

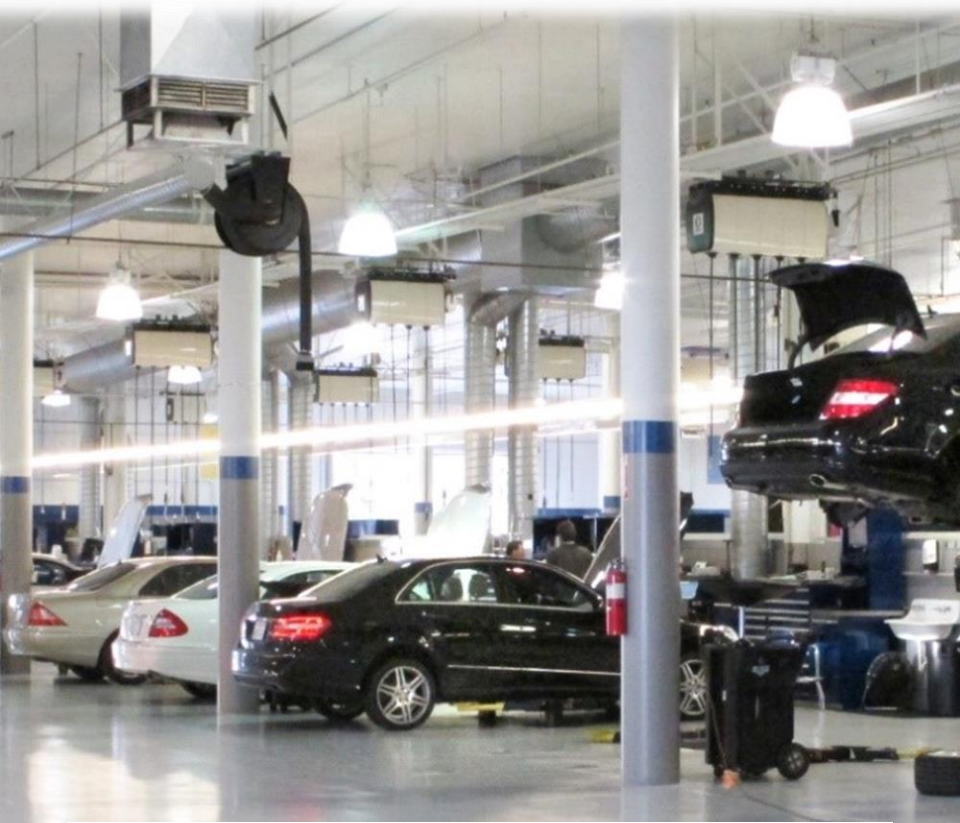


Santa Cruz County Sanitation District District

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JOHN J. PRESLEIGH, DISTRICT ENGINEER

Best Environmental Management Practices



**Pollution Prevention and Compliance
Information for Vehicle Service Facilities**

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Vehicle service facilities such as repair shops, body shops, gas stations, car and truck rental companies, car dealerships, and car washes have a high potential to impact stormwater and sewer wastewater with contaminants which can harm the environment.

This pamphlet details the Santa Cruz County Sanitation District's (District) required best management practices for vehicle service facilities and provides **helpful pollution prevention TIPS**.

The goal of this pamphlet is to educate businesses on proper waste handling and disposal procedures for typical vehicle service chemicals and to provide pollution prevention information.

Please use this pamphlet as a tool to help ensure your business remains compliant and as a reference for all employees.

Please reference the Santa Cruz County Sanitation District Code 7.04.510, item J on pages 67 through 67-2 for more information.

The code is available on the Department of Public Works website at: www.dpw.co.santa-cruz.ca.us



VEHICLE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

Body Repair and Painting

- Wastewaters generated by body repairs and painting operations, including paint gun cleaning are prohibited from being discharged to the sanitary sewer or storm drain.
- Conduct all body repairs, sanding, and painting work indoors.
- When receiving damaged vehicles, inspect for leaks. Use drip pans if necessary.
- When wet sanding, place a pan under the car panel being sanded to catch any drips.
- Clean up wet sanding drips with a rag or let the drips dry and sweep or vacuum up the dust.
- Sweep shop floors instead of mopping.
- When cleaning auto body parts before painting, do not use hose-off degreasers. Instead brush off loose debris and use rags to wipe down parts.
- Do not use water to control overspray or dust in the paint booth unless you collect the wastewater for proper disposal. It may need to be treated before discharging to the sanitary sewer.

TIP: Use a recirculating cleaning system to clean paint guns while reusing solvent.

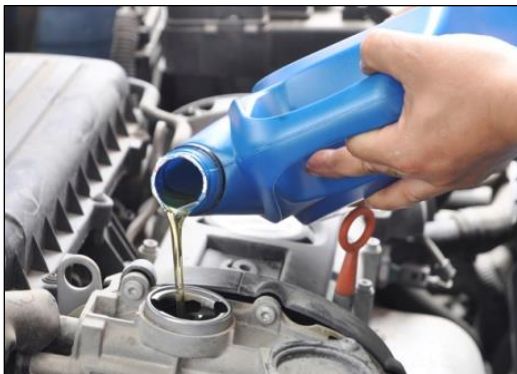


VEHICLE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

Changing Vehicle Fluids

Floor drains in an area where vehicle fluids are changed are prohibited; vehicle fluids are not permitted to be discharged to the sanitary sewer or to a storm drain.

- Adequate spill prevention and clean-up materials must be kept on-site and readily available for use.
- Utilize dry clean-up methods like a shop vacuum, sweeping, oil mops, rags, and absorbents.
- All waste fluids must be in a designated waste drum and they must be secondarily contained. Keep manifest from disposal of the fluids on hand.
- Drain all fluids from wrecked vehicles into appropriate containers as soon as possible to avoid potential leakage.
- Changing fluids must be done in bermed or contained areas, or using drip pans.



VEHICLE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

Engine Cleaning, Parts Washing, Brake Cleaning, Radiator Flushing

Never discharge wastewater, solvents, or aqueous cleaners from engines, brake cleaning, and parts cleaning or radiator flushing to a storm drain or the sanitary sewer!

- **ENGINE CLEANING IS NOT PERMITTED** unless the facility possesses a closed loop recycling system. Wastewater generated from engine cleaning shall **NOT** be discharged to the sanitary sewer.
- Use self-contained sinks and tanks when working with solvents and aqueous cleaners, allowing parts to drain and dry over tanks. Do not wash or rinse parts outdoors.
- Keep solvent tanks and sinks closed when not in use. Spent organic solvents should be recycled or disposed of as a hazardous waste.
- Collect and reuse parts cleaning solvent solutions and water used in flushing and testing radiators. When reuse is no longer possible, these solutions are hazardous waste unless otherwise determined, and must be disposed of properly.
- Many brake cleaning solvents contain n-hexane, which has been proven to cause serious health problems for mechanics. Consider switching to an aqueous, recirculating brake-cleaning system to avoid these problems.
- Use damp towels or HEPA vacuum on wheels to clean.

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

TIP: Want to Stop Using Aerosols?

Try Refillable Spray Bottles. Two types:

- Metal bottles that spray product using compressed air.
- Plastic bottles that use a hand pump to spray product.



TIP: Want to Reduce Toxics?

Aqueous cleaners, in general, are less toxic than organic solvents. Switch from solvent parts washers and brake cleaners to aqueous parts washers and brake cleaners.



Aqueous Parts Washers

FLOOR DRAINS AND FLOOR CLEANING

Discharge of any wastewater other than stormwater directly or indirectly to a storm drain, a creek, an underground percolation sump or other water body is strictly prohibited.

All indoor floor drains and/or sumps that are connected to the storm drain system must be permanently plugged.

Keep a Dry Shop

A dry shop is a shop that has sealed all its floor drains. Keeping a dry shop will help you reduce floor wash water volume and contamination. This, in turn, reduces your liabilities, protects the environment and community. Utilize dry clean-up methods by sweeping up spills and/or using rags.

TIP: Use a hydrophobic mop to clean up larger oil spills and a dedicated coolant mop for larger coolant spills. Place the recovered fluids into dedicated waste oil or waste coolant drums. Hydrophobic mops absorb only oil, not water or antifreeze.

For small oil or coolant spills use shop rags and launder them off-site. These methods will save the costs of disposing of absorbent pads or “kitty litter” as hazardous waste.

Contact the Santa Cruz County Sanitation District for a free hydrophobic mop at 831-477-3907 or email: dpwenv@santacruzcounty.us

FLOOR DRAINS AND FLOOR CLEANING

- **NEVER HOSE DOWN AN OUTDOOR AREA**
- Floor drains in work areas are prohibited.
- Certain used absorbents must be disposed of as hazardous waste and may not be thrown in the trash. Contact the County Environmental Health Department for waste details at 454-2022.
- Mop water from floor cleaning must be discharged to the sanitary sewer.



The following procedure is mandatory for shops that mop their floors:

- Clean up spills with rags or dry absorbent.
- Sweep the floor.
- Mop floor and discharge mop water to the sanitary sewer via a sink or toilet.

CAR WASHING AND STORMWATER

Exterior vehicle washing is **prohibited** unless conducted in a District approved wash pad area that is connected to a clarifier. No vehicle wash water is permitted to enter a storm drain at any time.

Without a proper wash pad, soap, dirt, and oil washed from a car may flow into nearby storm drains which run directly into creeks, rivers, or marine waters and may damage and pollute our bay and ocean. Most soap contains phosphates and other chemicals that can harm fish and water quality.

EVEN “BIODEGRADABLE” SOAPS ARE TOXIC TO MANY FORMS OF AQUATIC LIFE!



CAR WASHING AND STORMWATER

All paved areas must be swept and outdoor sumps and catch basins must be cleaned out between September 1st and October 15th each year.

CLARIFIER / OIL WATER SEPARATOR

Your facility is required to have a District approved clarifier if you are washing vehicles. Clarifiers prevent oil and grease and other contaminants from entering sanitary sewer pipes. The size and type of clarifier is based on the quality and quantity of wastewater flowing from your facility.

Clarifiers need to be pumped out in order to maintain contaminant removal efficiency. Your facility is required to pump the clarifier at least once per year but may be more frequent if necessary. There are several commercial vendors that service clarifiers and can clean out sumps and catch basins.

For information on clarifiers contact the Environmental Compliance Unit at 831-477-3907 or email: dpwenv@santacruzcounty.us

You must send a copy of the manifest for the sludge removal by mail, fax or email to:

County of Santa Cruz, Department of Public Works
Attn: Environmental Compliance Unit
2750 Lode Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
Fax: (831) 454-3300
Email: dpwenv@santacruzcounty.us



Wash Pad Connected to a Clarifier

SPILL PREVENTION CONTROL AND RESPONSE

The best spill control is prevention! Spills are cheaper to clean up when quickly contained! Train employees on spill prevention annually. Adequate spill prevention and clean-up materials must be kept on-site and readily available for use. Examples of such materials are the following:

- Vermiculite (kitty litter)
- Rags (for laundering)
- Absorbent mats - When obtaining mats, ensure that the material you have chosen will absorb the appropriate fluids. Some only absorb water-based fluids, or solvents, while others absorb oil and grease. There are also absorbents that neutralize as well as absorb for acids or bases.
- Portable berms and dikes
- Drain blockers - These are rubber mats that are generally stored on the walls and can be quickly thrown down to cover a drain inlet to prevent a spill from going into the drain.
- Personal protective equipment such as gloves, protective coveralls, safety goggles, face shields, etc.
- Dry sweep brush and scoop
- Hydrophobic mops

Make sure there are adequate spill cleanup materials on site. Hazardous waste containers must be labeled and stored according to hazardous waste regulations. For more information on Hazardous Material Storage, contact the County of Santa Cruz Environmental Health Services Department at (831) 454-2022.



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS STORAGE & MANAGEMENT

No hazardous materials or waste may be discharged to the sanitary sewer or storm drain!

All hazardous materials and waste must be secondarily contained, or placed in a bin that can contain up to 110% of the entire contents of the containers should there be a leak. Store all batteries within secondary containment and locate them either on the floor or on the lower levels of shelving that has been secured to the wall for earthquake protection.

Hazardous materials and waste should be stored indoors or in a covered area outdoors. Do NOT store these items near a sanitary sewer drain or near a storm drain.

Hazardous Wastes:

- Waste oils, coolants and solvent
- Used batteries
- Excess paints and fuels
- Used shop rags
- Clarifier sludge



Good Storage



Bad Storage

REDUCE, REUSE, AND RECYCLE

TIP: Want to save money, reduce toxic exposure, and be more environmentally friendly?

Save \$\$\$ by recycling solvents, oil, coolants, oily rags, and batteries!



- Consider switching to water based cleaners instead of chlorinated solvents. Collect and reuse parts cleaning solvent solutions and water used in flushing and testing radiators. When reuse is no longer possible, these solutions are hazardous wastes unless otherwise determined, and must be disposed of properly.
- Consider buying rags for spill cleanup rather than absorbents because rags may be cleaned by an industrial laundry service and reused. Saturated absorbents, however, must generally be disposed of as hazardous waste.



Rag Bins

REDUCE, REUSE, AND RECYCLE

You can also recycle Oil Filters.

To Prepare Oil Filters:

- Drain filters sufficiently
- Crush filters
- Keep out of the rain
- Recycle



Make sure that all employees understand and follow Best Management Practices. Mistakes and misunderstandings can lead to violations and costly cleanups!



POSTED EXAMPLE SPILL CONTROL PLAN

Spill Response Procedures:

1. Protect yourself first. Be sure and put on the appropriate personal protective equipment: gloves, goggles, and an apron.
2. Contain the spill with trays or absorbent materials. Do not allow the spilled material to reach the sanitary sewer or storm drains.
3. Check the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for the spilled substance for safe handling and disposition.
4. Clean up the spill as directed on the SDS.
5. Use dry clean-up methods first, then wet clean-up methods. Do not send any wash water to the storm drain!
6. Package and label all contaminated materials (absorbents, PPE, liquids) for off-site disposal.
7. Notify the manager/owner that a spill has occurred (see below).
8. Notify the appropriate government agency (see below)

Spill Response Personnel

Manager Name:	Phone:
Owner Name:	Phone:
Industrial Wastewater Pretreatment Program Specialist: Leslie Rios, Marisol Goulett	831-477-3907
Fire Department	
Environmental Health Services	831-454-2022