



# Brewery & Distillery BMPs

## *What are BMPs?*

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are schedules of activities, maintenance policies and other management procedures that prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants into the publicly owned treatment works (POTW), and that implement the prohibitions listed in Section 20-421 of the City Code. Best Management Practices include Pretreatment Requirements, operating procedures and practices to control plant site runoff, spills, leaks, waste disposal and drainage from raw material storage.

**BMPs are enforceable per City Code Section 20-427.**

## *What BMPs should I be aware of?*

As a brewer or distiller, your facility should aim to:

1. reduce solids,
2. moderate pH levels, and
3. create and implement spill prevention and response.

## *How can I “reduce solids”?*

Wastewater with residue from fermentation should be screened or filtered prior to discharge. Any solid residue material should be collected by settling, straining, screening, and/or filtering. Solids collected by these methods should then be dewatered and disposed of off-site. It is highly recommended that any valuable by-products generated from fermentation be reused or recycled.

## *What is a “moderate pH” level?*

Any wastewater having a pH less than 5.5 or greater than 11.5 is outside the acceptable limits set forth in the City Code, Section 20-421. Likewise, any discharge having corrosive properties are strictly prohibited from being discharged to the wastewater system.

Liquid wastes from cleaning and sterilizing activities must be adjusted to a pH between 5.5 and 11.5 before being discharged into the wastewater system. Most industry specific cleaning products are designed to neutralize each other. Otherwise, caustic solutions, which have a high pH level, can be treated by adding mild acids such as acetic or citric acid. Acid solutions, which have a low pH, can be treated by adding baking soda or a weak calcium carbonate (lime) solution. Other ways to moderate pH levels in liquids include the use of manual cleaning methods like scrubbing with scrub pads or using other non-chemical cleaners.

Additionally, solutions making use of phosphorus should be avoided as high phosphorus levels can lead to algae blooms in the state’s waterways. (i.e. cleaners such as phosphoric acid and trisodium phosphate)

### *What is meant by “spill prevention and response”?*

A spill prevention and response plan should aim to provide guidelines to prevent spills and to describe steps to be taken in response to any potential spill.

Spill prevention steps may include storing ingredients, products, and chemicals in corrosion-resistant containers that will not easily overturn and using secondary containment as needed to prevent leaks and spills from draining into the wastewater system.

After the spill response plan has been developed, employees should be regularly trained to follow the plan. Additionally, the spill response plan and the contact information for spill notification should be posted in a prominent place.

### *Additional Information*

**In the event of an accidental discharge or spill of high-strength toxic materials into the wastewater system, notification must be made IMMEDIATELY by contacting the following in the order listed:**

- Wastewater Treatment Plant: (970) 371-3737, (970) 396-3827, or (970) 381-8222

**Generally, if problems in the sewer are found, the City is required by law to work with the source to stop those problems. The City may require a permit with enforceable limits if needed.**

For more information regarding Pretreatment Requirements refer to the City Code at:

[https://library.municode.com/co/greeley/codes/municipal\\_code?nodeId=TIT14PUSE\\_CH14.11INPR](https://library.municode.com/co/greeley/codes/municipal_code?nodeId=TIT14PUSE_CH14.11INPR)

and the Pretreatment Program Web page at:

<http://greeleygov.com/services/ws/system/ipp>

Greeley Water and Sewer Department encourages your business to call or write the Industrial Pretreatment Staff using information provided below should you have any questions or concerns.

*Contact Info:*

**City of Greeley WTRF**

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Greeley, CO 80631

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