

WORKING TOGETHER FOR CLEAN, HEALTHY WATERWAYS



GOOD TO KNOW

How we maintain vehicles plays an important role in keeping local waterways clean

- Outside operations and maintenance activities can contaminate stormwater runoff.
- Motor oil, anti-freeze, gasoline and brake fluid contain toxic chemicals and metals that pollute local waterways.
- Wash water contains detergent, dirt and chemicals that harm the environment and are illegal to discharge.

The Source of Stormwater Pollution

- Vehicle leaks.
- Washing vehicles on paved surfaces.
- Improper chemical storage.
- Waste from grinding, painting, coating, sanding, degreasing or parts cleaning.

The Impact of Stormwater Pollution

- Chemicals and metals contaminate local waterways making them unsafe for swimming.
- Dirt from wash water clouds waterways preventing sunlight from reaching the underwater grasses that serve as habitat for aquatic life, including the Chesapeake Bay blue crab.

Following best management practices protects our waterways.

Learn more at askHRgreen.org

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GOOD TO DO

Vehicle Service Best Management Practices



Spills & Leaks

- ✓ Check vehicles for leaks. Use drip pans until leaks are fixed.
- ✓ Use only EPA-certified air conditioning technicians for repairs.
- ✓ Use a funnel, drip pan and drop cloth to prevent spills.
- ✓ Keep a spill kit that includes absorbent pads and loose absorbent onsite for rapid response to spills and leaks.
- ✓ Train staff in spill response procedures. When spills occur:
 - ✓ Stop and contain the spill to prevent it from reaching storm drains.
 - ✓ Call a professional cleanup company when spills are beyond staff resources.
 - ✓ Use dry methods, such as absorbents, to clean up spills.
 - ✓ If chemicals reach the storm drain, immediately call the fire marshall or non-emergency police number.



Storage & Handling

- ✓ Store automotive fluids safely and away from waterbodies and storm drains.
- ✓ Dispose of parts washing solvent in accordance with hazardous waste laws.
- ✓ Always store batteries indoors.
- ✓ Provide secondary containment for liquid product and waste storage areas.
- ✓ Never pour used vehicle fluids into storm drains, sinks or toilets.
- ✓ Collect and recycle used oil and parts whenever possible.
- ✓ Combining wastes can reduce your ability to recycle and increase your disposal costs, so store fluids separately.
- ✓ Contact a certified hazardous waste hauler to remove used fluids.



Outdoor Practices

- ✓ Move or cover activities and materials to prevent contact with stormwater.
- ✓ Wash vehicles and equipment in a wash bay or other designated area that drains to the sanitary sewer system.
- ✓ Sweep parking lots and areas around your facility. When pressure washing is required, capture dirty wash water and direct it towards unpaved areas. Never allow it to discharge down the storm drain.
- ✓ Regularly maintain sand/oil water separators used in designated car wash areas.