



**CITY OF SPOKANE  
DEPARTMENT OF WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT  
INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT PROGRAM**

**BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs) FOR AUTOMOTIVE SHOP WASTE**

The City of Spokane Riverside Park Water Reclamation Facility (RPWRF) collects and treats sewage from domestic and industrial sources. Certain industries have the potential to discharge hazardous chemicals and other materials that can have a negative impact on our treatment plant and the Spokane River.

**WHAT ARE BMPs?**

BMPs are activities and procedures that your business performs to prevent negative impacts at the City of Spokane RPWRF. The BMPs include:

- Do not pour automotive fluids into your floor sump or drain. Most automotive fluids are designated as hazardous waste and are not suitable for discharge to the storm or sewer collection system. Review MSDS for appropriate disposal methods and environmental hazards.
- Ensure tanks and drums filled with automotive fluids are stored away from your floor sump or drain and in secondary containment. The secondary containment should hold 110% of the largest storage container. Check tanks and drums regularly for leaks and spills. Have a spill prevention, control and countermeasures plan.
- Drain oil filters for 24 hours before disposing in the trash.
- Always use absorbent material to clean up liquid spills. Sweep used absorbents into an appropriate container and dispose of in the trash if it is nonhazardous waste. If the spill was a hazardous waste, dispose of the absorbents through a collection service or the City's hazardous waste collection sites: <http://www.solidwaste.org/sub369c.php?id=5108>.
- Sweep and dispose of solid waste before washing floors. Keep floor sump free of grit or sludge.
- Only allow wash water to enter your floor sump or drain. Non-caustic, non-organic cleaners may be rinsed down the drain.

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS COMMONLY FOUND IN AUTOMOTIVE SHOPS**

- Fuels and solvents—dispose of used fuels and solvents as hazardous waste.
- Antifreeze should be recycled. Ethylene glycol and propylene glycol should be stored and recycled separately. Get more information at: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/hwtr/dangermat/antifreeze.html>.
- Used Motor oil, brake fluid, transmission fluid, lubricating oil, compressor oil, gear and metalworking fluid without chlorinated compounds are all considered used motor oil and can be mixed. If used motor oil is recycled it not considered hazardous waste.

\*\*\*\*\*More information on the reverse\*\*\*\*\*

- Shop towels containing solvents, paints, stains, inks, or other chemicals may be ignitable, toxic, or have “listed” solvents that cause them to be dangerous waste. They must be either disposed of as hazardous waste or sent to a properly permitted laundry facility. See <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/pubs/0904015.pdf> page 3 for details of disposal or recycling.
- Batteries—Store damaged or leaking batteries in closed containers to prevent toxins from entering either the sanitary sewer or storm sewer.

For further information on proper handling and disposal of hazardous materials, please see: [http://www.ccar-greenlink.org/vshops/FinalAutoGuide\\_092503.pdf](http://www.ccar-greenlink.org/vshops/FinalAutoGuide_092503.pdf) and <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/pubs/0904015.pdf>.

### **CAN I HAVE MY LIQUID WASTE HAULED TO THE TREATMENT PLANT?**

Industrial wastewater may be transported by truck to the city of Spokane RPWRF under certain conditions. Any industrial waste hauled to the facility must have prior approval and is granted on a case-by-case basis. Call our facility, (509) 625-4600, for further information on the conditions for disposal. If the conditions are satisfied, the wastewater can be hauled by a permitted septic hauler, with 24-hours advanced notice.

If you have any questions about how to handle your wastewater, please contact us at:  
**City of Spokane Riverside Park Water Reclamation Facility (509) 625-4600**

### **IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION**

Hazardous waste handling contact: Department of Ecology **(509) 329-3400**

Hazardous spills contact: Spokane Fire Department **9-1-1**

Large volumes of spills that are not hazardous to human health and the environment contact:

Sewer Maintenance **(509) 625-7900**

RPWRF **(509) 625-4600 (days)** or **(509) 625-4610 (after hours)**

Proper disposal of materials and recycling contact:

Spokane Solid Waste Department **(509) 625-7878**

#### **Note:**

Wastewater discharged through most indoor drains flows to the RPWRF and is treated prior to entering the Spokane River. However, some chemicals cannot be treated and pass through the plant into the river.

Stormwater and snowmelt flow to outdoor drains, drywells, and grassy areas that drain directly to the river and aquifer without treatment. Any material exposed to rainwater will be washed into the river or aquifer.

Always maintain clean outdoor areas and ensure that all storage is kept off the ground and covered to prevent rainwater contamination.

**\* IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW THAT THE INTENTIONAL DISCHARGE OF \***  
**ANY HAZARDOUS MATERIAL**  
**\* IS A SERIOUS VIOLATION OF CITY, STATE, AND FEDERAL LAW. \***