



This Fact Sheet provides Best Management Practices (BMPs) that are recommended for facilities that clean, store, and rent equipment.

Potential Pollutant Sources

The following activities are potential sources of pollutants:

- Equipment servicing
- Washing equipment
- Handling/storing materials
- Storing equipment
- Equipment fueling

Pollutants may include:

- Heavy metals (copper, lead, nickel, and zinc)
- Hydrocarbons (oil and grease, PAHs)
- Toxic chemicals (solvents, chlorinated compounds, glycols)
- Acids and alkalis

Pollution Prevention

Implementation of pollution prevention measures may reduce or eliminate the need to implement other more costly or complicated procedures.

The following pollution prevention principles apply to most facilities:

- Use alternative, safer, non-toxic, and/or recycled products;
- Reduce storm water flow across the site and redirect flows away from storm drains, gutters, or streets;
- Reduce the use of water and/or use dry methods;
- Recycle and reuse waste products and waste flows; and
- Provide on-going employee training.

Best Management Practices and Procedures

GENERAL

- ▶ If water is being used for cleaning shop floors and adjacent outdoor areas, contain the wash water and dispose of in the sanitary sewer (with permission of sewer provider) or for offsite disposal. Do not dispose of in the gutter or street.
- ▶ Maintain facility grounds and move or cover activities and materials to prevent contact with storm water.
- ▶ Inspect and clean leaks and drips routinely. Leaks are not cleaned up until the absorbent is picked up and disposed of properly.
- ▶ Label drains within the facility boundary, by paint/stencil (or equivalent), to indicate whether they flow to an oil/water separator, directly to the sewer, or to a storm drain.

EQUIPMENT SERVICING

- ▶ Perform major equipment repairs in a specified area or corporation yard.
- ▶ Move maintenance and repair activities indoors, if possible. If this is not possible, cover repair area with a permanent roof. Place curbs or berms around the immediate boundaries of the process equipment.
- ▶ Regularly inspect equipment for leaks. Collect leaking or dripping fluids in drip pans or containers. Fluids are easier to recycle or dispose of if kept separate.
- ▶ Always use secondary containment, such as a drain pan or drop cloth, to catch spills or leaks when removing or changing fluids.
- ▶ Do not hose down work areas. If work areas are washed with water, discharge wash water to the sanitary sewer with permission. If discharge to the sanitary sewer is not permitted, collect wash water and dispose of properly.
- ▶ Keep equipment clean – do not allow excessive build-up of oil or grease.

WASHING EQUIPMENT

- ▶ Use off-site commercial washing businesses, if feasible.
- ▶ If washing must occur on-site, designate an impervious area to be used solely for equipment washing. Clearly mark the equipment washing area.
- ▶ Design wash area to collect and properly dispose of wash water.
- ▶ Recycle or reuse liquid cleaners, if feasible. Use non-toxic cleaners.
- ▶ If the wash area is outdoors, cover the area when not in use.
- ▶ Provide trash containers in wash area and empty on a regular basis. Use recycle bins.
- ▶ Discharge wash water to sanitary sewer.

HANDLING/STORING MATERIALS

- ▶ Do not pour liquid waste to floor drains, sinks, outdoor storm drain inlets, or other storm drains.
- ▶ Promptly transfer used fluids to the proper waste or recycling drums. Do not leave full drip pans or other open containers lying around.
- ▶ Store batteries in a secondary container.

STORING EQUIPMENT

- ▶ Place drip pans or absorbent materials under equipment.
- ▶ Sweep/vacuum all storage area at least once before the onset of the wet season.
- ▶ Use dry cleaning methods to prevent the discharge of pollutants into the storm water conveyance system.
- ▶ Dispose of storage area sweeping debris and dirt properly.
- ▶ If water is used, block off storm drain or contain runoff and collect wash water to pump to the sanitary sewer. If wash water does not contain soap or other cleaning agents, discharge to a pervious surface.
- ▶ If cleaning agents are used, select biodegradable products.
- ▶ Clean heavy oily spots with absorbent materials. Seal the storm drain.
- ▶ Appropriately dispose of spilled materials and absorbents.
- ▶ Provide an adequate number of litter receptacles. Clean out and cover litter receptacles frequently to prevent spillage.

EQUIPMENT FUELING

- ▶ Maintain fuel dispensing areas using dry cleanup methods such as sweeping for removal of litter and debris, or use of rags and absorbents for leaks and spills. Fueling areas should never be washed down unless the wash water is collected and disposed of properly.
- ▶ Clean leaks and drips immediately. Leaks are not cleaned up until the absorbent is picked up and disposed properly.
- ▶ Install vapor recovery nozzles to help control drips as well as air pollution.
- ▶ Use secondary containment such as curbs or berms when transferring fuel from the tank truck to the fuel tank.

SPILL CONTROL

- ▶ Develop and maintain a spill response plan.
- ▶ Place an adequate stockpile of spill cleanup materials where it will be readily available.
- ▶ Spot clean leaks and drips routinely.
- ▶ Clean leaks, drips, and other spills with as little water as possible. Use rags for small spills, a damp mop for general cleanup, and dry absorbent material for larger spills.
- ▶ Remove the absorbent materials promptly and dispose of properly.
- ▶ Keep the spill from entering the street, gutter, or storm drain.

Employee Training

- Train employees on these practices.
- Train staff on the proper maintenance of the facility.
- Train employees on proper spill containment and cleanup procedures.
- Establish a regular training schedule, train all new employees, and conduct annual refresher training.
- Use a training log or similar method to document training.

PHONE NUMBERS

San Joaquin County Stormwater Management	468-3055
San Joaquin County Sanitary Sewer Agency	468-3090
City of Stockton Stormwater Management	937-8791
City of Stockton Sanitary Sewer Agency	937-8750



KEEP YOUR BUSINESS SAFE FROM MERCURY

Mercury is found in a variety of items ranging from automobiles to household appliances. Be cautious of tags or labels that identify the components as containing mercury when repairing these items. It is important to keep the mercury ampules intact when repairing equipment and never rinse mercury from a broken ampule down the drain.

Mercury within the Automotive Industry can be found in many automotive applications including hood and trunk light switches, ABS braking systems switches, ride control systems, navigation displays, air bag sensors, and high intensity discharge (HID) headlamps.

Mercury may also be found in a wide variety of appliances including chest freezers, refrigerators, gas and electric stoves, washing machines, space heaters, pool heaters, commercial water heaters, and camper appliances. Mercury is often used in everyday household objects so it is important to dispose of them properly. Thermostats, Thermometers and Fluorescent Lamps are of particular concern. Proper handling and disposal and the evaluation of alternative products are the keys to minimizing mercury impacts on human health and the environment.

THE CONCERN- MERCURY IS TOXIC.

Although mercury performs many useful functions, it is toxic and can impair the way we see, hear and function. In the environment, a percentage of mercury undergoes a biological/chemical process and is converted to methylmercury, which is a more toxic form of mercury. Mercury poisoning can attack the central nervous system in humans. Women of child-bearing age and children, especially those under the age of six, are most susceptible to mercury poisoning.

Allow only those people who are properly trained and equipped to remove, handle, and manage mercury-containing devices from appliances or automobiles.

Businesses may utilize the following resources to properly dispose of products containing mercury or to obtain further information:

San Joaquin County Household Hazardous Waste Facility: (209) 468-306
San Joaquin County Environmental Health Department: (209) 468-3420

If you are looking for answers to your regulatory questions, call 800-72TOXIC (728-6942) or visit: <http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Mercury/>

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