



City of East Grand Forks

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Public Works Department · 1001 2nd St NE · East Grand Forks, MN 56721

STORMWATER BMPs – VEHICLE & EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE & STORAGE

AFFECTED FACILITIES

These Best Management Practices (BMPs) apply at all municipal operations where vehicles or equipment are stored, maintained or repaired. This includes facilities that perform: oil changes and lubrication, engine and mechanical repair, transmission repair, steering and brake work; body work, fluid changes and routine maintenance.

BACKGROUND

Automotive maintenance facilities are considered to be storm water “hot spots” where significant loads of hydrocarbons, trace metals and other pollutants can contaminate storm water. Some of the wastes generated include: solvents, antifreeze, batteries, oils, grease, gasoline, diesel fuel, and brake fluid. Common activities at maintenance shops that generate this waste include parts cleaning, fluid changing and replacement and repair of equipment. Fluid spills and improper disposal of materials result in pollutants, heavy metals and toxic materials entering surface waters, creating public health and environmental risks. BMPs such as the clean-up and storage of automotive fluids, conducting repairs indoors, and cleaning vehicle parts can help reduce the impact on stormwater runoff and local water supplies.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- Move leaking vehicles or equipment indoors or under cover as soon as possible. If they cannot be moved indoors immediately drain the leaking fluids and place a tag on the steering wheel to alert drivers of leaks.
- Perform all maintenance activities involving fluids indoors only. In case of an emergency repair, maintenance work may be performed outdoors. Use drip pans and drop cloths underneath the vehicles or equipment to catch leaks and drips.
- Park vehicles under cover and on an impervious surface whenever possible.
- Transfer fluids from drip pans to the appropriate waste containers after the repair work is completed.
- Clean up any spills or leaks of any automotive fluids promptly.
- Clean all parts indoors at a centralized station, parts cleaner or tub.
- Practice good housekeeping in all outdoor maintenance work areas.
- Store vehicles inside, under cover or on a paved surface if possible.

NEW CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION REQUIREMENTS

- Design vehicle or equipment repair facilities such that all work involving hazardous liquids (oil, fuel, grease, hydraulic fluid, paint, solvents, anti-freeze, batteries, ATF, cleaners, etc.) is conducted indoors only.
- Design a dedicated work area for fluid draining and re-filling. Use curbs, berms or dikes to control spills and allow for easy clean up. Isolate the work area from all sanitary sewer inlets, storm drain inlets and drainage ditches.
- Design new vehicle storage areas to be covered and with an impervious floor surface.

REQUIRED TRAINING

- Train all current employees on these BMPs, on the Spill Clean-up BMP and the importance of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) annually.
- Train all new hires and job transferees on these BMPs, on the Spill Clean-up BMP and the importance of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) before they are assigned to their new duties.
- All contracts must stipulate that contracted employees are trained in these BMPs.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Household Hazardous Waste can be disposed of at:

Polk County Environmental Services Transfer Station
320 Ingersoll Ave
Crookston, MN 56716
Monday - 7:00am to 7:00pm
Tuesday through Friday - 7:00am to 5:30pm

Used motor oil and other waste automotive fluids can be disposed of at:

Public Works Department
1001 Second St. N.E.
East Grand Forks, MN 56721
(218) 773-1313

To report an Illicit Discharge, clogged sewer or for answers to questions regarding these stormwater BMPs please contact:

Public Works Stormwater/Wastewater Department
1001 Second St. N.E.
East Grand Forks, MN 56721
(218) 773-1313