

# EQUIPMENT RENTALS



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

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

## POLLUTION PREVENTION

Using 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
- ▶ Provide on-going employee training

## BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES

### *General*

- ▶ Vacuum or sweep. Do not wash shop floors or adjacent outdoors areas. Never discharge wash water into storm drains, gutters or streets.
- ▶ Maintain your facility grounds. 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 your facility boundary 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. Vacuum or sweep work areas. Do not wash shop floors or adjacent outdoor areas. Never discharge wash water into storm drains, gutters or streets.
- ▶ 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.
- ▶ Collect all wash water from vehicle cleaning operations and discharge to a sanitary sewer through an approved sand/oil separator (call the City of Stockton, Environmental Control Office at 937-8740 for disposal approval). Do not discharge wash water to the sanitary sewer until contacting the local sewer authority to find out if pretreatment is required.
- ▶ Recycle or reuse liquid cleaners. Use non-toxic, biodegradable, phosphate free cleaners. Remember, even though these detergents are better, the wash water still needs to be discharged to the sanitary sewer, with approval.
- ▶ 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.

### ***Handling/Storing Materials***

- ▶ Label all hazardous materials according to regulations.
- ▶ Keep lids on waste barrels and containers, store them indoors or under cover to reduce exposure to rain, and prevent spills from reaching sanitary sewer drains, storm drains, gutters and streets.
- ▶ 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, and dispose of properly at recycling or household hazardous waste facilities.

### ***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 drainage system.
- ▶ Dispose of storage area sweeping debris and dirt properly.
- ▶ If water is used:
  - Block off the storm drain or contain runoff.
  - Collect wash water to pump to the sanitary sewer through an approved sand/oil separator or discharged to a pervious surface if water does not contain soap or other cleaning agent. Keep wash water from entering storm drains, gutters or streets.
- ▶ If cleaning agents are used, select less toxic, biodegradable products.
- ▶ Clean heavy oily spots with absorbent materials. Seal the storm drain to prevent runoff.
- ▶ Appropriately dispose of spilled materials and absorbents.
- ▶ Provide an adequate number of litter receptacles. Clean out and cover litter receptacles frequently to prevent spillage. Use a recycle bin.

### ***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. Never discharge wash water from fueling areas into storm drains, gutters, streets or sanitary sewers.
- ▶ Clean leaks and drips immediately. Leaks are not cleaned up until the absorbent is picked up and properly disposed.
- ▶ 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 streets gutters or storm drains.

### **EMPLOYEE TRAINING**

- ▶ Train employees on these practices.
- ▶ Train staff on the proper maintenance of your 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.

City of Stockton 937-8700

***Water that goes into storm drains doesn't go to the sewer plant to be treated, but flows directly into our rivers, creeks, sloughs, and the Delta. Remember: Only Rain Down the Storm Drain!***