

# GRAND CITIES COMMUNITY VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

*Storm Water Management Activities Fact Sheet No. 4*

## **Goal/Purpose**

### Short Term:

Minimize the discharge of pollutants into storm water runoff from vehicle and equipment maintenance operations by containing potential pollutants and preventing release to the storm water conveyance system.

### Long Term:

Only emergency maintenance and repairs will be conducted without cover.

Using containers that can be placed to collect fluids directly can significantly reduce spills. These containers also allow the waste to be transferred to accumulation tanks with minimal effort. Set up automated systems to deliver fluids, which will save time and reduce the potential for spills in the shop. Require a secondary containment for the hazardous chemical storage containers (curbs or double-walled tanks). Select new cleaning systems and products to maximize operations while minimizing generated waste and reducing exposure to toxic chemicals.

## **Storm Water Management Activities**

To comply with the individual Grand Cities Community Storm Water Pollution Prevention Programs (SWPPPs), specific storm water runoff activities must be implemented at all local municipal facilities as required.

### Activity:

1. Conduct maintenance and repair operations indoors or under cover whenever possible. Keep your work area clean to prevent the tracking of pollutants beyond the work site.
2. Use shop rags and damp mop for general cleanup; never use a hose to wash down a work area. The mop water must be emptied into a drain connected to an oil/water separator before discharging to the sanitary sewer.
3. Use drip pans to collect and transfer liquids or transport parts. Carefully empty fluid collection pans. Use funnels to transfer liquids whenever possible and clean up drips immediately.
4. Regularly check vehicles and equipment awaiting maintenance or repairs for any leaks. Drain fluids from equipment or parts that are to be scrapped. Clean up any leaks or spills immediately and dispose of appropriately. Cover exposed engines and other parts to prevent contact with storm water. Place collection pans to collect any further releases regardless if all such vehicles are gathered in a specific waiting area or not.
5. The scrap metal stockpile will be minimized by disposal periodically. Keep the stockpile covered.
6. Do not use drains without knowing whether they flow to the sanitary sewer, storm system, or an internal sump. Confirm connections before using drains to ensure proper disposal and regularly inspect oil/water separator and sumps; conduct maintenance and repairs promptly.
7. When working outside, always protect the storm drain system from accidental releases. Protect the storm drain system

by using portable dikes around the work area and/or placing storm drain cover mats over the storm drains. Use the most appropriate method possible to contain any potential spills.

8. Keep open-area vehicle and equipment painting confined to small touch-up jobs. Larger jobs requiring greater amounts of paint or other coatings require the use of specialized spray equipment and booths.
9. The Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OHSA) mandates labels for all containers; maintenance of correct labels on all containers is important for employee safety and

correct disposal practices. Maintain an organized inventory of chemical products on-site along with their material safety data sheets (MSDSs).

10. Conduct preventive maintenance on secondary containment structures and other equipment to ensure proper operation. Identify potential leaks, and repair or replace promptly.
11. All contractors shall provide a copy of their storm water awareness training and procedures for protecting the community storm water conveyance system as required by the Clean Water Act.

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If the above-suggested activities require some modification in order to work efficiently and effectively for you and your staff or do not cover some aspect of your operations or facility, please contact the appropriate Grand Cities storm water representative:

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Phone: (701) 746-2713  
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For additional information on this or the local area community responsibilities under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II federal regulations for storm water discharges, visit the following Grand Cities Community Web sites:

City of Grand Forks:  
<http://www.grandforksgov.com/gfgov/EnvironW.nsf/Main+Frameset?OpenFrameset>

City of East Grand Forks:  
<http://www.ci.east-grand-forks.mn.us/>

Grand Forks County:  
<http://www.co.grand-forks.nd.us/homepage.htm>

University of North Dakota:  
<http://www.facilities.und.nodak.edu/stormwater.htm>

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