



BMPs for Industrial Equipment/Auto Repair Shops

The Auto Repair Best Management Practices (BMP) Program is a program designed to address the discharge of automobile fluids 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.

All automotive facilities discharging to the sewer system are required to abide by the policy outlined below:

1. All auto repair facilities that have shop floor drains that discharge to the city sewer system will be required to install an oil/water separator or seal floor drains to prevent discharge.
2. Solvents, fuels, oil, antifreeze, and fluids from radiator flushing are prohibited from being discharged into the city sewer system.
3. All auto repair facility discharges must be in accordance with applicable, state, local or federal rules and regulations.
4. Hazardous and non-hazardous wastes must be stored and disposed of according to the Resource, Conservation, and Recovery Act (RCRA).

Program Details and Documents

Required Practices:

- **Post a sign:** Post an “Oil and Water Don’t Mix” sign in a high profile area to remind employees of the BMPs.
- **Container Management and Storage:** Store materials in a manner that minimizes the potential for accidental discharge to drains, such as areas with secondary containment. Inspect storage containers regularly for leaks, rust or defect. Store materials in compatible containers, such as plastic containers for corrosive material. **Retain manifests or disposal records for three (3) years.**
- **Have a spill plan in place:** Keep spill control and absorbent materials in a central known location, accessible to all employees. Train all employees on the proper procedures for spill response. **Keep training records onsite for review during an inspection.**
- **Maintenance Practices:** Maintain a maintenance log of any equipment repair. Routinely check equipment for small leaks and repair immediately to prevent loss of raw materials. Practice preventative maintenance to avoid future losses.

Best Management Practices:

- **Used Oil (includes motor oil, brake fluid, transmission fluid, and hydraulic oil):**
 - Use drip pans or trays to collect fluids where fluids are transferred, under leaking cars and under parts that have been removed.
 - Collect oil in dedicated drums or storage containers.
 - Use dedicated equipment such as funnels and pans to prevent contamination from other wastes and fluids.
 - Do not mix used oils with other wastes and fluids.
 - Do not pour used oil on the ground or use for weed control.
- **Used filters (Oil, Transmission, and Fuel):**
 - Puncture and drain your used oil filters for 24 hours before you store them.
 - Put oil from filters in the used oil storage container.
 - Keep drained filters in dedicated containers.
- **Antifreeze:**
 - Use tight fitting lids, leak proof spigots, funnel or pumps to transfer fluids.
 - Use dedicated drip pans for antifreeze.
 - Do not mix with any other fluids, such as used oil.
 - Clean up any spills at once.
 - Used antifreeze shall not be disposed of to sanitary sewer or the POTW.
 - Recycle antifreeze when possible.
- **Parts Cleaning Waste/Solvents:**
 - Clean parts mechanically rather than chemically when possible.
 - Perform all parts cleaning at a centralized station, so the solvents and residue stay in one area.
 - Place parts-cleaning equipment in a convenient location near the service bays to reduce drips and spills while moving parts.

Resources:

JEA. "Best Management Practices for Auto Repair Facilities." JEA Pretreatment Program. June 2007.