

UBC Storm Water Pollution Prevention Guidelines

Depositing or permitting the deposit of any substance which is likely to be rendered deleterious to aquatic habitat (e.g. fish, organisms, plants, etc) is prohibited.

Several UBC operations and activities may have a negative impact on our storm water if not managed properly. RMS Environmental Services works with staff, faculty and students to ensure proper management practices are in place to prevent storm water contamination and the potential impact on aquatic habitats.

Affected Operations and Activities

Hazardous materials spills and releases:

- Spills and leaks are major contributors of storm water pollutants
- Spill prevention and control plans are available for key UBC operations and departments

Outdoor materials storage and improper storage of hazardous materials:

- Regular inspections and audit are conducted to ensure proper storage (secondary containment, protection from elements) and ongoing training of employees and contractors

Hazardous materials storage tanks:

- Tanks replacement and upgrade program ensuring state of the art construction
- Regular inspection, maintenance and testing, and tanks' emergency response procedures are in place

Outdoor equipment storage:

- Routine preventive maintenance
- Enclosing or covering equipment
- Installing secondary containment
- Training of employees

Outdoor loading/unloading:

- Routine inspections to ensure storm water catch-basins are not located in the vicinity of delivery areas
- Spill response procedures and materials are available in high risk areas

Solid waste handling, storage & disposal:

- Proper storage and disposal practices are implemented
- Routine inspection of solid waste compactors

Vehicle & equipment fueling, cleaning, and repair:

- State of the art fueling station including secondary containment and leak prevention, spill response procedures and materials, trained personnel.
- Dedicated car wash station, connected to the sanitary sewer.
- Oil water separators protecting the nearby catch basin

Parking areas:

- Parking areas with 20 and more vehicles are equipped with oil water separators which follow routine maintenance plan.

Road runoff, de-icing operations:

- Continuously searching for safer alternatives of de-icing agents

Building & grounds maintenance repair and construction:

- All construction projects implement Erosion and Sediment Control Plans
- Good housekeeping practices are encouraged for maintenance and repair
- Ongoing search for safer alternative products and building materials

Runoff from farm or composting operations:

- Use of green products
- Leachate collection from composter and green house water runoff routed to sanitary sewer

10 Things You Can Do to Prevent Storm water Runoff Pollution¹

1. Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep driveways, sidewalks and gutters
2. Never dump anything down storm drains or in streams
3. Vegetate bare spots in your yard
4. Compost your yard waste
5. Use least toxic pesticides, follow labels, and learn how to prevent pest problems
6. Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces; consider a rain garden to capture runoff
7. Take your car to the car wash instead of washing it in the driveway
8. Check your car for leaks and recycle your motor oil
9. Pick up after your pet
10. Have your septic tank pumped and system inspected regularly

¹ Source EPA