

Stormwater Pollution Prevention

Auto and Other Vehicle Sales & Rentals/Tractor Sales

Parking Areas

Clean parking lots on a regular basis to prevent accumulated wastes and pollutants from being discharged into storm drain systems during rainy conditions. When cleaning heavy oily deposits, use absorbent materials on oily spots prior to sweeping or washing. Dispose of used absorbents appropriately.

Allow sheet runoff to flow into biofilters (vegetated strip and swale) and/or infiltration devices. Utilize sand filters or oleophilic collectors for oily waste in low concentrations. Clean out oil/water/sand separators regularly, especially after heavy storms.

Have designated personnel conduct inspections of the parking facilities and storm drain systems associated with them on a regular basis. Inspect cleaning equipment/sweepers for leaks on a regular basis.

Have spill cleanup materials readily available and in a known location. Cleanup spills immediately and use dry methods if possible. Properly dispose of spill cleanup material.



Vehicle Washing

If possible, use properly maintained off-site commercial washing and steam cleaning businesses. If washing/cleaning must occur on-site, consider washing vehicle equipment inside the building or on an impervious surface to control the targeted constituents by directing them to the sanitary sewer.

If washing must occur on-site and outdoors, use designated paved wash areas. Designated wash areas must be well marked with signs indicating where and how washing must be done. Map on-site storm drain locations to avoid discharges to the storm drain system. The designated wash area must be covered or bermed to collect the wash water and graded to direct the wash water to a sanitary sewer after contacting the local sewer authority to find out if pretreatment is required. Use biodegradable, phosphate-free detergents for washing vehicles as appropriate. Do not conduct oil changes and other engine maintenance in the designated washing area. Perform these activities in a place designated for oil change and maintenance activities. Cover the wash area when not in use to prevent contact with rain water.

Pressure and steam clean off-site to avoid generating runoff with high pollutant concentrations. If done on-site, no pressure cleaning and steam cleaning should be done in areas designated as wellhead protection areas for public water supply. Have all steam cleaning done in areas designed to collect and hold the wash and rinse water or effluent generated. Recycle, collect or treat wash water effluent prior to discharge to the sanitary sewer system.

If possible, eliminate or reduce the amount of hazardous materials and waste by substituting non-hazardous or less hazardous material. Use non-caustic detergents instead of caustic cleaning for parts cleaning. Use detergent-based or waterbased cleaning systems in place of organic solvent degreasers. Replace chlorinated organic solvents with non-chlorinated solvents. Non-chlorinated solvents like kerosene or mineral spirits are less toxic and less expensive to dispose of properly. Check list of active ingredients to see whether it contains chlorinated solvents. Choose cleaning agents that can be recycled.



Good housekeeping practices can minimize the risk of contamination from wash water discharges. Provide trash container in wash area. Sweep washing areas frequently to remove solid debris. Inspect and maintain sumps, oil/water separators, and on-site treatment/recycling units.

Stormwater Pollution Prevention

Emphasize to employees the connection between the storm drain system and runoff; help reinforce that car washing activities affect local water quality. Train employees on proper cleaning and wash water disposal procedures and conduct "refresher" courses on a regular basis. Train staff on proper maintenance measures for the wash area. Train employees and contractors on proper spill containment and cleanup. Collect all spilled liquids and properly dispose of them. Store and maintain appropriate spill cleanup materials in a location known to all near the designated wash area.

Fuel Pumps

- Design fueling area to prevent stormwater runoff and spills. Cover fueling area with an overhanging roof structure or canopy so that precipitation cannot come in contact with the fueling area and if possible use a perimeter drain or slope pavement inward with drainage to a blind sump (must be properly maintained and water properly disposed of). Install an oil/water separator and connect to the sanitary sewer (if allowed), if a dead-end sump is not used to collect spills. Accumulated non-contaminated stormwater (e.g., in a secondary containment) should be released prior to next storm. Pave area with concrete rather than asphalt.
- Maintain clean fuel-dispensing areas using dry cleanup methods such as sweeping for removal of litter and debris, or use of rags and absorbents for leaks and spills. Do not wash down areas with water. "Spot clean" leaks and drips routinely. Leaks are not cleaned up until the absorbent is picked up and disposed of properly.
- Keep your Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan up-to-date. Place stockpiles of spill cleanup materials where they are readily accessible. Store portable absorbent booms (long flexible shafts or barriers made of absorbent material) in unbermed fueling areas. Report spills promptly.
- Label drains within the facility boundary, by paint/stencil (or equivalent), to indicate whether they flow to an oil/water separator, directly to the sewer, or to a storm drain. Inspect and clean, if necessary, storm drain inlets and catch basins within the facility boundary before October 1 each year. Post signs to remind employees not to top off the fuel tank when filling and signs that ban employees from changing engine oil or other fluids at that location.
- Ensure the following safeguards are in place:
 - Overflow protection devices on tank systems to warn the operator to automatically shutdown transfer pumps when the tank reaches full capacity.
 - Protective guards around tanks and piping to prevent vehicle damage.
 - Clearly tagging or labeling all valves to reduce human error.
 - Automatic shut off for severed fuel hoses.
 - Fit fuel dispensing nozzles with "hold-open latches" (automatic shutoffs) except where prohibited by local fire departments.
 - Use secondary containment when transferring fuel from the tank truck to the fuel tank. Cover storm drains in the vicinity during transfer.
- Aboveground Tank Leak and Spill Control:
 - Check for external corrosion and structural failure.
 - Check for spills and overfills due to operator error.
 - Check for failure of piping system.
 - Check for leaks or spills during pumping of liquids or gases from truck or rail car to a storage facility or vice versa.
 - Visually inspect new tank or container installation for loose fittings, poor welding, and improper or poorly fitted gaskets.
 - Inspect tank foundations, connections, coatings, and tank walls and piping system. Look for corrosion, leaks, cracks, scratches, and other physical damage that may weaken the tank or container system.
 - Periodically, integrity testing should be conducted by a qualified professional.
- Train all employees upon hiring and annually thereafter on proper methods for handling and disposing of waste. Make sure that all employees understand stormwater discharge prohibitions, wastewater discharge requirements, and these best management practices. Train employees on proper fueling and cleanup procedures. Ensure that employees are familiar with the site's spill control plan and/or proper spill cleanup procedures.

