



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4
61 Forsyth Street SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
Water Compliance Inspection Report

FACILITY DATA

NPDES ID:	Effective Date:	Expiration Date:
Facility Name: Baston Monuments, Inc	SIC Code: 3281	
Address: 1141 Old Middleton Rd, Elberton, GA 30635		
On-Site Representative(s), Title, Phone Number: Michael Baston, President 1141 Old Middleton Rd Elberton, GA 30635 baston@elberton.net	Responsible Official, Title, Phone Number, Mailing Address: Michael Baston, President 1141 Old Middleton Rd Elberton, GA 30635 baston@elberton.net	

INSPECTION ENTRY DATES/TIMES

Entry Date/Time: 12/07/21, 10:15 am	Exit Date/Time: 12/07/21, 12:45 pm
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NAMES OF EPA AND STATE INSPECTORS

EPA, Region IV: Ahmad Dromgoole, Mark Robertson, Lonnie Dorn
GEPD: Grant Lockman

AREAS EVALUATED DURING INSPECTION *(Check those areas evaluated)*

☐	Permit	☐	Self-Compliance Program	☐	Pretreatment
☐	Records/ Records	☐	Compliance Schedule	☐	Pollution Prevention
X	Facility Site Review	☐	Laboratory	X	Storm Water
☐	Effluent/ Receiving Waters	☐	Operations & Maintenance	☐	Combined Sewer Overflow
☐	Flow Measurement	☐	Sludge Handling/ Disposal	☐	Sanitary Sewer Overflow

INSPECTION NOTES

The inspection team arrived at the facility on 12/07/21 to perform an industrial stormwater inspection of the Baston Monuments facility to evaluate the facility's potential need for NPDES permit coverage. Upon arrival, the inspection team met with Michael Baston, presented inspector credentials, and provided an introduction. Upon completion of the inspection, an exit conference was held with facility personnel.

EPA REPRESENTATIVES

Inspector Signature/Name	Office/Phone Number	Date
	USEPA Region 4/ECAD-WEB-WWES 404-562-9639	
Mark Robertson, Environmental Engineer		
Management Signature/Name	Office/Phone Number	Date
	USEPA Region 4/ECAD-WEB-WWES 404-562-9212	
Ahmad Dromgoole, Acting Section Chief		

NPDES Industrial Stormwater Worksheet (Georgia)

1. FACILITY INFORMATION

GPS Coordinates 34° 5'57.65"N 82°50'14.89"W	Previous SW Permit and/or Other Media Permits				
Receiving Water(s), Wetlands, or MS4 Lower Beaverdam Creek	Site Acreage & % Impervious Area ~30 acres	Type of Ownership Corporation		Qualify for No Exposure Exemption N/A	
SIC Code(s) Description (Primary & Secondary) 3281	Years in Operation ~1996	No. of Employee 20 employees	Hours & Days of Operation 5 days/week 1 shift/day	Discharge to 303(d) Listed or TMDL Waters N/A	Weather Condition Cloudy, rain the prior day

2. FACILITY'S OPERATION & PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Baston Monuments operates a granite cutting and engraving operation in Elberton, GA. The facility produces stone monuments. Waste material from the process primarily includes cuts of stone, cutting dust/slurry, and dust collected from the blasting process. The facility receives granite slabs and performs various cutting and polishing operations. These cutting and polishing operations are wet processes for which the facility attempts to collect and reuse the process water. The facility has outdoor storage operations for the received stone in addition to waste materials storage along the southern end of the property.

3. SITE EVALUATION

Pollutant Sources	Note location, quantitative description, design issue, O&M deficiencies (including the nature and extent), potential pollutant, and pollutants off-site
Outdoor Storage Facilities	The stone slabs received at the facility are stored outdoor along the east side of the property (see photos DSCN0383-DSCN0384 and DSCN0401).
Outdoor Manufacturing/ Processing Operations	Although most facility processes are located indoors, the facility does have a limited number of outdoor operations. The facility has an outdoor blasting booth (seen in photo DSCN0408) for larger cuts of stone. The dust collection systems associated with both the indoor and outdoor blasting operations is also located outdoors (seen in photo DSCN0407). The dust from the collection systems were collected accumulated in drums prior to it being disposed of at the south end of the property.
Waste Treatment/Storage/ Disposal Areas	The facility manages process water from operations in the outdoor holding tanks along the south side of the building. Water from the various indoor cutting and polishing operations is conveyed to the southern end of the building (seen in photos DSCN0387-DSCN03) where it was then directed to one of the process water treatment/holding systems along the south side of the building (seen in photos DSCN0391 and DSCN0393). The solids from the process water accumulate in the holding tanks which must be periodically cleaned. The solids removed during the cleaning of the tanks left on the ground to allow to dry. Once dried, the solids are moved to the southern end of the site. Runoff from the solids material storage piles were directed to the retention pond further south (see photos DSCN0395-DSCN0396). The facility disposes of waste material from its process in the low-lying areas on the south side of the property. This waste material includes dust from the collection system associated with the blast operation (seen in photo DSCN0402) and waste stone from the cutting process (seen in photos DSCN0403-DSCN04005).

3. SITE EVALUATION	
Pollutant Sources	Note location, quantitative description, design issue, O&M deficiencies (including the nature and extent), potential pollutant, and pollutants off-site
Fueling Stations/Equipment Maintenance Areas & Cleaning Areas	The facility has one roughly 200-gal diesel fuel tank on site for equipment refueling (see photo DSCN0386).
Management of Run-off Controls (storage areas, diversion ditches, dumpsters, secondary containment, & etc.)	The process water holding cells on the south side of the building periodically have their solids removed which are stored open piles on the ground so that the material can dry. Runoff from the extracted material drains towards a pond to the south of the storage piles (see photos DSCN0391-DSCN0394). Although a significant amount of process water is reused in the process, a portion of it was observed discharging through a conveyance channel leading south. The observed process water was discharging from the area around the holding tanks and pond on the south end of the site. This flow path, seen in photos DSCN0397-DSCN0400, was observed continuing south towards the tributary to the south.

4. OUTFALL, STORMWATER DISCHARGE & RECEIVING WATER OBSERVATIONS	
Potential Stormwater Discharge Points/Outfall(s)	Discharges from the site occurred through the conveyance along the west side of the site (seen in photo DSCN0397) and sheet flow along the slopes on the south side of the site (seen in photo DSCN0403).
Evidence of Off-site Accumulation of Pollutants Observed in Receiving Water & MS4	The receiving stream to the south of the facility was not observed during the inspection.
Non-stormwater Discharge Observed	The water storage tanks/pond along the south side of the site were used to manage wastewater from the cutting and polishing operations. Discharges/overflows from these ponds would result in the potential commingling of stormwater and process wastewater.

Exit interview:

At the end of the inspection, an exit meeting was held with Michael Baston (facility President) and Matthew Pruitt (associated with the Elberton Granite Association) where the following observations were provided:

1. The facility's SIC code, believed to be 3281, falls under Sector N of Georgia's NPDES general permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities.
2. The facility has outdoor industrial pollutant sources, included the various waste material storage areas, with potential exposure to stormwater.
3. The facility appeared to have discharges by way of the conveyance along the west side of the site and sheet flow from the waste storage area on the southern end of the property.
4. The water from the various cutting and polishing processes, which occur indoors, would be considered process wastewater and therefore not be applicable for coverage under a general permit.