

## Your Responsibility

As a business operator or property owner, you may have responsibilities under:

### 1. Local government bylaws

Your municipality or the CRD may have stormwater-related bylaws that include:

- prohibiting all business waste and other specific prohibited wastes from entering the storm drain system and local waterways
- catch basin maintenance, inspection and record-keeping requirements
- spill response plans
- protection of natural water courses, ditches and stormwater drainage system
- codes of practice for specific business sectors

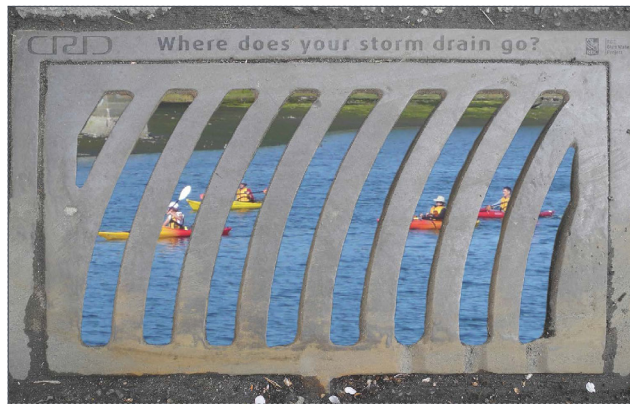
Also, Bylaw 4168 applies specifically to all businesses on the Saanich Peninsula. This bylaw helps protect streams, lakes, and marine shorelines from pollution by prohibiting domestic, commercial, and industrial contaminants from entering stormwater drainage systems. It includes codes of practice for parking lots and outdoor storage of materials or equipment.

### 2. Other jurisdictions

**Emergency Management BC** is responsible for responding to spills of any hazardous/harmful substance (oils/grease, gasoline, paints/solvents, mechanical fluids, soils, etc.) in any quantity that may impact the environment.

Any person responsible for a stormwater drainage system contamination may be held liable under the following environmental legislation:

- federal *Fisheries Act*
- BC Hazardous Waste Regulation
- BC *Environmental Management Act*
- BC *Water Sustainability Act*



## Be a Watershed-wise Business

Watershed-wise businesses ensure contaminants in stormwater runoff stay out of storm drain system, local waterways and marine shorelines.

### Learn More

To learn more about being a watershed-wise business, visit:

- [www.crd.bc.ca/Bylaw4168](http://www.crd.bc.ca/Bylaw4168)
- [www.crd.bc.ca/catchbasin](http://www.crd.bc.ca/catchbasin)
- [www.crd.bc.ca/clw](http://www.crd.bc.ca/clw)
- [www.crd.bc.ca/watersheds](http://www.crd.bc.ca/watersheds)



Making a difference...together

**Capital Regional District**  
Environmental Protection  
625 Fisgard Street  
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7  
250.360.3253

### In the event of a spill, contact:

**1. Emergency Management BC:**  
**1.800.663.3456 (available 24/7)**

**2. Local government contacts:**  
**[www.crd.bc.ca/report-spill](http://www.crd.bc.ca/report-spill)**

For Business

# Mechanical Repair

**CRD** | Environmental Services



**Reduce your environmental liability by preventing stormwater contamination**



## Sources of Spills

Outdoor work areas, storage areas and parking lots of mechanical repair shops are considered stormwater pollution risk sites.

Following stormwater best management practices or codes of practice is critical to preventing contaminants from entering the storm drain system, which leads directly into creeks, lakes, wetlands and marine shorelines. Remember to restock your spill kit after each use.

## Spill Response

If you have a spill/leak:

1. Make sure the spill poses no immediate threat to people. If flammable, eliminate all sources of ignition. **Call 911 for spills that are flammable, toxic, corrosive or hazardous.**
2. Stop source of spill and prevent flow from entering storm drains, ditch, roadway, creek or shoreline. **Do NOT clean up by hosing down the spill.** Instead, use absorbent pads, rags or kitty litter and put in the garbage.
3. **Call BC Environmental Emergency Program at 1.800.663.3456.** If the spill of a prohibited waste enters a storm drain, ditch or public roadway, also call your local government public works department. Phone numbers can be found at [www.crd.bc.ca/report-spill](http://www.crd.bc.ca/report-spill).

## Best Management Practices

### 1. Daily operations

- Never pour or allow any fluids, wash/rinse water, wastewater or spills to flow into storm drains, parking lots, ditches, soil or roadways.
- Wastewater from radiator flushing, steam cleaning, engine shampooing, vehicle, boat, parts washing and caustic cleaning operations must be disposed of with an approved sanitary sewer connection or with an approved trucked liquid waste hauler.

### 2. Store, cover & contain

- Provide containment sufficient in size to hold a spill of stored liquids or leaks from used parts.
- Provide cover from rain and snow for all items stored outdoors that can pollute.

### 3. Employee education & training

- Review spill response plan and ensure spill kit is easily accessible and stocked.
- Always cover and contain materials, tools and wastes.
- Always place drip pans under leaking vehicles.
- Regularly dry sweep parking lot and outdoor work areas. Do not hose down.
- Keep records of spills and catch basin maintenance.

### 4. Catch basin maintenance

- Property owners are responsible for keeping stormwater rehabilitation units in good operating condition. Inspect every three months to ensure proper function — no smell or visual evidence of oil or gasoline should be present.
- Storm drain catch basins may require pre-treatment (i.e., oil/water separator).
- Accumulated floating or settled contaminants

must not exceed 75% of design capacity. A sampling point may be required for inspections.

- Have a qualified company pump out your catch basin annually.

## Stormwater Pollution

Contaminated stormwater runoff is generated by rain or water from outdoor activities and transports contaminants over impervious surfaces (i.e., outdoor work areas or parking lots) into the storm drain network through catch basins or ditches. These drains and ditches lead directly to creeks, lakes, wetlands or shorelines.

Potential sources of stormwater pollution from mechanical repair businesses include:

- leaks from vehicles and boats in parking lots and work areas
- outdoor rinsing, or washing and maintenance of equipment, surfaces or vehicles
- improper disposal of wastewater
- leaks from storage areas and containers

Examples of contaminants include:

- engine, steering and brake fluids
- motor oils and lubricating grease
- antifreeze and windshield wiper fluid
- metals and paints
- solvents and caustics
- battery acid
- fuels (gasoline, diesel)
- most liquid waste from wash or rinse water
- liquid waste from storage areas

These and other contaminants may be considered **prohibited wastes** under stormwater-related local bylaws. For a full list, see your local bylaw.