A-9: Storage of Scrap and Recycling Materials (Including Auto Recycling Facilities)

Stormwater runoff (rainwater and snow melt) is the largest source of pollution to our lakes, streams and Puget Sound. King County requires businesses to implement measures to protect our shared waters. If the requirements below do not prevent pollution, additional measures are necessary.

The following best management practices (BMPs) apply to the salvaging and storage of scrap metal, scrapped equipment, junked appliances and vehicles, empty metal drums, and recyclable materials such as cans, bottle, plastic, and paper products.

Required BMPs

- Check incoming scrap materials, vehicles, and equipment for potential fluid contents and batteries.
- Drain and transfer fluids from vehicles and other equipment only in a designated area with a waste collection system or over drip pans.
- Cover and contain vehicle and equipment dismantling areas to prevent rainwater contact.
- Remove batteries and store off the ground in a leak proof container and under cover.
- Cover and raise any materials that may contaminate stormwater. A tarp and a pallet are acceptable.
- Cover and contain stockpiles of any material that has the potential to contaminate stormwater runoff.
- All containers used to store fluids must comply with activity sheets A-2: Outdoor Storage of Liquid Materials in Stationary Tanks and A-3: Outdoor Storage of Liquid Materials in Portable Containers regarding secondary containment. Storage of gasoline must comply with the appropriate Fire Codes.

Required Routine Maintenance

- Inspect storage areas regularly and promptly clean up any leaks, spills, or contamination.
- Sweep scrap storage areas as needed. Do not hose down anything to the stormwater drainage system.
- Keep spill cleanup materials in a location known to all. Ensure that employees are familiar with the site's spill control plan and/or proper spill cleanup procedures.
- If you are involved in transporting any of these materials you must carry spill cleanup material in the vehicle to capture any spilled liquids, and have an impermeable liner in the bed of your truck to capture any spilled or leaked materials. Properly dispose of or reuse any collected fluids.

Supplemental BMPs

- Install catch basin inserts to collect excess sediment and debris if necessary. Inspect and maintain catch basin inserts to ensure they are working correctly.

Additional Information

- Potential pollutants can include: hydrocarbons—such as gasoline and diesel, metals, oil and grease, oxygen demanding substances, PCBs, sediment, and other pollutants.
- *Stormwater Pollution Prevention Manual*, Chapter 3: Commercial and Multifamily BMPs
    - A-2: Outdoor Storage of Liquid Materials in Stationary Tanks
    - A-3: Outdoor Storage of Liquid Materials in Portable Containers
- *Stormwater Pollution Prevention Manual*, Chapter 5: Information Sheets
    - Catch Basin Inserts
    - Containment
    - Covering

For more information or assistance contact the King County Stormwater Services at 206–477–4811 and visit kingcounty.gov/stormwater.