



STORMWATER COMPLIANCE FOR MOTOR POOLS & AUTO REPAIR & MAINTENANCE

It is important for military, civilian, and contractors working at motor pool facilities or auto repair shops to know that the discharge of pollutants from their shop's activities, either directly or indirectly, into the storm drain, or into surrounding water bodies, is prohibited by both local ordinance and state and federal law. Such discharges can result in severe penalties. Pollutants of concern at auto repair facilities include anti-freeze, hydraulic fluids, motor oil and other automotive fluids. Cleaning products, brake dust, and oil and grease from automobile parts are also significant pollutants.

The suggestions in this brochure can help you prepare for inspection from the State Department of Health or EPA. Please review and familiarize yourself with the following motor pool facility management tips in order to help avoid violations that could result in fines.

STORAGE:

Appropriate storage protects your shop from hazardous spills. Call DPW Environmental Division for more details.

- Keep dumpster lids closed and keep lids on waste barrels and containers. Store containers and dumpsters under



cover to reduce exposure to rain.

- Store hazardous materials and wastes indoors or where they are protected from rain, with secondary containment that prevents spills or leaks from reaching the sanitary sewer or storm drain.
- Keep fully stocked spill kits readily available.
- All hazardous wastes must be labeled according to hazardous waste regulations. Containers used to accumulate used oil should be labeled as used oil.
- Never mix used oil with fuel, antifreeze, or chlorinated solvents. Keep wastes separate to increase your waste recycling/disposal options and to reduce your costs.
- Keep storage areas clean and dry. Conduct regular inspections so that leaks and spills are detected as soon as possible.
- Carefully transfer fluids from drip pans or collection devices to designated waste storage areas, as soon as possible.
- When receiving vehicles to be parted or scavenged, park them on a paved surface and immediately drain and collect gasoline and other fluids properly.
- Drain all fluids from components, such as engine blocks, which you may store for reuse or reclamation. Keep these components under cover and on a drip pan or sealed floor.
- Store batteries securely to avoid breakage and acid spills. Store used batteries indoors to avoid contact with rainwater. Keep them in a plastic tray to contain leaks. Turn in old batteries to the Supply Support Activity.
- Minimize the distance between waste collection points and storage areas.
- Recycle solvents, antifreeze, motor oil, and lubricants.
- Keep accurate records of all recycling and disposal.



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND WASTES:

All hazardous materials and hazardous wastes must be stored, used, and disposed of according to federal, state, and installation regulations, including, but not limited to, fire codes, hazardous materials and waste laws. Call the DPW Environmental Hazardous Waste Program Manager for more details.

CHANGING OIL AND OTHER FLUIDS

- Whenever possible, change vehicle fluids indoors and only on floors constructed of non-porous materials. Avoid working over asphalt and dirt surfaces that absorb vehicle fluids.
- If vehicle fluids must be removed outdoors, always use a drip pan. Prevent accidental spills from reaching the street or storm drain by working over an absorbent mat or working in a bermed area. If necessary, you can use absorbent socks to create a bermed area.
- Transfer fluids drained from vehicles to a designated recycled material shop storage point. Drain pans and other open containers of fluids should not be left unattended and marked with the words "USED OIL".
- Store wastes or bulk fluids within secondary containment to prevent leaks or spills from reaching the storm drain system or sewer.
- Never pour vehicle fluids or other hazardous wastes into storm drains, sewers, or into dumpsters where they could leak out. These substances should be kept in designated waste storage containers until recycled or disposed of properly.
- Drain fluids from leaking or wrecked vehicles as soon as possible. Use drip pans under leaking vehicles to capture fluids.



PARTS CLEANING AND RADIATOR FLUSHING

- Solvents are hazardous to employees and can ignite in sewers. Handle and dispose of properly.
- Eliminate discharges from these operations to the storm drain system or sanitary sewer.
- Never discharge cleaning solutions or wastewater from steam cleaning or engine/parts cleaning to a street, gutter, or storm drain.
- A service contractor provides parts washers and cleaning solvent to all industrial areas (motor pools and hangars).
- Solvents are recycled by the service contractor on a quarterly basis.

KEEPING A CLEAN SHOP

- Good housekeeping practices minimize liability, reduce costs, and make it easier to detect spills and potential problems.
- Sweep or vacuum the shop floor frequently.
- Apply absorbents onto a spill and dry sweep the floor.
- Remove unnecessary hoses to discourage washing down floors and outside paved areas.
- Regularly sweep parking lots and areas around your facility. Hosing dirt, oil, grease, and other pollutants into the storm drainage system is prohibited and may result in a fine.

VEHICLES

- Use approved cleaners at motor pool wash racks because they have been tested to meet requirements for dissolve oils to quickly come out of suspension and remain within the oil water separator.



- Do not pressure-wash engine parts at the wash rack. Do not hose sediment into storm drains.

- Position drip pans under the active leaks of a vehicle. Consider placing absorbent pads or tube in the pan to absorb the oils.
- Park fuel trucks within portable secondary containment and cover downstream drain inlets with flexible rubber mats. Check daily to ensure secondary containment is intact and able to store liquids.

THE SANITARY SEWER

It may be advisable to discharge wash water generated at your shop into the sanitary sewer, since it is prohibited to discharge it into the storm drainage system. However, restrictions also apply to sanitary sewer discharges. Hazardous wastes may never be discharged to the sanitary sewer. Facilities with oil water separators must comply with the Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING:

Your success in following these guidelines depends on an effective training program.

Train all military and civilian personnel upon hiring and annually thereafter on stormwater compliance, personal safety, hazardous material management, and proper methods for handling and disposing of hazardous waste. Ensure that all employees understand appropriate disposal methods for different types of waste.

CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION:

DIRECTORATE OF PUBLIC WORKS:	
Recycling Center:	655-0011
Hazardous Material Control Point (HAZMAT supply):	656-0720
Hazardous Waste Turn In (TAP):	656-0866
Hazardous Waste Prg Mgr:	656-7001
Environmental Training:	656-3088
Clean Water Prg Mgr:	656-3105 / 3086

Chief Env Insp:	656-3088
AQUA ENGINEERS	
Main Office	621-3098

CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT:

- The way we perform our work at our facility will produce an outcome. The Army is interested in always being compliant with stormwater regulations.
- The State Department of Transportation (SDOT) received a Notice of violation from EPA and the State Department of Health. Some of the violations included letting the vehicle wash water enter the storm drain system; allowing oily water to enter the storm drain system; and allowing storm water to flow through a debris stockpile.
- In 2005, the SDOT entered into a compliance agreement for \$52,000,000 over a 4 year period. The agreement forced changes in their business process.
- If the Army were to receive a similar fine, the consequences may include reduced facility repairs; stricter control and documentation of facility operations; and increased inspections from regulators. The Army wants the facility and its personnel to be stormwater compliant to avoid fines and further restrictions.

Reference: Sacramento Stormwater Management Program, "Auto Repair & Maintenance", 2003.

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