

STORMWATER QUALITY FOR AUTO SHOPS

The Town of Suffield, under the Stormwater Management Program, is participating in educating the public in ways in which their actions can help reduce the amount of polluted stormwater runoff that enters our waterways. Storm drain systems are designed to collect stormwater (rain and snow melt) and release it untreated into watercourses. Pollutants are accumulated in stormwater as rain and snowmelt flow across surfaces such as lawns, roads, and parking lots picking up substances such as fertilizers, pesticides, oil and antifreeze. Contaminants degrade the quality of drinking water sources and fish and wildlife habitats.

As a way of helping to educate the public, the Town of Suffield, has developed a list of Best Management Practices (BMP) that your business can utilize to help ensure a safe work environment and better maintain the quality of local water sources for years to come.

MATERIAL STORAGE

- Store all containers under cover to protect from rain and snow.
- Use secondary containment devices or construct dikes/curbs to contain any possible leaks.
- Close and secure all open containers.

SPILLS

- Keep a spill kit appropriate for the materials you use handy and stocked, ready for use.
- Clean up spills immediately.
- Use absorbent material or containment berms for liquid spills.
- Always use dry methods to clean spills (sweeping) and never hose down the area.

CLEANERS AND SOLVENTS

- Read labels carefully and follow directions.
- Dispose of unused portions properly, and follow appropriate cleanup practices.
- Collect wastes for recycling or proper disposal.
- Whenever possible, purchase water based cleaning products. Look for products labeled “non-toxic” and “readily biodegradable”.

TRASH

- Prevent polluted runoff by covering all dumpsters and replace leaky ones.
- Keep the area around the dumpsters free of trash.
- Ensure trash is properly bagged before placing it in the dumpster.