

## WHERE DOES THE WATER GO?



What happens to water from rain, lawn watering, auto repair, car washing and many other activities? Many of these activities may contribute to pollutants in water. When rain falls or we place water on surfaces where we have worked upon, this water, called stormwater or urban runoff, flows into the City's storm drainage system through over 2500 curbside catch basins – the openings located along street gutters. The water moves through the storm drain piping below our streets to our rivers, creeks, wetlands, sloughs, the delta and the bay. This water eventually enters the Pacific Ocean.

Initially, much of this water fills the Davis storm water detention and wildlife ponds which are landscaped to support an array of wildlife species. Other water flows through drainage ditches towards the northern and eastern edges of the city.

A portion of the stormwater that is collected in the city is conveyed to the Davis Wetlands where it is used to support the wetlands system and all its wild inhabitants. Tours of the Davis Wetlands are offered the first Saturday of the month. For more information contact the Yolo Basin Foundation: (530) 757-4828.

## PROTECT OUR WETLANDS



The Putah Creek bioregion and Yolo Bypass Wetlands near Davis comprise a delicately balanced ecosystem, home to numerous species of aquatic plants and animals crucial to the food web. These organisms can be harmed by discharges of wastes and chemical pollutants.

To remind everyone about the importance of preventing pollution of our stormwater, be it from pools or other sources, the City of Davis has installed these storm drain inlet markers near each drain:



These markers are easy to install. So if you, your group, or organization would like to participate in this pollution awareness program, please contact City of Davis Public Works at (530) 757-5686

Storm water pollution can be extremely harmful to the health of the plants and animals with which we share this planet.

**Help us to protect your water resources for current and future generations.**

If you see anyone dumping questionable materials, please call City of Davis Public Works at (530) 757-5686.

If it is an emergency, call 911.

**PLEASE KEEP OUR WATERSHED CLEAN!!**



## CITY OF DAVIS AUTO REPAIR & MAINTENANCE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES



**What an auto shop owner or manager can do to prevent pollution**

**(See the reverse side for recommended pollution prevention best management practices)**





Did you know that the city has a Green Business Program? See the Partners for a Greener Davis program details on the Public Works webpage.

## STORAGE

- Store hazardous materials and wastes under cover, with secondary containment that prevents spills or leaks from reaching the sanitary sewer or storm drain.
- Keep fully stocked spill kits readily available.
- Keep all container lids closed. Store containers and dumpsters under cover.
- Label all hazardous wastes according to regulations.
- Keep all waste materials separate to increase recycling and disposal options and to reduce costs. Consult a hazardous waste hauler for details.
- Keep storage areas clean and dry. Conduct regular inspections for leaks and spills.
- Carefully transfer fluids from drip pans or collection devices to designated waste storage areas, as soon as possible.
- When receiving vehicles for scavenging, park them on paved surfaces, immediately drain and collect hazardous fluids properly.
- Keep all scavenged components under cover and on a drip pan or sealed floor.
- Minimize the distance between waste collection points and storage areas.
- Store batteries securely to avoid breakage and acid spills. Shelving should be secured to the wall. Store used batteries indoors to avoid contact with rainwater. Keep them in a plastic tray to contain leaks.
- Recycle old batteries using a licensed recycling service.
- Recycle solvents, paints, oil filters, antifreeze, motor oil, and lubricants.
- Keep accurate records of all recycling and disposal.
- Hazardous waste needs “cradle to



grave” documentation and has time limits for storage. For information contact Yolo County Department of Environmental Health: (530) 666-8645.

## CHANGING OIL AND OTHER FLUIDS

- Whenever possible, change vehicle fluids indoors and only on impervious surfaces. Avoid working over asphalt and dirt surfaces that can absorb vehicle fluids.
- If vehicle fluids must be removed outdoors, always use a drip pan. Prevent accidental spills from reaching the street or storm drain by working over an absorbent mat or working in a area with secondary containment.
- Transfer fluids drained from vehicles to a designated waste storage area as soon as possible. Drain pans and other open containers of fluids should not be left unattended.
- Store wastes or bulk fluids within secondary containment to prevent leaks or spills from reaching the storm drain system or sanitary sewer.
- Never pour vehicle fluids or other hazardous wastes into storm drains, sewers, or into dumpsters where they could leak. These substances should be kept in designated waste storage containers until recycled or disposed of properly. Use a licensed service to haul, recycle or dispose of wastes.
- Drain fluids from leaking or wrecked vehicles as soon as possible. Use drip pans under leaking vehicles to capture fluids.



## PARTS CLEANING AND RADIATOR FLUSHING

- Solvents are hazardous to employees and can ignite in sewers. Handle and dispose of properly.
- Designate specific areas or service bays for engine parts or radiator cleaning. Do not wash or rinse parts outdoors.
- Use self-contained sinks and tanks when working with solvents. Keep sinks and tanks covered when not in use.



- Inspect degreasing solvent sinks regularly for leaks, and make necessary repairs immediately.
- Rinse and drain parts over the solvent sink or tank, so that solvents will not drip or spill onto the floor. Use drip boards or pans to catch excess solutions and divert them back to a sink or tank.
- Collect and reuse parts, cleaning solvents, and water used in flushing and testing radiators. When reuse is no longer possible, these solutions may be hazardous wastes, and must be disposed of properly.
- Never discharge cleaning solutions or wastewater from steam cleaning or engine/parts cleaning to a street, gutter, or storm drain.
- Consider switching to a water-based cleaning solution system. Case studies have proven that these systems are equally effective, less toxic, and save money.
- Call the department of Toxic Substance Control at (916) 255-3345, or CUPA at 1-888-988-7058, for more details.

## KEEPING A CLEAN SHOP

- Good housekeeping practices- minimize liability, reduce costs, and make it easier to detect spills and potential problems.
- Sweep or vacuum the shop floor frequently. Use mopping as an alternative to hosing down work areas.
- Do not pour mop water into the parking lot, street, gutter, or storm drain.
- Remove unnecessary hoses to discourage washing down floors and outside paved areas.
- Regularly sweep parking lots and areas around your facility instead of washing them down with water.
- Collect all metal filings, dust, and paint chips from grinding, shaving, and sanding, and dispose of the waste properly. Never discharge these wastes to the storm drain or sanitary sewer.
- Clean up all spills immediately and properly dispose of the generated wastes.
- Used spray cans containing paint, lube oil, paint remover etc. cannot be put in the garbage stream.

