



City of Omaha
Industrial Best Management Practices
Sector AB - Industrial Machinery and Auto Repair Industry



SIC Codes: 3511-33570, 3580-3599, 3711-3730, 3733-3799

Transportation Equipment, Industrial or Commercial Machinery, Auto Repair Industry

- ♣ Drain all fluids from vehicles when they arrive and store them separately
- ♣ Properly dispose of hazardous waste
- ♣ Use designated wash areas for cleaning automobile parts
- ♣ Immediately clean up spills using appropriate drying methods
- ♣ Cover and berm auto dismantling and material storage areas
- ♣ Place drip pans under machinery waiting for maintenance

KNOW YOUR IMPACT

Many common car maintenance routines contribute to water pollution and some auto repair establishments may not be aware of activities that could be negatively impacting our aquatic environment. Water runoff from streets, parking lots and driveways picks up oil and grease dripped from cars, asbestos worn from brake linings, zinc from tires and organic compounds and metals from spilled fuels. These chemicals drain into the streams, harming aquatic life. Oil and grease, for example, clog fish gills and block oxygen from entering the water. If oxygen levels in the water become too low, aquatic animals die. Here are a few simple practices you can follow to assure a healthy environment for both your repair facility and our local waterways:

CLEANING AUTO PARTS

- ♣ Scrape parts with a brush or use a bake oven rather than liquid cleaners.
- ♣ Arrange drip pans, drying racks, and drain boards so that fluids are directed back into the sink or the fluid holding tank.
- ♣ Use nontoxic cleaning products.
- ♣ Baking soda paste works well on battery heads, cable clamps and chrome; mix the soda with a mild, biodegradable dishwashing soap to clean wheels and tires; for windows, mix white vinegar or lemon juice with water.



CLEANING UP SPILLS

- ♣ Follow your hazardous materials response plan, as filed with your local fire department or other hazardous materials authority.
- ♣ Be sure that all employees are aware of the plan and are capable of implementing each phase of the plan.
- ♣ Use dry methods for spill cleanup (sweeping, absorbent materials, etc.)

METAL POLISHING AND GRINDING

- ♣ Keep a bin under your lathe or grinder to capture metal filings.
- ♣ Send uncontaminated filings to a scrap metal recycler for reclamation.
- ♣ Properly dispose of Hazardous Waste.
- ♣ Recycle solvents, oil, used oil filters, anti-freeze, batteries, lubricants, and metal filings collected from grinding/polishing auto parts.
- ♣ Contact a hazardous waste hauler to dispose of saturated absorbents.



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STORAGE OF HAZARDOUS WASTE

- Keep your liquid wastes segregated.
- Many fluids can be recycled via hazardous waste disposal companies if they are not mixed.
- Store all materials under cover or inside to prevent contamination by rainwater.

PREVENTING LEAKS AND SPILLS

- Place drip pans underneath to capture fluids. Use absorbent cleaning agents instead of water to clean work areas.
- Prevent fluid leaks from stored vehicles. Drain fluids such as unused gas, transmission and hydraulic oil, brake and radiator fluid from vehicles or parts kept in storage.
- Implement simple work practices to reduce the chance of spills.
- Use a funnel when pouring liquids (like lubricants or motor oil) and place a tray underneath to catch spills.
- Place drip pans under the spouts of liquid storage containers.



TRAINING

- Train all employees in the following areas and on BMPs in the SWMP at least once per year.
- Proper washing procedures.
- Proper disposal practices for all materials.
- Procedures for storage and inspection items.
- Proper filling and transfer procedures.
- Spill response
- Good housekeeping
- Material management practices
- Procedures for equipment / container washing.



If spills occur:

- Stop the source of the spill immediately.
- Contain the liquid until cleanup is complete.
- Deploy oil containment booms if the spill may reach the street or waterways.
- Cover the spill with absorbent material.
- Keep the area well ventilated.
- Dispose of clean-up materials properly.
- Do not use an emulsifier or dispersant.

INSPECTIONS

- Conduct an inspection of the facility at least quarterly.
- Complete the storm water BMP checklist.
- Immediately inspect all vehicles upon arrival for leaks.
- Look for signs of leakage quarterly.
- Inspect all equipment containing oily parts, hydraulic fluids, or any other type of fluids.
- All liquid storage areas, including antifreeze, oil, brake, transmission fluid, etc.
- Review BMPs after each inspection and modify them and the SWPPP or SWMP as needed.

STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN (SWPPP) OR STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN (SWMP)

- Develop and implement a SWPPP or SWMP.
- All regulated facilities must submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to NDEQ.



Contacts

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