

WASHRACK (OIL WATER SEPARATOR)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Oil Water Separators (OWS) serve to intercept small amounts of sediments and oily wash water. All installation washracks and certain vehicle maintenance bays are equipped with drains that lead to an oil water separator prior to discharging into the sanitary sewer system or into a holding tank.

POTENTIAL HAZARDS

OWS are not designed to separate large amounts of solid or high concentrations of oil. Illegal dumping of pollutants and the use of unauthorized wash rack cleaners may pose a threat to the wastewater collection system. Dumping of illegal pollutants down floor and wash rack drains is illegal.

WASTE CHARACTERIZATION

Wastewater from washing operations at an authorized wash rack is treated at a Wastewater Treatment Plant.

HANDLING AND DISPOSAL PROCEDURES

Step 1: Use **ONLY** approved washrack cleaners when using unit washracks. A list of approved cleaners is available in this guide and from the DPW Environmental Division Compliance Inspections Program and on the ECO website at <https://dpwhawaii.army.mil/eco>.

Step 2: Ensure that the OWS is operational and turned on prior to conducting washing operations. Generally, the OWS at washracks are set to discharge to the sanitary sewer **ONLY** when the washing spigots are turned on. Prevent washrack outflows from discharging directly to stormwater by **ALWAYS** turning on the washing spigots, even if using a pressure washer.



Step 3: Clean drains that lead to OWS of trash and debris.

Step 4: Removal of oil, dirt/mud and trash from OWS are on a DPW service order contract.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Servicing of the OWS is by contract only. Contact the DPW Service Contracts Branch for further information.

For more info contact: DPW Environmental Compliance Inspections Program or DPW Service Contracts Branch.