

SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINES FOR PRODUCTIONS AT WARNER BROS.

Overview

This is a supplement to the **Television and Feature Production Safety Manual**. It is intended to provide a brief overview of guidelines for the safe use of the Warner Bros. Main Lot and Ranch Facilities. This overview contains General Warnings and Notifications, technical information regarding our Soundstage Floors and Trusses; Set Construction Safety; how to manage chemical-containing products; and environmental regulations covering air and water quality.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

All numbers are (818) 95x-xxxx.

Fire or Medical Emergency: 4-3333

Safety & Environmental Affairs: 4-2890

First Aid: 4-1201

Security: 4-1248

Only IATSE employees who have completed their Safety Pass courses are eligible for employment by Warner Bros.

GENERAL WARNINGS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Proposition 65 Warning

"This facility contains one or more substances, including tobacco smoke, known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects or reproductive harm."

Asbestos Notification

Both state and federal law require building owners and/or lessors to notify their occupants of the presence of any asbestos-containing materials (ACM) in buildings in which they work. We are making this notification to comply with these laws, and because it is Warner Bros. policy to make such information available.

Background

Asbestos-containing materials were commonly used in the construction of buildings and homes prior to 1979. ACM were once used as part of certain building materials, such as insulation, roofing materials, floor tiles, and spray-on insulation.

Warner Bros. has a comprehensive "Operation and Maintenance Plan for Asbestos Containing Materials". Under this plan, we use [licensed ACM abatement firms to](#) removed ACM from mechanical rooms and exposed pipes and ducts; ~~and to~~ remove any ACM present prior to or discovered while doing Studio remodeling and renovation work. [In addition,](#) we have conducted [air sampling](#) in all WB buildings known to contain ACM. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and The Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) set standards for building occupancy, and we are pleased to say that all WBSF buildings meet these standards. Because inhalation of unprotected airborne asbestos fibers may pose serious potential health risks, it is important that you not disturb potential ACM (i.e., by drilling, sanding or hammering) without first calling the Safety Dept. at 4-2890 to receive clearance to do so.

The following WBSF buildings are known to contain ACM and are subject to this notification: 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 18, 19, 22, 27, 31, 34, 35, 37, 41, 44, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 58, 59, 66, 67, 68, 69, 71, 76, 81, 90, 95, 122, 131, 133, 135, 137, 138, 139, 140, 142, 143, 146, 151, 154, 155 and 3R.

The survey reports and bulk sample and air sample test reports for particular building locations are available for inspection by appointment. If you have any questions or concerns about your particular building, the location of ACM, or this notice, please contact the Department of Safety and Environmental Affairs at x4-2890.

FLAME RETARDANT REQUIREMENTS

In all buildings and stages at Warner Bros., all drapes, hangings, curtains, drops, and all other decorative material, including any cloth sheets used to protect sets between uses, foliage, trees, or other greens that increase the fire hazard, shall be made from a nonflammable material, or shall be treated and maintained in a flame-retardant condition by means of a flame-retardant solution or process approved by the State Fire Marshall. (Subchapter 8, Chapter 1, Title 19, CCR.)

Additionally flame-retardant solutions must: (a) be approved for use at Warner Bros. by the Warner Bros. Fire Department, (b) be applied by a person who has passed the examination for the specific application and is registered to do so, and, (c) shall bear the seal and be provided with a certificate of Flame Resistance as required by California Code of Regulations, Title 19, Chapters 2, 7, and 8.

Exits, exit lights, fire alarm sending stations, wet standpipe hose cabinets, and fire extinguisher locations shall not be concealed, in whole or in part, by any decorative material.

For assistance contact the Warner Bros. Fire Department (4-1261), Special Effects (4-1365) or the Paint Department (4-1817).

SOUNDSTAGE FLOORS, TRUSSES

Soundstage Floor Loading

The soundstage floors at WB are supported by a combination of girders, joists and posts. The floor in general, consists of a top layer of 3/8-inch "Crestform" material. The 2nd and 3rd layers were originally 1x6-inch tongue-in-groove planks; one layer arranged diagonally, the other horizontally. In some cases, 3/4 to 1-inch of plywood has replaced all or part of the planking.

Generally, this multi-layer floor rests atop (2x6 to 2x9-inch) joists. The joists are perpendicularly supported by (6x6 to 8x8-inch) wood girders, which in turn, are supported by (6x6 to 8x8 inch wooden posts at 6 feet on center. 2 to 4-inch diameter steel posts are also used. The posts rest on pressure-treated "Sleeper" planks and/or concrete blocks.

Do not allow production-generated water to saturate the soil under any soundstage, since this will greatly reduce the floor's load bearing capacity. Significant flooding beneath a soundstage requires a sub-floor inspection. CALL OPERATIONS (4-1501).

Stages 1, 2, 3, 4*, 5, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15*, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 27A, 28, 28A, and 30 are subject to the posted weight restrictions listed below.

UNIFORMLY DISTRIBUTED WEIGHT

Temporary load capacity for uniform, distributed loads is 200 PSF (pounds per square foot).

VEHICLE WEIGHTS (Concentrated wheel loads)

Basic Maximum Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW, which is vehicle wt. + load wt.) for the stage is 10,000 lb.*(A concentrated, safe, per-wheel load has been determined to be 2500 lb. per wheel, based on the weight distribution of a 4-wheel vehicle. (4 wheels x 2500 lbs. = 10,000 lbs. Max. GVW). Gross Vehicle Weights in excess of 10,000 lb. up to 12,000 lb. (vehicle wt. + load wt.) must use one layer of standard "Grip Track" (2-3/4-inch x 15-inch x 20-feet) between the tires and floor. Contact the Grip Dept. (x4-2554) for grip track.

Gross vehicle weights in excess of 12,000 lb. may require a sub-stage inspection and additional precautions! Contact WBSF Safety & Environmental Affairs (S&EA) at x 4-2890.

*Stage 15

This stage has a covered tank beneath the floor. Vehicle weights in excess of 10,000 lb. stationed over the tank cover require special measures. Contact Operations or S&EA.

Stage 16

The tank cover for the lower tank consists of plywood decking between steel joists. The gap between the joists is approximately 12". This cover is designed for a permanent live load of 200 PSF, or a temporary concentrated load of 30,000 lbs. spread over 6' x 6' blocking.

Stages 6, 20, 23, 29, 32, 33, 34

These soundstage floors consist of a concrete slab topped by two or more layers of plywood with a top-most layer of 3/8-inch "Crestform" material. This slab floor will support a substantial amount of weight. Contact OPERATIONS or S&EA when vehicle gross weights in excess of 15,000 lb. are anticipated.

Stages 7*, 8 and 9

These soundstage floors consist of a concrete slab topped by two or more layers of plywood with a top-most layer of 3/8-inch "Crestform" material. This slab floor will support a substantial amount of weight; however, extra precaution should be taken around the plywood covered moat-like space found around the perimeter of the center concrete slab. Beneath this floor, a 10-foot wide and 2-foot deep space surrounds

this stage's concrete slab like a moat. The plywood and Crestform floor over this moat is supported by a combination of girders, joists and posts.

Vehicles with gross weights (vehicle wt. + load wt.) in excess of 12,000 lb. are permitted on stage, however, a layer of standard grip track (2-3/4" x 15" x 20') shall be used to cross the 10-foot border area.

- **Stage 7*** has a covered pit beneath the north-central portion of the floor (the area is outlined in yellow). The Stage 7 pit cover's maximum vehicle gross weight load is 10,000 lb. or 2,500 lb., per-wheel load.
- The Stage 7 pit cover has an access hatch. No vehicles or heavy equipment are allowed over this hatch. Temporary load capacity over the pool cover for uniform, distributed loads is 200 PSF.

Stage 20

This soundstage floor consists of a single top layer of 1 1/8" plywood. The plywood rests on 2"x4" (lying flat on 24" centers) sitting atop a concrete slab. The maximum allowable wheel load is 1,400 pounds.

Contact Operations (x4-1501) or S&EA (x4-2890) whenever you have questions regarding the soundstage floors!

Roof Truss and Permanent Loading

1. Contact S&EA at x4-2890 prior to loading trusses/permanents.
2. Engineering approval is required for any unusual load requirements.
3. Whenever possible, load at roof trusses directly.
4. Load only at nodes of trusses. Do not load at center.
5. Check the connection of permanent (6"X 8") to truss prior to load application.
6. Loads at permanent beams perpendicular to trusses shall not exceed the following:
 - 500 lb. for a single load
 - 300 lb. for two loads (do not apply more than two loads).
7. Do not apply loads at boards of walkways.
8. Do not load single "Green Sticks" beyond 100 lb.

Floor Hatches that provide access beneath the stage for structural inspection should never be opened and left unguarded without illuminating the open hole and should be protected by physical handrails, stanchion, or barricades.

SET CONSTRUCTION SAFETY

Specialized Safety Equipment / Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

The Department of Safety & Environmental Affairs (S&EA) maintains specialized safety equipment, which is available for use by WB employees. S&EA's safety-related equipment inventory includes face shields, hearing protection, airline respirators, confined space ventilators, high-velocity ducted air machines, fall protection equipment, horizontal safety lines, vertical rope grabs, and Nomex clothing (coveralls, gloves, and hoods.) In addition, S&EA maintains industrial hygiene monitoring equipment including oxygen, carbon monoxide, and combustible gas instruments. When conditions warrant it these items are provided for your departments and production companies free of charge; however lost or abused equipment will be charged to the production.

Safety glasses, dust masks, earplugs, gloves, fall protection equipment and other PPE items are available at WBSF's The Mill Store (x4-4444). In addition, S&EA maintains, for emergencies, a limited supply of expendable safety equipment.

Fall Protection

Fall protection is mandatory when working outside of the catwalks in the permanents of a soundstage. It is also required when working on roofs, shooting platforms, decks built for set construction, and situations that expose employees to potential falls greater than 4 feet in height and where guardrails are absent. Fall Protection Equipment is available at S&EA, the Grip Dept. (x4-1469) and for purchase at the Mill Store 4x4444.

ALL AERIAL LIFTS and ELEVATED PLATFORMS, INCLUDING SCISSOR LIFTS, REQUIRE FALL PROTECTION. Call S&EA at x4-2890 for assistance and detailed guidelines.

MANAGING CHEMICAL-CONTAINING PRODUCTS

General Purchasing Practices

Purchase materials, especially chemical products, in the smallest quantity possible.

Paint and Painting Materials

Purchase paint and paint-related products that comply with all local or state environmental regulatory agency requirements. WBSF Paint Dept. sells compliant painting materials. Paint rags should be used sparingly. Air drying rags or throwing used rags in the trash is illegal.

Compressed Gases

Have all compressed gases delivered by the vendor to your location. Never throw compressed gas cylinders in the trash. Chain all cylinders in an upright position with valve covers tightened down. Segregate incompatible gases such as flammables (propane, acetylene etc.) from oxidizers (oxygen, etc.).

Construction Subcontractors

Tell any subcontractors you employ that ***the disposal of any waste generated by the subcontractor is the responsibility of the subcontractor.*** All waste must be taken by the subcontractor once the job is complete. Inspect their worksite frequently and watch for any dumping of waste materials into the waste hopper, storm drains, toilets, or sinks.

Special Effects and Environmental Considerations

SnoFoam and other forms of artificial snow may not be washed down storm drains. SnoFoam should be allowed to dry into a solid and then swept up and disposed of as trash. Special Effects materials should be evaluated and disposed appropriately by the FX person in charge.

Cleaning Up Spills of Hazardous Material

All spills should be cleaned up promptly. The first priority after a spill is the safety of all personnel. Once personnel are safe, and if a qualified person is present, the environment should be protected by stopping the spill from reaching storm drains, sumps, gutters, soil or bodies of water. If time permits, call the WB Hazardous Waste Facility at x4-1271 or x4-2009.

If a spill occurs:

1. Avoid touching it, walking in it or breathing it. Take the following steps immediately: Use sand or spill absorption materials to build a dike well ahead of the course of the spill. Once the flow of material has been stopped, absorb the spill using absorbent or sand.
2. For large spills, or small spills of flammable materials, immediately call the WBSF Fire Department (x4-3333) for assistance.
3. Once the spill is absorbed, safely sweep or shovel up the spill-contaminated material. Store this in a labeled container. Do not throw spill debris into the trash; they must be disposed of as hazardous waste. Call the WB Hazardous Waste Facility at x4-1271 or x4-2009.

Hazardous Material Storage and Disposal

Store and segregate hazardous materials correctly by following the guidelines given on each product's warning label. For further guidance, contact **Brent Gale (x4-3880)**. Hazardous waste generated by in-house productions must be disposed of through the WBSF Hazardous Waste Facility. Examples of materials that are to be handled as hazardous wastes include: waste paint, paintbrush rinse water, paint rags, thinners, solvents, oils, empty aerosol cans, adhesives, special effects products, etc. To arrange for disposal contact **Brent Gale (x4-3880)**.

Note: Non WB Productions purchasing paint from WBSF are eligible for hazardous waste services. Any production bringing other chemical containing products must meet with S&EA before bringing them on to the lot.

Painting Operations

1. It is recommended that indoor painting operations be performed when no overhead work is in progress. Hard hats are required and available from S&EA or the Mill Store whenever overhead construction activity is in progress.
2. Painting operations that generate irritating odors should be scheduled during off hours whenever possible. Ventilation (i.e., stage fans and floor fans) should be used to dissipate odors.

Waste Paint Consolidation and Labeling Guidelines

These guidelines are to be followed by all employees working with paint and paint-related materials while at Warner Bros. Studio or on location for a Warner Bros. production.

1. Water-based paint waste and solvent-based paint waste are to be kept separate from one another and as clean of debris as possible so it qualifies as recyclable paint waste. Recyclable paint saves your production significant money as opposed to contaminated paints that are Hazardous Waste.
2. Store any flammable waste paints in 5 gal. buckets. (e.g. "Japans"). Label them "*Flammable Paint*".
3. Waste latex, vinyl, and other water-based paints should also be stored in 5 gal. buckets. Label them "*Water-Based Paint*".
4. Flammable paint-related materials such as brushes, rollers, and stir sticks are to be isolated in a separate bucket that does not contain paint. Label them "*Flammable Brushes*".
5. Water-based paint materials such as brushes, rollers, and stir sticks are to be isolated and sealed in a separate bucket that does not contain paint. Label them "*Water-Based Brushes*".
6. Sawdust, sand or other absorbents used in spill cleanup should be isolated and sealed in a separate bucket that does not contain paint. "Label them "*Used Spill Cleanup of _____*". Add name of material cleaned up.
7. Used plastic bucket liners should be wiped as clean as possible while the paint is still wet, and then crushed and packaged in a separate 5 gal. bucket and labeled "*Bucket Liners*".
8. All aerosol cans are to be disposed of separately from other waste paint-related material, preferably in a 5-gallon bucket, sealed and labeled "*Empty Spray Cans*". Do not store aerosol cans in the sunlight.
9. Empty waste paint buckets should be wiped clean while still wet and then sealed in plastic garbage bags (tied shut) and labeled "*Empty Paint Cans*".
10. Used paint rags should be packed in a 5-gallon bucket and labeled "Used Paint Rags".
11. When filling buckets with waste paint, do not fill the bucket to the rim. Leave two or three inches headspace to allow for expansion.
12. ALL WASH WATER FROM WASHING BRUSHES, ROLLERS, BUCKETS, ETC. IS TO BE SAVED AND HANDLED IN THE SAME MANNER AS WATER-BASED PAINT WASTE. BUCKETS SHOULD BE LABELED "*BRUSHWATER*".

Accumulation Limits

A total of fifty-five gallons (11 five gallon buckets) of waste paint and waste paint-related materials may be accumulated inside the stage or on the set if the following conditions are met:

1. All FLAMMABLE WASTE (solvent and solvent rags) must be correctly labeled and stored in sealed five gallon buckets in a fire department approved flammable cabinet. The maximum allowable accumulation time for any flammable waste containing buckets, paints or brushes is one week.
2. All NON-FLAMMABLE WASTE (latex, vinyl, used rags) must be correctly labeled and stored in sealed plastic five gallon buckets separate from the main paint inventory. The maximum allowable accumulation time is two weeks.
3. All used rollers, paint brushes, and sticks shall be stored in sealed five gallon buckets and not mixed with paint. The maximum allowable accumulation time is two weeks.

Waste Paint Drop-Off Procedures When at Warner Bros. Studio

All studio departments and production companies are required to drop off their hazardous waste at the WBSF Hazardous Waste Facility, located on the east side of the Mill (Building 44) at the intersection of Avenue D and 8th Street.

When the maximum allowable fifty-five gallon limit has been reached (any combination of the above waste categories equaling a total of 11 five gallon buckets), the following procedures shall be followed:

- All containers shall have listed on them; 1.) The production or department name, 2.) The container contents, labeled as described above, and 3.) The stage number where the waste was generated.
- The Hazardous Waste Facility must be called in advance to make sure the facility is open to accept the waste. To schedule a drop-off, call extension 4-1271 or 4-2009 [(818) 954-1271, or (818) 954-2009, respectively].
- Waste drop-offs will only be scheduled to be received between the hours of 6:15 a.m. and 2:15 p.m., unless special arrangements are made.
- Waste shall not be allowed to accumulate into large quantities on stage or in departments. Frequent, smaller waste drop-offs should be made. Plan ahead when hiatus periods are approaching.
- **Waste shall not be left at the Hazardous Waste Facility if there is no one there to accept it.**
- Please call Brent Gale at x 4-3880 or Mike Guillatt x4-1271 if you have any questions regarding this policy.

Waste Paint Disposal Procedures When on Local Location

When on location, do not allow waste paint to accumulate longer than one month or in large quantities. All paint and water based paint-related wastes are to be returned to Warner Bros. Studio. When returning paint-related wastes, attach a label to the bucket that exactly describes the contents of the bucket, as described above in "Waste Paint Consolidation and Labeling." *Do not use terms such as "Sludge", or "Hazardous Waste" to describe the contents of a bucket! Unless police or fire departments know exactly what is in the bucket, they may call for the Fire Dept. Hazardous Material Team.*

Flammable paint or flammable paint-related waste cannot be transported back to the main lot. This waste will need to be picked up by a licensed hazardous waste hauler. To do so will require the acquisition of an EPA ID Number. This number will be required on all of the federal hazardous waste manifests that accompany the waste. If your production company anticipates that any waste other than water-based paint is going to be generated off-lot, contact Brent Gale at (818) 954-3880. Keep in mind that obtaining an EPA ID Number may take at least two weeks. Waste cannot be picked up or shipped until the number has been issued by the EPA.

Once the EPA ID Number is obtained with the assistance of S&EA, a licensed hazardous waste hauler can be scheduled to come out and pick-up the waste. Warner Bros. has a list of pre-approved haulers. Contact Brent Gale at (818) 954-3880 for more information.

NOTE: DISPOSAL OF PAINT IN ANY MANNER OTHER THAN ABOVE IS AGAINST WARNER BROS. POLICY AND ILLEGAL ACCORDING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA).

AIR QUALITY (Production Considerations)

In Southern California, the oversight of air quality is the responsibility of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The SCAQMD has enacted rules that regulate the use and operation of many materials, processes and equipment that will be used by your production company. The following guidelines and regulations have been developed to help you comply with these regulatory requirements.

Visible Emissions

If your production company will be using fires, explosions or large-scale effects involving airborne smoke or dust, then you will need to notify S&EA prior to the effect. Regulations enforced by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) forbid the airborne release of smoke, dust or other visible emissions that last more than three minutes in duration in any one-hour. S&EA can assist you in complying with this regulation.

Portable Generators

Depending on the production equipment used or the location chosen, your production company may use portable generators. Internal combustion engine-driven portable generators are regulated by the SCAQMD because of the exhaust gases that are generated and released into the atmosphere. To comply with the applicable SCAQMD regulations, daily and hourly use records must be kept by the portable generator operator. The SCAQMD regulations governing the use of generators are extensive, but most of them will not impact your production company if you rent the generator from an equipment rental company.

When deciding on the placement of generators, consideration should be given to the effect of exhaust gases on employees working downwind or in adjacent occupied buildings. Diesel exhaust can be very irritating. Consequently, careful consideration should be given to generator placement in order to avoid relocation of the generators due to health concerns. Please notify Operations or S&EA for assistance.

Coatings, Paint, and Other Paint-Related Materials

All production companies use paints, stains, primers etc. All of these materials are regulated by the SCAQMD. Your paint foremen should be aware of the limitations imposed by these regulations because they govern the chemical content and use of all coatings and paints. Contact S&EA if you need help or guidance on the use or selection of coatings. All of the coatings sold through the Warner Bros. Studio Paint Department are SCAQMD compliant for their intended use. If you need additional information on what products can be legally used, contact Brent Gale at (818) 954-3880.

The equipment used to apply coatings is also regulated by the SCAQMD. Certain limitations apply to spray guns, which may need an SCAQMD Permit to Operate. Other limitations apply to the construction and operation of spray booths. A permit must be obtained prior to the construction of any (even temporary) spray booth. Finally, remind all workers working with coatings or other chemical-based products to keep the lids tightly on cans when not in use, and to store all rags in closed containers.

Purchasing non-compliant paint and paint-related materials off-lot for use on the lot is a violation of SCAQMD Regulations and Warner Bros. policy. Violators and their Supervisors will be brought to the attention of Labor Relations.

WATER USE (Production Considerations)

Discharging Stage Pools and the Outdoor Lagoon

Introduction

If your production company will be utilizing a water set at one of Warner Bros. Studio Facilities (WBSF) existing water tanks, pools, or lagoons, or you decide to build your own, you must plan for the draining of water well in advance. Please be aware that federal and state environmental regulations now stipulate how, when and where that water can be discharged. Although WBSF wants your production company to have as much artistic license as possible, we want you to know at the start of your project that the **disposal** of water used in these types of sets will take additional time and expense to handle in accordance with the regulations. Violations of these regulations can result in significant regulatory fines.

Who Can Help My Production Company Comply With the Regulations?

The Department of Safety and Environmental Affairs (S&EA) is here to help you discharge water appropriately and keep WBSF and your production company in compliance with applicable regulations. Although S&EA will guide your production company step-by-step through the process of proper discharge, it is vitally important that all production companies be aware of the affect that compliance with the regulations may have on production, both in terms of cost and potential time delays. *The most problematic restriction to production companies is a (minimum) 6-day waiting period, during which time, the water cannot be discharged.*

Where Can I Film Water Sequences?

Warner Bros. Studio Facilities Inc. has several locations designed for use in water filming sequences. These locations include:

- Stage 15 tank
- Stage 16 tank
- Jungle Lagoon
- Jungle Pond
- Ranch Swimming Pool
- Other, temporary water sets constructed by the Production Company

What are the Requirements to Discharge the Water?

The State of California has directed WBSF to make the Los Angeles River the primary discharge point for filming waters used during production. If filming waters are to be used, WBSF must first apply for a discharge permit from the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal-EPA) before any discharge is allowed. It will take at least two weeks to obtain a Cal-EPA discharge permit, so it is imperative that S&EA be notified as soon as it is known that filming waters are to be used.

Once the Cal-EPA is obtained, it will outline the requirements of water discharge. In brief, the permit will require WBSF to collect and analyze the filming water after it has been used, but prior to discharge. The sampling and analysis requirements are very specific. *Getting the laboratory results for the EPA-mandated tests will take approximately 6 days, during which time, you may not discharge the water.* When the analysis is complete, the results are compared to the permit limits. If none of the sample parameters exceed the limit, the water can be discharged.

Why Do Results Take 6 Days?

One of the tests required by Cal-EPA has a 5-day incubation requirement, and the results cannot be "rushed." Factors such as sample collection times, sample preparation, sample result interpretation, and report preparation requirements all add time to the five day sample analysis. Under ideal conditions, it may be possible to collect the samples early in the morning, and get results 5½ days later. Later sample collection times, weekends and other delays can make meeting these conditions difficult.

What Happens if We Exceed the Discharge Limits?

If the discharge limits are exceeded there are other more costly alternatives for discharge (see below).

What Do We Do if We Have to Discharge While We're Still Filming?

It is imperative that production companies are aware of the potential time delays that may result if rapid water discharge is required. Sometimes a production may need to empty a tank quickly (i.e., overnight or over a weekend) to make repairs or adjustments to the water set. We understand that time can be of the essence while filming is ongoing. Although we have a good working relationship with the regulatory agencies, there are no provisions in the law to allow sampling and analysis that takes less than 5 days.

What are the Alternatives for Discharging Water?

There are instances when other discharge options may be available. Discharging to the sanitary sewer by obtaining a permit from the City of Burbank or having pumper trucks remove the water are other options.

When Can We Discharge to the Sewer?

In some cases, the City of Burbank has allowed small discharges of water to the sanitary sewer. The City allows this in some cases but only for discharges compatible with their treatment plant. Burbank, like Cal-EPA, also requires water sampling, but sample results only take approximately 2 days to get back. Results from sampling are then compared to local discharge limits, which are generally easier to comply with as compared to the state limits. Because the City of Burbank treatment plant is not designed to treat this type of water, there are strict discharge requirements. Besides having to sample the water and meet the local discharge limits, the City does not allow the discharge flow rate to exceed 360 gallons/minute. They also require that all discharges commence after 7:00 p.m. and end prior to 7:00 a.m. Discharging to the sanitary sewer is not a viable option for the Stage 16 tank because of the length of time it would take to discharge.

Are Swimming Pools Treated the Same?

The Ranch swimming pool, and sets built to simulate and act as temporary swimming pools are handled differently. Once the water in the pool has been de-chlorinated, the City of Burbank can issue a permit to discharge the pool. These permits must be obtained by the WBSF Plumbing Department. You can reach them at (818) 954-1245.

What About Using Pumper Trucks?

If the water is not excessively contaminated an expensive option would be to have the water taken out by pumper trucks. These trucks can generally only transport approximately 5,000 gallons per load. Disposal costs can range between \$0.50 to \$1.00/gallon. The water is taken off-site and recycled or reclaimed.

Are There Any Suggestions to Minimize the Likelihood of Exceeding the Discharge Limits?

Following are some recommendations to reduce the potential of exceeding the discharge limits and further delaying your water discharge:

- It is highly recommended that the production company hire a water quality consultant to design and maintain a filtration system to keep the water clean and up to water quality standards, especially if anyone will be entering the water. (Call 4-3880 for suggestions.)
- Make sure that the water quality consultant is capable of integrating a wide range of filtering media. Standard pool filters only remove particulate matter. Having the capability of filtering out other contaminants like oil and other organics can be quite advantageous if the levels of these exceed the discharge limit.
- When using the Stage 16 Pool, it should be anticipated that a large water storage tank may be required that can be used for filter backwash operations. Pool filtration systems should be plumbed to this tank and held there until water sampling results indicate that the water can be discharged.
- Dyes cannot be discharged to the Los Angeles River or the sanitary sewer. If dyes are to be used, they must be the type that can be chemically or mechanically removed prior to discharge.
- Make sure that the tank/pool is thoroughly cleaned prior to being filled.

- Make sure that the water used to fill the tank is clean.
- Make sure that all props and/or equipment placed into the water are clean.
- Metal equipment should be painted using water insoluble paint to prevent rust from developing and clouding the water.
- Locate any hydraulic pressure hoses and especially their connection points out of, or away from, the water and stormdrains.

Stormdrains

The Los Angeles stormdrain system is designed to take rain runoff and route it, untreated, into the Pacific Ocean. The State of California, the Regional Water Quality Control Board and Warner Bros. strictly forbid all Warner Bros. production companies and Non-WB clients from intentionally dumping into, or allowing chemicals to enter the stormdrain system. Products labeled “environmentally friendly,” or “biodegradable” may not be dumped into a stormdrain. In addition, products like foods or drinks, cleaning supplies, gray water or sewage from trailers, or any chemical-containing product may not enter any stormdrain. Filming waters from pools, tanks and lagoons must be sampled and properly routed. Call WB Safety & Environmental Affairs prior to any discharge. See “Discharging Stage Pools and Outdoor Lagoons” in this section for further instructions. Regulatory fines for non-compliance can be considerable.

Sinks, Toilets, and Sumps

Sinks, toilets and sumps are designed to take residential, and some commercial waste, and route it to a municipal waste treatment plant. The treatment at the plant is not designed to remove chemical contaminants. It is critical that chemical-containing waste products do not enter into this system. Painters and other workers cannot use sinks or toilets to wash their equipment or to dispose of waste or leftover products. Employees found to have put chemical-containing products into sinks; toilets or sumps, will be referred to, along with their supervisor, Labor Relations for disciplinary action.