

Auto Repair Shop Checklist of Pollution Prevention Practices

Shop Operations

- Operate a clean, dry shop. Sweep, mop, or vacuum floors of shop areas routinely. If wet washing is necessary, contain and collect wash water to prevent a discharge to the storm drain system.
- Conduct repairs, maintenance, and body work indoors or in a manner that any potential discharges are contained.
- Prevent spills and leaks. Develop spill prevention and response procedures. Use drip pans and ground cloths under vehicles.
- Use a commercial car wash facility or proper wash rack to wash vehicles. It is unlawful to allow car wash water from your business to enter the storm drain system or receiving waters.
- Collect sanding sludge and residues for proper disposal; never allow these wastes to be discharged off-site.

Materials & Waste Management

- Store all materials and waste with potential to pollute storm water in a way that prevents contact with rainfall and runoff from storm flows or that contains contaminated runoff for treatment and disposal.
- Store, manage, and dispose of hazardous materials and waste in accordance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
- Store materials and wastes off the ground, under cover, and away from rain.
- Use secondary containment for hazardous waste storage and in areas with a high potential to create a discharge.
- Maintain storage containers in good condition; keep these items securely closed when not in use.

Training

- Annual BMP maintenance training for all operators/employees responsible for activities that could result in unlawful discharges. Keep a log of all training efforts.
- Training shall include preventive maintenance, good housekeeping, proper solid and liquid waste disposal, equipment maintenance and repair, spill response, recycling, and BMP maintenance. Keep annual training records on-site.

Solid Waste Storage & Loading Areas

- Trash storage and disposal areas should be inspected weekly.
- Sweep up litter and debris around dumpsters and loading and unloading areas regularly.
- Dispose of non-hazardous liquid waste into the sewer system, as allowed by local sewer agency.
- Keep dumpsters securely closed when not in use.
- Keep trash dumpsters, grease bins, and other waste containers in clean and leak-proof condition.
- Use dry methods (e.g., sweeping, vacuuming, mop and bucket) to clean out waste containers; if hosing or pressure washing is needed, take adequate precautions to contain all wash water onsite for proper disposal.

Environmental Agency Contact Information:

- **Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities
Storm Water Quality**
Phone: 801-483-6900
Emergency: 801-483-6700
1530 South West Temple
Salt Lake City 84115
Website: www.SLCH2O.com
- **Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities
Pretreatment Works**
Phone: 801-799-4000
Email: slcpretreatment@slcgov.com
- **Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)**
Phone: 801-536-4000
195 North 1950 West
Salt Lake City 84116
- **DEQ Division of Solid & Hazardous Waste (DSHW)**
Used oil & general recycling questions
Phone: 801-536-0200
195 North 1950 West
Salt Lake City 84116
- **DEQ Division of Environmental Response &
Remediation (DERR)**
Phone: 801-536-4100
195 North 1950 West
Salt Lake City 84116
- **DEQ DERR Environmental Incidents**
Phone: 801-536-4123
Website: <https://deq.utah.gov/>
- **Salt Lake County Health Department (SLCoHD)
Bureau of Water Quality and Hazardous Waste**
Phone: 385-468-4100
Website: <https://slco.org/>
- **Salt Lake County Stormwater Coalition**
Website: <https://stormwatercoalition.org/>

HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT For Auto Maintenance & Repair Facilities



*"To promote and protect community
and environmental health"*



**Public
Utilities**

**Salt Lake City
Department of Public Utilities Storm Water**
1530 South West Temple
Salt Lake City, UT 84115

**Telephone: 801-483-6900
Emergency: 801-483-6700**

Website: www.SLCH2O.com

Hazardous Waste & Car Repair

Defining Hazardous Waste:

In 2005, 78,101 tons of hazardous waste was produced and handled in Utah. They can fall into either of two categories. A *listed waste* is one that is specifically listed on the Utah Solid & Hazardous Waste Rules or the Resource Conservation & Recovery Act (RCRA) lists. *Characteristic wastes* are not listed but are also hazardous if they have any of these traits: ignitability, corrosively, reactivity, or toxicity. Generators are responsible for determining if their waste is hazardous. MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheets) can help you to identify possible hazards.

Waste Generator Categories:

Waste generators are categorized by how much hazardous waste they produce annually. Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators produce less than 100 kilograms or less than 1 kg of acutely hazardous waste in one month. They must identify all hazardous waste that they generate, not accumulate more than 1,000 kg at one time, and ensure that all waste is delivered to an authorized person or facility. If you fall into this category, you may be eligible for the Small Business Waste Disposal Assistance Program. Contact the Salt Lake County Health Department (SLCHD) for details.

Car Service & Waste:

General repair, radiator repair, car dealerships, car washes, and fleet maintenance all include activities that generate hazardous waste. Changing oil and fluids, cleaning engines, washing vehicles, and flushing radiators can cause a release of pollution. Some common pollutants include hydrocarbons like oil, grease, and PAHS, heavy metals such as zinc, nickel, copper, and lead, toxic chemicals including chlorinated compounds, glycols, and solvents, as well as alkalis and acids. If released to the storm water system, these materials would threaten water quality and pose serious public and environmental health concerns. You can help with pollution prevention by protecting maintenance areas from rain and run-off and training all employees in storm water pollution prevention best management practices (BMPs).

Best Management Practices

Changing Oil & Fluids: Change fluids indoors over non-porous flooring when possible or use a drip pan if working outdoors. Prevent spills from reaching the storm drain by working over an absorbent mat. Place a larger drip pan under the main drip pan to catch any spills. Transfer all fluids to a designated storage area with secondary containment; never put fluids down a drain or into the garbage. If a vehicle is damaged or leaking, drain fluids as soon as possible to prevent spills.

Cleaning Engines & Flushing Radiators:

Hazardous solvents can endanger your employees and ignite in the sewer. Use a licensed service to dispose these wastes, and never put them into the sewer or storm drain. Create specific areas to work with engines, parts, and radiators. Keep solvents covered and inspect them regularly for leaks. Soldering should not be done over drip tanks. Used parts, cleaning solvents, water, and drippings should be reused or disposed of as hazardous waste. Cleaning solutions and rinse water may only be discharged to the sanitary sewer if they have been treated with a permitted system. Static tanks and/or counter-current rinsing can help reduce the volume of discharged rinse water. To clean up dust and debris, sweep or vacuum instead of mop.

Washing Vehicles: Treating and recycling wash water is the best strategy. Create a "wash pad" area protected from storm drains that has an oil/water separator to remove oils before discharging to the sewer. Avoid use of acid-based wheel cleaners because they might require further treatment. Always protect storm drains from solvents and soaps.

Spills: Preventing spills is much easier than correcting them. Have a spill response plan and ensure that all employees are trained to follow it. Contain and cover all wastes. Storage areas should be convenient and close to collection points. Use proper absorbent materials for containment in case of a spill and treat saturated materials as hazardous waste. Seal or remove floor drains so that nothing accidentally discharged into the sewer.

Outdoor Waste Receptacle: Use only watertight receptacles and keep the lid(s) closed. If possible, grade and pave the waste receptacle area, install a roof or containment berm, or maintain drip pans under the receptacle. Spot clean leaks and drips on a regular basis.

Storage: Store hazardous materials away from rain, the sewer, and the storm drain. Label all wastes. Keep lids on all containers and store them indoors or make sure they are covered. Store batteries indoors in plastic trays and recycle them when possible. Keep wastes separate to increase recycling options and decrease costs. Double-contain all fluids. Contact the local fire department or the health department for more details.

Housekeeping: Keeping your shop clean minimizes liability, decreases cost, and makes it easier for you to spot problems. Use drip pans under leaking vehicles. Sweep or vacuum frequently. Instead of hosing down work areas, mop them and discharge mop water to the sanitary sewer, not the parking lot, street, gutter, or storm drain. An oleophilic mop (picks up oil instead of water) can decrease your waste volume. Collect all dust, filings, and paint chips, and treat them as hazardous waste. Inspect storm drain inlets and catch basins every year. The air/water supply area should be spot cleaned regularly, graded, and paved, or be equipped with a roof or low containment berm. Recycle anti-freeze, paints, oil filters, solvents, oil, batteries, and lubricants. Wastewater can be recycled with a self-contained zero-discharge containment system. Label all drains to indicate where they go. Pick a wastewater system that will be easy to keep clean and in good repair. Retain only a licensed service to dispose of wastes.

Education: Train all employees in chemical safety and waste management. Post informational signs for customers and employees reminding them to discharge wastes down the sink and reminding them not to use water to clean up spills.

Purchasing: Minimize inventory and ask your supplier for less toxic chemicals.

For more information, contact any of the resources listed on the reverse page.