



VEHICLE SERVICES

Information for Vehicle Repair | Refueling | Washing | Detailing | Automotive Service Facilities

Storm drains flow directly into creeks, San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean without any treatment. Nonstormwater and other wastes that flow into a storm drain cause pollution.

Vehicle service facilities can stop stormwater pollution through proper cleanup, storage and best management practices (BMPs) that ensure oils, antifreeze, soapy water, tires, brake dust and other debris stay out of the streets and local waterways. Help keep our county clean! Use these BMPs to keep wind or rain from carrying pollution into the street.

ONLY RAIN DOWN THE STORM DRAIN

Only rain water is allowed down storm drains, because storm drains connect directly to local creeks, the San Francisco Bay and Ocean

STORAGE AND DISPOSAL

Batteries, antifreeze, oil filters, used tires, new or used car parts, and vehicle waste

- Store items indoors to keep rainfall from coming into contact with items and carrying pollutants into storm drains.
- ☐ If storing items outdoors, prevent contact with rainwater and runoff by doing ALL of the following:
 - 1. Cover with a tarp or roofed area;
 - 2. Elevate on a rack, shelf or pallet; and
 - **3. Contain** fluids or wastes in closed, labeled containers with proper secondary containment.
- □ Plan regular waste pick-ups with special haulers (e.g. tire hauler, oil recycler, scrap metal recycler, battery recycler, hazardous waste pick-up).



GENERAL BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Protect outdoor areas from pollution

- □ Perform all work indoors liquids or small debris might be spilled (e.g. painting, vehicle repairs, parts changing, brake removal, oil changing, vehicle washing, sanding, metal filing).
- □ Store items indoors whenever possible. If unable to store items indoors, then always COVER, ELEVATE and CONTAIN materials to protect from contact with rain.
- □ Keep outdoor areas free of prohibited discharges: trash, oil/chemical spills, debris, and hose water.
- ☐ Train all staff on BMPs, and post signs in common areas to remind staff of BMPs (e.g. "Always keep dumpster lids closed" near the dumpster area, and "No washing, flows to bay" near a storm drain inlet).

Routinely clean and maintain your facility

- □ Do not discharge wash water or hose sidewalks off into the street, gutters or storm drains.
- □ Perform maintenance to prevent storm drain clogging.
- □ Parking areas, access roads and fueling areas should be free of trash, oil/ liquid stains and debris.
- □ Dumpsters should not be over-filled, and lids should be closed.
- ☐ Waste storage areas should be tidy and well-labeled.
- □ Sweep or vacuum up shop floor frequently.



BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR

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VEHICLE/EQUIPMENT WASHING

- ☐ Keep vehicle wash/rinse water out of the storm drain.
- Contain all wash water.
- ☐ Wash vehicles, engines and parts in a designated wash area that is roofed, bermed, and drains to the sanitary sewer through an oil/water separator.
- □ Alternatively, take vehicles to a commercial car wash.

SPILL PREVENTION AND CLEAN UP

- □ Never let fluids flow into a storm drain or accumulate on surfaces.
- □ Inspect vehicles frequently for drips. Drain fluids from leaking or wrecked vehicles immediately.
- □ Use drip pans, secondary containment and absorbents to control leaking vehicles and spills.
- □ When pouring liquids, use a funnel to prevent drips and spills.
- ☐ Have a labeled spill kit near areas with the potential for spills. Spill kit should include towels/absorbents and instructions.
- □ Clean up spills immediately with rags, absorbents, etc.

 Dispose of used absorbent/rags in appropriate containers.
- ☐ Use dry cleaning practices (e.g. sweep, shop vac).



STORM DRAIN VS. SANITARY SEWERS:

Do your employees know the difference?

All outdoor drains are storm drains. Pollutants that runs off sidewalks, alleys, and street gutters flows into storm drains. This water flows directly to creeks and the San Francisco Bay or Pacific Ocean, not treated or properly cleaned.

Indoor drains (such as sink, toilet, mop sink) lead to the sanitary sewer system, which is connected to a wastewater treatment plant.

Properly cleaning and disposing of wash waters helps prevent pollution.



LOCAL STORMWATER AGENCIES:

Atherton(650) 752-0555	Foster City(650) 286-3270	Redwood City(650) 780-7477
Belmont (650) 637-2972	Half Moon Bay(650) 726-7177	San Bruno (650) 616-7020
Brisbane (415) 508-2130	Hillsborough(650) 375-7444	San Carlos(650) 802-4212
Burlingame (650) 342-3727	Menlo Park(650) 330-6750	San Mateo (650) 522-7349
Colma (650) 757-8888	Millbrae(650) 259-2392	San Mateo County (650) 372-6200
Daly City (650) 991-8208	Pacifica(650) 738-3767	South San Francisco (650) 877-8555
East Palo Alto (650) 372-3189	Portola Valley(650) 851-1700	Woodside(650) 851-6790

