



Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), water in storm drains is **not treated or cleaned** before entering our waterways and should never contain any pollutants.



Who is H₂OC?

H₂OC is YOU. H₂OC is also a cooperative stormwater program which includes all 34 cities in Orange County, the County of Orange, and Orange County Flood Control District (OCFCD). Clean and healthy beaches, creeks, rivers, bays, wetlands, and ocean are important to Orange County. H₂OC provides resources to residents and businesses to encourage personal action and prevent polluted runoff from entering our waterways.

Join Us

Visit h2oc.org to learn more about runoff, water pollution, and how you can be the solution to runoff pollution and protect our water resources.

Contact

📞 **24-hour Pollution Reporting Hotline:**
1-877-89-SPILL (1-877-897-7455)

📱 **24-hour Reporting Website:**
myOCeServices.ocgov.com

For emergencies, dial 911

*Find a licensed hazardous waste hauler, visit: oclandfills.com

**For a list of recycling locations in your area, visit: calrecycle.ca.gov

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
FOR BUSINESSES

WATER POLLUTION AND THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

YOU ARE THE SOLUTION TO RUNOFF POLLUTION



How Does Your Business Affect Water Quality?

Automotive shops and gas stations can generate a variety of waste products which can become pollutants. These can include oil, gas, antifreeze, lubricants, grease, and other harmful substances. If not properly managed, these pollutants can runoff into Orange County's creeks, rivers, bays, and ocean through our storm drain system.



You can protect water quality by implementing effective BMPs appropriate to your automotive business.

← Learn more inside



By law, automotive facilities are required to implement best management practices (BMPs) to prevent runoff pollution.

Best Management Practices for the Automotive Industry

Implement best management practices (BMPs) to be in compliance and avoid enforcement actions:



Scan for more information about specific BMPs or visit <https://ocerws.ocpublicworks.com/service-areas/oc-environmental-resources/oc-watersheds/documents/best-management-practices-bmp-2>

✓ Prepare

- ✓ Inspect equipment and part-washing units daily for leaks and repair them immediately.
- ✓ Identify all activities that can cause spills or release pollutants.
- ✓ Conduct and document employee trainings.
- ✓ Keep drip pans and a stocked spill kit in work areas.

✓ Locate

- ✓ Locate and protect all storm drains on and near your property.
- ✓ All vehicle work must occur indoors.
- ✓ Paint and conduct wet sanding only in enclosed areas equipped with vacuum hoods and filters.
- ✓ Clean and drain parts in a self-contained unit, solvent sink, or parts washer.

✓ Contain

- ✓ Drain vehicle fluids into appropriate receptacles for disposal.
- ✓ Place drip pans under cars to capture all fluids.
- ✓ Immediately report spills that have entered the street, gutter, or storm drain to the Pollution Hotline at 1-877-897-7455 or myOCeServices.ocgov.com.

✓ Collect

- ✓ Clean up spills immediately by using absorbents such as rags, and dispose of properly. If the spilled material is hazardous, dispose of the absorbent properly as hazardous waste.
- ✓ Store materials and waste such as vehicle parts, batteries, and oils off the ground, under overhead cover, and in labeled containers with secondary containment.
- ✓ Clean work areas using dry methods. Use a shop vacuum or broom to sweep up dust, metal, and debris.

✓ Dispose

- ✓ Clean used rags through a rag service or dispose of them as hazardous waste.
- ✓ Contact a licensed hazardous waste hauler for information on hazardous waste storage, transportation, and disposal services for your business.*
- ✓ When possible, recycle materials.**

What Pollutants Are Generated By the Automotive Industry?



Leaking Vehicles

Pollutants from leaking vehicles can include gasoline, oil, antifreeze, and other substances.



Body Repair & Painting

Pollutants generated while repairing vehicles can include paint, oil, grease, washwater, metal, and other substances.



Vehicle and Equipment Cleaning

Pollutants generated while cleaning vehicles and other equipment can include dust, dirt, oil, grease, paint, copper, and other substances.



Fueling Areas

Pollutants at fueling areas can include gasoline, oil, antifreeze, washwater, and other substances.