



BMPs for Industrial/Vehicle – Equipment Washing

The Vehicle/Equipment Washing Best Management Practices (BMP) Program is a program designed to address the discharge of oil, sand, and wash chemicals by the local business community into the sewer system. Because of this potential, the City-Parish may require the facilities to obtain an Industrial User Discharge Permit. The general permit is driven by the policies and BMPs found in this document.

Program Details and Documents

Required Best Management Practices:

- All process water containing soaps or other cleaning chemicals should be collected and reused or discharged to the sanitary sewer system. Discharge to storm drains is prohibited.
- All cleaning of vehicles and equipment shall be conducted under covering, on an impermeable slab or pad, and designed in a way to trap all overspray and wash water to be funneled to a sanitary sewer drain, a treatment facility, or a dead end sump.
- All process water shall be collected and treated to at least remove grit, oil and grease prior to disposal to the sanitary sewer.
- The wash water discharged shall not be outside of the pH range 6.0-10.5.
- Employee training must be conducted at least once yearly on the requirements and recommendations of the BMP program. **Documentation of the completed training must be available upon inspection by City-Parish staff.**
- All chemicals and used materials must be disposed of by approved/certified waste hauler. **Keep all waste manifests on site for inspection.**
- Pretreatment systems, such as oil/water separators, grit/sand interceptors, shall be inspected, cleaned, and repaired regularly by the user at their expense.
- A maintenance log shall be required to record maintenance schedules and activities. **Records should be kept for a minimum of three (3) years.**
- Secondary containment is required to protect from accidental spills/discharges.

Suggested Pollution Prevention Practices:

- **Water conservation:** Use low flow nozzles;
 - **100% closed-loop recycle system**, also called a non-discharging/zero discharge system, is a total recycle system that recycles both wash water and rinse water with no discharge to the sanitary sewer system.
 - **Partial recycle system** has two categories: limited recycling and multi-stage filtration systems. **Limited recycling:** provides minimal filtration of water, offering approximately 50 to 80 percent wash water reuse depending on the technologies used. These systems are designed to remove the heavy solids and provide recycled wash-quality water for reuse.
- **Product substitution:** use non-toxic, non-hazardous products (non-acid/caustic cleaners)
- **Solid Waste Management:** Keep all liquids in sealed containers; only buy as much product as needed; recycle materials and reuse products/materials on-site or in process.

Resources:

Washington State Department of Ecology. *Vehicle and Equipment Washwater Discharges- Best Management Practices Manual*. November 2012. Publication no. WQ-R-95-056. <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/publications/95056.pdf>

More information on close-loop/recycling systems can be found:

<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/wastewater/docs/GuideBMPClosed-LoopRecycleSystems.pdf>