



# Solutions to Water Pollution



## CITY OF DICKSON STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

CITY OF DICKSON  
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

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## Guidelines for Vehicle Maintenance Facilities



Unlike pollution from industry or sewage treatment facilities, which is caused by a discrete number of sources, stormwater pollution is caused by the daily activities of people everywhere. As rainwater and snowmelt run over streets, lawns, farms and construction sites, pollutants such as fertilizers, soil, pesticides, oil, grease, and pathogens are picked up and carried by the stormwater. The runoff carrying these pollutants is then discharged without treatment into bodies of water used for swimming, fishing and the provision of drinking water.





## How do auto repair practices negatively impact water quality?

- Storm drains lead directly to streams, rivers, lakes, and creeks.
- Oil and grease, heavy metals, and toxic chemicals can run into the stream and pollute the waterways.
- Heavy metals and toxic chemicals bioaccumulate into fish we eat, causing harm to human health.
- Oil and grease decrease habitat for aquatic organisms and clog the gills of fish.



## How do I properly manage my waste oil?

- Properly label containers and tanks. Routinely check containers and tanks for leaks, rust, and deterioration.
- Always keep motor oil separate from other chemicals.
- Always keep container lids closed when not in use.
- Have a spill kit on site and near waste oil storage.
- Dispose of used oil appropriately, do not dump down storm drains.



## How do I control spills?

- You should always have an up-to-date spill response plan.
- Refer to Material Safety Data Sheets for restrictions and hazards on chemicals.
- Excess spill cleanup materials should be readily accessible.
- Use as little water as possible when cleaning up spills.
- Avoid bleach or disinfectants.



## How do I properly clean my autoparts?

- First, brush off dirt and use rags to wipe down the parts.
- If you use degreasers be sure to contain the wastewater for proper disposal.
- Avoid using acid-based wheel cleaners.

## How do I prevent pollution during outdoor auto repair?

- Make sure cars with known leaks have drip pans underneath to contain any spillage.
- Retail shops should have signs preventing customers from working on cars in the parking lot.
- Limit fluid transfers to inside the facility.
- When cars are stored outside make sure to keep the hoods closed.

