

## Advice Note – Washout Areas



These Advice Notes have been prepared in order to share current good practice with respect to various construction activities

- The purpose of Washout Areas is to prevent soil, groundwater and storm water drainage systems being contaminated by cement waste
- All concrete delivery vehicles need to wash out their rotating drum following delivery to site.
- Wash out areas should be constructed so that;
  - Washout water cannot seep away from the washout location
  - Runoff from a rainstorm cannot carry wastes away from the washout location.
  - Washout areas should not



- impact on future land uses (i.e. parks, open spaces, etc.)
- Washout areas must be accessible to all vehicles before exiting site
- Appropriate signage should be in place adjacent to washout area to inform concrete equipment operators to utilise the facilities properly
- Existing facilities must be cleaned, or new facilities must be constructed and ready for use once the washout is 75% full.
- Loose piles of excavated dirt are good for absorbing waste from washouts and can often form a barrier against runoff.

*For further information refer to Section 16 of the Protection of the Environment Act, 2003.*

See overleaf for examples...

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## Unsafe Practices



## Good Practices



This document contains examples on good practice which are not compulsory but which you may find helpful in considering what you need to do.

For further information on Health and Safety related issues go to [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)