine discharge* permit.
3. With approval from [wastewater program manager](#) clean water from testing and flushing activities may be reused for dust control or as irrigation water, under the following conditions:
 - It is not a prohibited discharge.
 - The water is not from copper piping.
 - If the water has been chlorinated, it is dechlorinated before discharge to the environment.
 - No chemicals have been added.
 - The water does not enter the storm drain system.
4. Any water that contacts asbestos fibers, or wastewater generated during transite pipe cutting work, needs to be collected and filtered in accordance with the following requirements before introduction into the sanitary sewer system:
 - Filter water using four in-line filter cartridges with 2-inch inlets and outlets.
 - Connect the outlet of each filter cartridge in series to the inlet of the next cartridge.
 - Make sure the first cartridge contains 100 micrometer (μm) prefilters, the second and third cartridges 25 μm filters, and the final cartridge 0.5 μm absolute filters.

- Contact the [wastewater program manager](#) for sampling and discharge to the sanitary sewer under a non-routine discharge permit.
- 5. Water generated from the flushing of metal pipes may contain elevated levels of metals such as copper. When possible, water from pipe flushing of metal pipes should be treated at the Metal Finishing Pretreatment Facility (MFPP) to reduce the metal concentrations before release to the sanitary sewer.

To perform MFPP treatment:

1. The department performing the flushing will contact the MFPP supervisor to determine if the MFPP can accept and treat the water. MFPP has the right to refuse any wastewater stream that may interfere with proper operation of their facilities.
2. The department performing the flush will arrange to containerize the pipe flush water in drums or tanks and transport these containers to the MFPP. Drums or small tanks may be obtained from [Chemical and Waste Management](#).
3. The MFPP will pretreat the wastewater before discharge to the sanitary sewer.

3 Forms

The following forms and systems are required by these requirements:

- None

4 Recordkeeping

The following recordkeeping requirements apply for these requirements:

- None

5 References

[SLAC Environment, Safety, and Health Manual](#) (SLAC-I-720-0A29Z-001)

- [Chapter 43, “Wastewater”](#)
 - [Wastewater: General Requirements](#) (SLAC-I-750-0A16S-015)
- [Chapter 26, “Stormwater”](#)

Other SLAC Documents

- [Environment Resources](#)
- [Chemical and Waste Management](#) (SharePoint)

Other Documents

- Silicon Valley Clean Water and West Bay Sanitary District. Mandatory Wastewater Discharge Permit No. WB 211216 ([WB 211216](#))