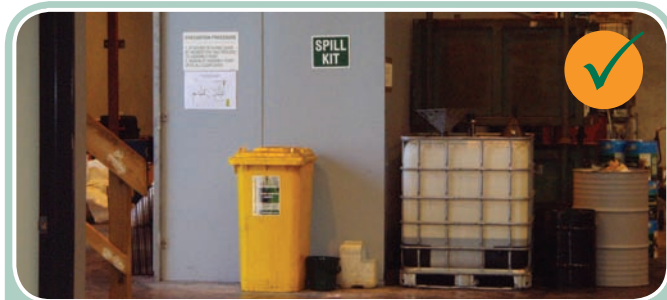


Housekeeping

Keep your yard and work area tidy – a tidy workplace will impress your customers. Having procedures in place and scheduling tasks to be done on a regular basis will help you and your staff prevent discharges into the stormwater system.

- Sweep regularly to remove loose particles from the ground
- Collect all fluids (hydraulic and brake fluid, oils etc.) using drip trays
- Do not allow any contaminants to enter stormwater



Good housekeeping minimizes pollution risk

Spill Response Plan and spill kits

Create a Spill Response Plan and procedures specific to your site. A spill response plan should include:

- step by step instructions on how to stop, contain and clean up a spill
- telephone numbers of key people (e.g. supervisor) and agencies (e.g. Auckland Regional Council Pollution Hotline) that need to be notified of a spill
- instructions on responsible waste disposal

Go to www.arc.govt.nz and navigate to the pollution management website in the Environment tab or refer to **ARC factsheet UPC04** for a guide to create spill response plans.

Keep a spill kit on site and make sure all staff know how to use it should a spill occur. Use only dry materials for spill cleanup, such as peat, sand or kitty litter and dispose of as hazardous waste. Prevent all spilt waste from entering the stormwater system.

The law

In New Zealand the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) is the law that protects the environment. In the Auckland Region, it is illegal for any substance to enter water either directly, through the stormwater system or via the contamination of land without prior authorisation from the Auckland Regional Council. Polluters can face a fine of up to \$600,000 for breaches of the RMA.

Remember

- Outside drains discharge untreated directly into the local stream or to the sea
- Plan ahead and put measures in place to prevent pollution
- Have a Spill Response Plan and spill kit on site and ensure all staff are aware of how to use it



Waste oil drums safely stored under cover in bunded area

24 Hour Pollution Response Hotline (09) 377 3107

Pollution and the Auckland Region

Automotive Trade

Automotive activities often require the use of materials such as oils, fuels and fluids that can have a negative impact on the environment. It is your responsibility to keep your worksite tidy, to dispose of unwanted materials in an environmentally responsible manner and to prevent pollution.

This industry factsheet is aimed at helping automotive trade businesses identify and address the pollution risks associated with their operations.



Drums and general waste safely stored under cover in bunded area

The stormwater system is for rain only. Plan ahead and put controls in place if necessary to prevent discharges.

Sanding and painting

Dust and odours that can be deemed offensive or objectionable are not permitted to cross your property boundaries. When sanding and painting use the following techniques to minimise dust and odours:

Sanding

- Sand inside to prevent dust affecting neighbours
- Sweep up dust and paint chips after sanding and dispose of responsibly
- Collect wet sanding wastewater and dispose of to the sewer system after seeking permission from your local council
- Use vacuum sanding system if possible

Painting

- Paint indoors to prevent odours affecting neighbours
- Store paints and thinners indoors in a secure location
- Wash water based painting equipment in an indoor sink
- Oil based paint needs to be disposed of as a Hazardous Substance
- Clean up spilt liquids immediately with a rag or absorbent material –do not wash into the stormwater system!

Washing

Detergents, hydrocarbons and degreasers are particularly harmful in an aquatic environment and are not allowed to enter the stormwater system. When washing parts and vehicles you must prevent washwater runoff from entering stormwater drains.

A high quantity of vehicle washing occurs at car sales yards. It is essential to ensure that wastewater from washing, rinsing or waterblasting activities does not enter the stormwater system.

Wash in a designated wash bay, on unsealed ground or near an indoor drain that is connected to the sewer system. If you do not have these options, take vehicles to a commercial car wash facility.

Radiator fluid

Radiator fluid can contain a range of contaminants such as antifreeze, heavy metals and suspended solids which give the water its rusty colour.

- Use drip trays when working with parts that contain fluid
- Collect all fluids for disposal
- Dispose of all fluids into the trade waste system with permission from your local council or to an approved waste facility
- Do not drain radiators into the stormwater system



Batteries stored uncovered and on unsealed ground have the potential to leak into the stormwater system

Used batteries and old parts

Batteries contain a very strong acid that can have a devastating impact on wildlife if it is allowed to enter the stormwater system.

Store old batteries under cover on a sealed surface. Make sure they get disposed of on a regular basis or have them picked up by a commercial contractor.

Drain and wash used parts before storing them to prevent oil and fluids from leaking to the ground and contaminating your site. Store fluids on site and dispose of them in a responsible manner. Used parts are best stored under cover. Make sure all storage bins do not leak.



Drums and chemicals stored uncovered on unsealed ground can cause land contamination

Waste oil

Used oil is a serious pollutant and is harmful to the environment (both land and water). It can contain heavy metals or cancer causing solvents which are harmful to people and wildlife.

By improving the storage and handling of oil you can reduce the risk of spills and contamination.

Storage and recycling

- Store oil under cover in designated tanks or drums that are secured in place and do not leak
- Use funnels or troughs big enough to prevent spills when transferring the oil
- Place your tank or drum in a bunded area that is capable of holding 110% of the oil capacity
- Have used oil collected by a commercial contractor on a regular basis

Spills

- Use dry absorbent materials such as peat, kitty litter or sand to absorb spilt oil
- Sweep or shovel loose material and dispose of waste responsibly
- Sand bags or absorbent booms can be used to protect stormwater drains should a spill occur
- Have a spill response plan and spill kit on site and make sure all staff are trained in spill response procedures
- Call the Auckland Regional Council Pollution Hotline on 377 3107 to report spills that may enter the stormwater system or ask for assistance and advice