



Best Management Practices *for*

Vehicle Repair and Maintenance

How does vehicle repair and maintenance impact water quality?

During vehicle repair and maintenance operations, solvents, paints, sanding wastes, oil and antifreeze can all cause water pollution problems if they enter a storm drain or the sanitary sewer. Wastewater treatment plants are not designed to remove this type of waste.

Enforcement of Vehicle Service BMPs

The Napa Sanitation District (NapaSan) Code states in Section 4.04.090 that in lieu of a wastewater discharge permit, the District may develop BMPs that serve as an enforceable control mechanism for prohibited wastes. The BMPs listed below as “REQUIRED” are required actions that will be assessed when a NapaSan inspector visits your facility.

By following these BMPs, you will protect water quality, potentially lower your costs, and pass inspections by the NapaSan Inspector.

Inspections by Napa Sanitation District

Vehicle repair and maintenance facilities can be inspected by a NapaSan Inspector to ensure compliance with NapaSan Code and to prevent sewer problems. When the inspector visits, he/she will check sand and oil separators for proper function. The inspector will also verify that floor drains are permanently sealed. NapaSan has the right to collect a sample at any time to check for compliance with the local limits¹ found in the NapaSan Code.

Questions?

If you have any questions, please contact the NapaSan Inspectors by calling 707-258-6000. These BMPs and the Sewer Use Ordinance are also available on our website at www.NapaSan.com.

¹Local limits are technically based, defensible numerical limits imposed on industrial users by NapaSan. The local limits are set for toxic pollutants that can interfere with the treatment process or pass through the treatment process without being removed. Local limits can be found in the NapaSan Code online at www.NapaSan.com.

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Best Management Practices for Vehicle Repair and Maintenance

The following Best Management Practices are REQUIRED:

These BMPs will be enforced through inspections by NapaSan Inspectors.

Practices

- No wastewater other than domestic sewage shall be discharged to the sanitary sewer with the exception of auto body wash water that has been treated by a sand-oil separator permitted by NapaSan. No vehicle fluids shall be discharged to the sanitary sewer.
- All floor drains in the service area must be permanently sealed.
- No oil or other vehicle fluids shall be discharged to the sanitary sewer system.
- Vehicle wash areas must be separated from the service/repair area and the wash water must be treated using a NapaSan-approved sand-oil separator. Oil and other vehicle fluids shall not be discharged to the sand oil separator.
- If a sand-oil separator is in use, the facility must comply with NapaSan's **Best Management Practices for Sand-Oil Separators**.
- The vehicle wash area must be permanently covered and the area around the building shall be graded away from the car wash slab.
- Permanent awnings must be placed over the open sides of the car wash area and should extend a distance equal to 1/2 the height of the opening, as per NapaSan Standard Specifications.
- Restroom drains are allowed for domestic wastewater discharge only.

The following Best Management Practices are RECOMMENDED:

Practices

Vehicle Washing

- Recycle wash water or take vehicles to an approved car wash that recycles wash water.

Parts Cleaning

- Minimize the use of solvents.
- Use water-based cleaning products.
- Pre-clean parts by scraping when possible.
- Create a centralized parts washing station. Equip the station with drop pans, drain boards and drying racks to direct drips back into a solvent sink or holding tank.
- Extend solvent life by using a filter and oil skimmer. Wait to change solvent until it doesn't get parts clean.
- Never wash parts outdoors.

Servicing Brakes

- To clean up brake dust, lightly wet it down before sweeping it up.
- Avoid spray-on solvent brake cleaner.

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The following Best Management Practices are RECOMMENDED:

Fluid Changes and Fueling Operations

- Change oil and other fluids indoors.
- Use drip pans. Place a large tray under the drip pan when drips may miss the pan. Consider using a roll-around collection drum.
- Transfer fluids from drip pans and other collection containers to appropriate waste storage as soon as possible to avoid spills.
- Use funnels or pumps when transferring liquids.
- Have absorbent pads and booms on hand for spill response.
- Drain oil filters and other vehicle parts containing fluid before recycling them.
- Use closed-loop flushing systems to flush engines, radiators and transmissions to prevent discharge to the sanitary sewer.

Proper Waste Disposal

- Identify and properly manifest all hazardous wastes, including waste paints, solvents, thinners, cleaning fluids, coolants, oil and gasoline, and rags saturated with solvents and gasoline.
- Send rags intended for reuse to an industrial laundry. Do not launder rags at home.