

Best Management Practices (BMPs) for the Auto Repair Business

LOCAL ORDINANCES REQUIRE PROTECTIVE MEASURES

Mount Pleasant's storm drainage system is designed to collect stormwater runoff during rain events. This stormwater is eventually discharged, untreated, into the marshes, creeks, and rivers surrounding the Town.



If materials in auto shops are not properly disposed of or stored, brake dust and fluid, oil, fuel, lubricants, solvents, and batteries can be picked up and carried in the storm drain to any downstream water body. This type of pollution can degrade water quality and threaten fish and wildlife habitats of our important water resources.

Local ordinances prohibit the discharge of non-stormwater, chemicals, and other materials into the storm drainage system.

We need your help to ensure that stormwater runoff does not harm our local waters!

Best Management Practices (BMPs) can help prevent pollution from entering our local waterbodies. By implementing the following BMPs, you can help guarantee a safe working environment for you and clean water for all.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs):

1. **General Practices** — Clean vehicles in a wash area that drains to the sanitary sewer, not the storm drain. Routinely inspect vehicles and equipment for leaks. Use drip pans to contain leaks that cannot be immediately repaired. Drain salvage vehicle fluids upon arrival at site. Collect, separate, and recycle used grease, oil, oil filters, tires, antifreeze, cleaning solutions, batteries, hydraulic and transmission fluids.



2. **Cleaners and Solvents** — Read all labels and follow directions for use. Dispose of any old, unused cleaners according to your local hazardous waste authority. Do not pour cleaners down floor drains or storm drains. Purchase water-based cleaning products when available.

3. **Material Storage** — All materials should be stored in a closed, secure container and under a permanent shed or temporary tarp to protect from rain. Store batteries on an impervious surface contained by a curb, berm, or dike.

4. **Spills** — Instead of hosing down an area, use "dry" methods to clean spills. Absorbent materials, like cat litter, can be used to absorb any spilled liquid. Contact a hazardous waste facility to dispose of used absorbents. Maintain a spill kit that is appropriate for the materials you use in your shop.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs):

5. **Trash** — Dispose of all fluids, grease rags, air filters, used coolants, and degreasers according to appropriate guidelines from your hazardous waste authority. Recycle other materials, like oil, when possible. Non-hazardous trash should be properly bagged before disposal in dumpster. Dumpsters should be covered and the area around the dumpster, free of trash. Replace any leaky dumpsters.



6. **Employee Training** — Train your employees to use proper BMPs.

Working together to protect local water quality.

The quality of our waters depends on you!



**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
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