

ONLY RAIN DOWN THE DRAIN

Did you know that the storm drain system is separate from the sanitary sewer system? Drains from your sinks and toilets are connected to the sanitary sewer system, which transports wastewater to a water treatment plant, where contaminants are removed before being released back into waterways.



The storm drain system, however, collects runoff from parking lots and streets into catch basins, and directs it to rivers and streams without treatment. In the City of Gardena, all of our runoff goes to the Dominguez Channel, which empties into the Pacific Ocean. This is why it is important for automotive repair and maintenance shops to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) everyday, to ensure harmful pollutants, such as oil, grease, chemicals from cleaning supplies, and trash do not end up in the Dominguez Channel.



RESOURCES

For more information on the program or to report a stormwater pollution violation, such as as spills, illegal dumping, suspicious fluids, or materials flowing to a catch basin, please contact:

City of Gardena
Public Works Division
1717 W. 162nd Street
Gardena, CA 90247
(310) 217-9568
www.cityofgardena.org



OR

County of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works
+1 (888) CLEAN LA
www.888CleanLA.com

OR

Download the City of Gardena Direct App, available on the Apple and Google Play stores:

http://iframe.publicstuff.com/#?client_id=1000006

Going Green in Gardena



Stormwater Best Management Practices for Automotive Repair and Maintenance Shops

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Automotive repair and maintenance activities can harm the environment if proper disposal and cleanup procedures are not followed. With proper training and education, automotive personnel can prevent debris and harmful liquids from entering the storm drain system by employing best management practices (BMPs). Typical wastes that impact the environment from automotive establishments include:

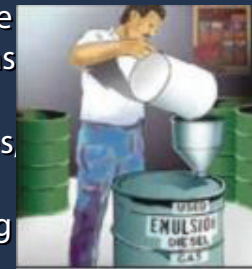
- Waste Oil
- Cleaning Solvents
- Antifreeze and Refrigerants
- Paint and Paint Thinners
- Brake Pads
- Batteries



The Dominguez Channel is impaired for bacteria, sediment, PCBs, heavy metals and other constituents that could come from automotive repair and maintenance activities. By following the guidelines in this brochure, automotive establishments can help prevent stormwater pollution.

WHAT BMPs SHOULD I EMPLOY?

- ✓ Prevent leaks and spills by placing drip pans underneath vehicles to capture fluids
- ✓ Use absorbent agents, such as cat litter, to clean work areas instead of water. Make sure to sweep up afterwards!
- ✓ Properly dispose and recycle of hazardous waste, such as used motor oil, used filters, antifreeze, batteries, tires, and metal filings from grinding or polishing activities.
- ✓ Sweep outdoor areas such as parking lots and maintenance areas regularly, and dispose of wastes in a sealed trash receptacle.
- ✓ Store all hazardous materials under cover with spill containment or inside to prevent runoff contamination



WHAT BMPs SHOULD I EMPLOY?

- ✓ Sweep up and contain metal filings into an enclosed bin frequently to prevent wind from blowing them away
- ✓ Clean automotive parts in a self-contained unit or sink to prevent oils and grease from entering a drain. Hire a wastewater disposal contractor to remove the wastewater from your unit.
- ✓ If you need to wash a vehicle, install curbs or berms around the wash area to control and contain wastewater. Use a vacuum to collect the wastewater, and dispose of it in a drain connected to the sanitary sewer.
- ✓ Fueling areas must be contained similarly to washing areas. Designated fueling areas must be equipped with automatic shutoff fuel dispensing nozzles and have absorbent materials available for small spills
- ✓ All automotive equipment and parts should be stored indoors. If you must store outdoors, place parts in a leak-proof, covered container.

