



VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT STORAGE

Stormwater runoff from vehicle and equipment storage areas can be contaminated with toxic hydrocarbons and other organic compounds, oils and greases, heavy metals, nutrients, and suspended solids. Activities associated with vehicle and equipment storage may involve one or more of the following:

- 1. Storing Vehicles and Equipment**
- 2. Wrecked Vehicle Storage**
- 3. Cleaning Storage Areas**

Related vehicle maintenance activities are covered under the following program headings in this manual: “Vehicle and Equipment Cleaning”, “Equipment Maintenance and Repair”, and “Vehicle Fueling”.

POLLUTION PREVENTION:

Pollution prevention measures have been considered and incorporated in the model procedures. Implementation of these measures may be more effective and reduce or eliminate the need to implement other more complicated or costly procedures. Possible pollution prevention measures for vehicle and equipment storage include:

- Use outside service agencies to clean vehicle storage areas and collect water for off-site disposal.
- Once per year, educate municipal staff on pollution prevention measures.

MODEL PROCEDURES:

1. Storing Vehicles and Equipment

General Guidelines

- ✓ Place drip pans or absorbent materials under vehicles and heavy equipment when not in use.
- ✓ Inspect the storage yard for filling drip pans and other problems (leaking equipment) regularly.

- ✓ Train employees on procedures for storage and inspection items.

Batteries

- ✓ Store batteries that have been dropped or are cracked in a secondary container even if it appears that the acid has already drained.

2. Wrecked Vehicle Storage

- ✓ As the vehicles arrive, place drip pans under them immediately, even if the fluids have leaked out before the car arrives.
- ✓ Drain all fluids from wrecked vehicles and "part" cars. Also drain engines, transmission, and other used parts.
- ✓ Promptly transfer used fluids to the proper container; do not leave full drip pans or other open containers lying around.
- ✓ Do not store vehicles near storm drain inlets.
- ✓ Comply with all applicable State and Federal regulations regarding storage, handling, and transport of petroleum products.

3. Cleaning Vehicle Storage Areas

- ✓ Dry sweep parking lots, storage areas, and driveways at least once per month to collect dirt, waste, and debris, do not hose down the area to a storm drain.
- ✓ Considering using an outside service to clean vehicle storage areas and collect water for off-site disposal.

LIMITATIONS:

It may not be possible to contain and clean up spills from vehicles/equipment brought on-site after working hours.

REFERENCES:

California Storm Water Best Management Practice Handbooks. Municipal Best Management Practice Handbook. Prepared by Camp Dresser & McKee, Larry Walker Associates, Uribe and Associates, Resources Planning Associates for Stormwater Quality Task Force. March 1993.

King County Stormwater Pollution Control Manual. Best Management Practices for Businesses. 1995. King County Surface Water Management. July. On-line: <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wlr/dss/spcm.htm>

Los Angeles County Stormwater Quality Model Programs. Public Agency Activities

http://ladpw.org/wmd/npdes/model_links.cfm

Model Urban Runoff Program: A How-To Guide for Developing Urban Runoff Programs for Small Municipalities. Prepared by City of Monterey, City of Santa Cruz, California Coastal Commission, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments, Woodward-Clyde, Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board. July. 1998.