A-18: Vehicle and Equipment Repair and Maintenance

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 vehicle and equipment repair and maintenance.

Required BMPs

- Vehicle and equipment repair and maintenance may not be conducted on a municipal road unless approved by the local jurisdiction for operations such as municipal bus repair or roads utility repair.
- Inspect all incoming vehicles and equipment for leaks and use drip pans or absorbent material if necessary, while waiting for service.
- Clean up any spilled fluids immediately. The collected material and absorbents must be disposed of, reused, or recycled properly.
- Cover, contain, and label waste oil, antifreeze, and other fluids.
- Store batteries upright in a secure, contained, covered location (not outside on the ground). Check to ensure batteries are not damaged or leaking. Keep battery acid-neutralizing materials, such as baking soda, available near the storage area.
- Regular work at stationary locations must be done indoors or in a covered area using a tarp or drip pans beneath the vehicle or equipment to capture all spills and drips.
- Ensure that employees are familiar with the site's spill response and cleanup plans and are trained in the proper handling, storage, and disposal of all fluids.
- Store and maintain appropriate spill cleanup materials in an easily accessible location.
- Stormwater runoff from vehicle repair and maintenance areas may not be discharged to underground injection control (UIC) wells. For additional information, refer to BMP activity sheet A-57: Underground Injection Control (UIC).

Required Routine Maintenance

- Inspect parking and outside storage areas daily for leaks and drips.
- Sweep paved work areas as needed. Soak up vehicle fluids with rags or other absorbent material immediately. Never wash paved areas to the stormwater drainage system or the street.

Supplemental BMPs

- Absorbent material such as pillows or booms can be used around storm drains or in catch basins to absorb oil and other substances.

- A catch basin insert may be necessary. Catch basin inserts require frequent maintenance to be effective.

Additional Information

- Potential pollutants can include: hydrocarbons—such as gasoline and diesel, metals, oil and grease, oxygen demanding substances, pH, 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: Storage of Liquid Materials in Portable Containers
    - A-11: Cleaning or Washing of Tools and Equipment
    - A-13: Vehicle Washing and Steam Cleaning
    - A-57 Underground Injection Control (UIC)
- *Stormwater Pollution Prevention Manual*, Chapter 5: Information Sheets
    - Catch Basin Inserts
    - Containment
    - Covering
    - Disposal
- Contact King County Hazardous Waste Management Program at 206-296-4692 or visit www.hazwastehelp.org for information on the proper disposal and recycling of vehicle fluids, filters, batteries and used absorbent material.

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