

Protect Our Waterways

Water that flows into local waterways and storm drains flow directly into our rivers, creeks, sloughs, and the Delta, rather than our treatment plant, and carry with it many pollutants that are harmful to humans and wildlife.

Auto dealers play a unique role in helping to protect the Delta and surrounding waterways. By following these best management practices, our Delta and surrounding waterways will be available for future generations to enjoy.

*Only Rain Down the
Storm Drain!*



Mercury Awareness

Mercury pollution in stormwater runoff is a leading cause of waterway impairment. In high quantities, mercury can be harmful to humans. High levels of mercury are partly caused by the improper disposal of:

- Fluorescent lights (including CFLs)
- Electrical switches
- Thermometers
- Pressure and vacuum gauges

San Joaquin County residents can drop off these waste items for free at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility:

7850 R A Bridgeford Street
Stockton, CA 95206

City of Stockton Municipal Utilities
Department Stormwater Program:
209.937.8700

2500 Navy Drive
Stockton, CA 95206
www.stocktonca.gov/mud

San Joaquin County Stormwater Program:
866.755.4955

Auto Dealers' Guide to Protecting Our Waterways



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Auto dealers and facilities that buy, trade and/or sell automobiles, can generate pollutants, including heavy metals (copper, lead, nickel and zinc), hydrocarbons (oil and grease), toxic chemicals (solvents, chlorinated compounds, glycols) and acids and alkalis when performing minor automobile servicing, as well as floor and parking lot cleaning.

Prevent pollution by using alternative, safer and/or recycled products; reducing stormwater flow across the site and redirecting flow away from storm drains, gutters and streets; recycling and reusing waste products and waste flow.

General

- ☞ Vacuum or sweep. Do not wash shop floors or adjacent outdoor areas.
- ☞ Maintain facility grounds. Move or cover materials to prevent contact with stormwater.
- ☞ Inspect and clean leaks and drips routinely. Use absorbent pads for spills and dispose of properly.
- ☞ Label drains indicating if they flow to an oil/water separator, sewer or storm drain.



Maintenance and Repair Work

- ☞ Conduct maintenance and repair work, including changing motor oil, only in designated areas with spill containment.
- ☞ Build berms or intercept trenches at doorways.
- ☞ Avoid working over asphalt and dirt floors, which can absorb vehicle fluids.
- ☞ When removing or changing vehicle fluids, do so inside or under cover, if possible.
- ☞ Use a drip pan when unclipping hoses, unscrewing filters or removing other parts and promptly transfer used fluids to the proper waste or recycling drums.
- ☞ Capture all spills and drips; dispose or recycle oils properly.

Cleaning Floors

- ☞ If wash water does not contain soap or other cleaning agents, discharge to a porous surface. Otherwise, it cannot be pumped into the sanitary sewer and may need to be disposed of as hazardous waste.
- ☞ Call the City of Stockton's Environmental Control Division at 937-8740 for disposal information.

Parking Lot Cleaning

- ☞ Develop and maintain a spill response plan.
- ☞ Place an adequate stockpile of spill cleanup materials where it will be readily accessible.
- ☞ Remove the absorbent materials promptly and dispose of properly.
- ☞ Keep the spill from entering streets, gutters or storm drains.
- ☞ Do not use bleach or disinfectants if there is a possibility that rinse water could flow to streets, gutters or storm drains.

Employee Training

- ☞ Train employees/staff on the proper facility maintenance, spill control plan, and spill containment/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.

