

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program for Automotive Businesses



Chemicals such as oil on the ground can be carried by stormwater into drains or over land. This polluted stormwater can affect soil, streams, and even drinking water. Keeping water clean by preventing pollution helps keep our environment healthy for people, fish and wildlife.

Signs of possible pollution:

- Films, or “sheens”, floating on water, or on pavement
- Discolored water
- Odors

Not all pollution shows signs

What is pollution prevention?

Automotive businesses use many chemicals, such as oil, antifreeze, and solvents. These chemicals are necessary for your work, however, they can be dangerous when they accidentally mix with stormwater. Pollution prevention shows you how to keep this from happening.



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CITY OF GRESHAM

Pollution prevention keeps chemicals away from water drains and soil, for a healthy environment.

What can I do?

There are many simple actions that prevent pollution; you are probably already doing many of them. Some are more beneficial than others, but all are good.

- The best practices minimize waste by eliminating or reducing use of dangerous chemicals.
- If you must use these chemicals, you should recycle and safely dispose of the waste.

The City of Gresham's Pollution Prevention Program has three fact sheets with more information about what you can do to prevent stormwater pollution:

- Good Housekeeping - This includes:
 - Storage practices for liquids and solids, such as auto parts
 - Vehicle and equipment maintenance storage practices
- Removing Waste Safely - This includes:
 - Recycling and waste disposal
 - Vehicle and equipment washwater disposal
- Responding to Leaks and Spills
 - Employee training and response actions for minor and major incidents

City of Gresham staff can work with you to identify practices that are best-suited to your business. These practices will be used to develop a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, or SWPPP, for your business. Following these guidelines will help protect you, your employees, your business, and the environment.

Benefits of pollution prevention:

- Worker safety
- Clean water
- Reduced business cost from fewer chemicals and lower waste disposal fees
- Reduced liability



Secondary containment, under cover



Used oil for recycling



Spill kit



Storm drain awareness