
BULLETIN 2000-055-EV

Revised June 4, 2015

AUTOMOTIVE DISMANTLERS AND PARTS RECYCLERS

Businesses that reclaim and salvage various automotive parts for resale or buy and sell vehicles for dismantling and recycling of metals can generate a number of pollutants and waste materials. These businesses generally conduct their operations in uncovered areas where the wastes and contaminants can be washed into the storm sewer system. Wastes and contaminants include, but are not limited to, oils, greases, suspended solids, metals and various automotive fluids including gasoline and antifreeze. Many of these materials are toxic or flammable. If these wastes are poorly handled and are allowed to be spilled onto the ground they may be washed into the storm sewer system. Storm sewers are connected to the nearest body of water where contaminants can be toxic to fish and the environment.

Flammable liquids can also create explosive conditions in our sewers and must not be allowed to enter any sewers or plumbing fixtures or drains.

Best Management Practices

To stop contaminants from entering the storm sewer system from your operation, at a minimum, the following should be practiced:

- All automotive fluids are to be drained from the vehicles when they arrive on site and be stored in appropriate containers for recycling or disposal by an approved disposal contractor or recycler.
- The containers must be covered, labelled and stored in a secure area where there is no access to the sewer system.
- Oil filters are to be drained and stored in a separate container for recycling.
- Scrap auto parts such as engines and motors are to be stored in covered areas where residual oils cannot enter the storm sewer system.
- Steam cleaning, pressure washing, parts washing, caustic cleaning operations and crushing operations must be done in areas where there is **no** access to the storm sewer system. Disposal of wastes from these operations must comply with the Sewer and Watercourse Bylaw No. 8093. For further information contact the Environmental Protection Branch at 604 873-7000 or 3-1-1.

Spills

Spills of automotive fluids or other hazardous materials must be cleaned up immediately. Spills must be contained and curbed to prevent spills from entering the storm sewer system or contaminating the site. If a spill enters the storm sewer system or the environment it must be reported to the Environmental Protection Branch at 604 873-7000 or 311 and/or the Provincial Emergency Program at 1-800-663-3456.

Enforcement

Section 3.2(1) of the Sewer and Watercourse By-Law No. 8093 states that, "No person shall cause or permit contaminated water or wastewater to be discharged to a storm sewer." Violators are subject to fines of up to \$10,000.00 per offence.

For further information contact the City of Vancouver's Environmental Protection Branch at 604 873-7000 or 3-1-1 or at environmentalprotection@vancouver.ca

(Original signed by)

D. Robertson
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
SEWER & DRAINAGE DESIGN BRANCH
ENGINEERING SERVICES