

PREVENT STORMWATER POLLUTION



Best Management Practices for Automotive Repair Shops



Automobile repair shops generate many types of waste – some hazardous, some not. However, if not handled properly, this waste could damage the environment. Liquid or solid waste spilled or dumped on the ground or disposed in dumpsters may seep into the ground and potentially pollute our desert washes and the environment. This action is punishable by fines of up to \$27,500 **per violation per day**.

Maintenance and Repairs Areas/Vehicle Storage Areas

- Confine storage of parts, equipment and vehicles to designated areas.
- Use drip pans under vehicles waiting for **and** during maintenance.
- Regularly empty and clean drip pans and containers. Promptly transfer used fluids to sealed containers; do not leave full drip pans or other open containers around the shop or underneath vehicles.
- Provide separate designated waste bins for dirty rags, oil filters, batteries, spent coolant and degreasers. Keep waste streams separate (e.g. waste oil and mineral spirits). Any non-hazardous substance mixed with a hazardous substance is considered a hazardous substance.
- Drain oil filters before disposal or recycling.
- Do not pour liquid waste down floor drains, sinks or outdoor stormdrain inlets.
- Permanently plug floor drains that are connected to the stormdrain or sanitary sewer.
- Do not hose down maintenance bays into streets or stormdrains. Use dry clean up methods.

Material Handling and Storage

- Maintain an organized inventory of materials used in the maintenance shop.
- Provide permanent cover (roofs) or temporary cover (canvas tarps) for material storage areas.
- Store all material (fuel, paints, solvents, etc.) in a protected, secure location and away from drains.
- Ensure that materials are stored with other compatible substances. Store reactive, ignitable or flammable liquids in compliance with local fire code.
- Store all large containers (5 gallons or larger) on spill pallets. Do not exceed containment capabilities.
- Store used batteries in covered containment bins.
- Use temporary containment such as portable drip pans, where required.
- Use spill troughs for drums with taps.
- Control excessive purchasing, storage and handling of hazardous materials.
- Educate personnel for proper storage, use, cleanup and disposal of materials.

Stormdrains are for Rainwater, Pure and Simple.

For further information regarding best management practices, contact the City of Tucson's Department of Transportation Stormwater Management Section at (520) 791-4251



Department of Transportation
Stormwater Management Section

