

Municipal Operations Pollution Prevention & Good Housekeeping

Quick Reference Guide

CCBH: (216) 201-2000

Ohio EPA Northeast District Office:
(330) 963-1200

Emergency: 911



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Northeast Ohio Public Health Partnership



PREVENT • PROMOTE • PROVIDE™

Municipal Landscaping

- Fertilizers should always be used in accordance with the label instructions.
- **NEVER** apply fertilizer on a windy day or immediately before a heavy rain.
- Fertilizer should NOT be used adjacent to water bodies.
- **NEVER dump grass clippings in a stream, catch basin, or storm sewer.**
- **It is important for municipalities to set a good example for residents!**

Used Oil

- Do not put liquid used oil in the trash dumpster with solid waste. Solid waste landfills cannot take liquids.
- Do not mix your used oil with other wastes that might cause the whole mixture to become a hazardous waste.
- Label containers, above ground tanks, and fill pipes with the words, "Used Oil." Do not label your used oil containers with the words, "Waste Oil" or "Hazardous Waste."
- **NEVER throw used oil on the ground, down the sewer, in a septic tank, or down a floor drain.**

Parking Lot & Street Sweeping

- Regular street sweeping minimizes the pollutants that enter the storm drainage system.
- Sweeping debris is a solid waste and **must** be disposed of at a landfill.
- **NEVER dump street sweepings into a ditch, creek, catch basin, or storm sewer.**
- Ohio EPA Phase II Stormwater regulations require regular street sweeping.



Salt Storage & Application

- Improper storage of road salt can contaminate both surface water and groundwater.
- Covering salt storage piles reduces pollution of streams and aquifers.
- Special protective measures should be used to restrict the application of salt near waterways.
- To reduce costs, road salt application should be reduced to the minimum amount necessary to successfully perform the job.



Vehicle Washing

- Municipal vehicle washing can cause dry weather runoff to be polluted with oil, grease, detergents, and sediment.
- **Wastewater from vehicle washing should NEVER go into a storm sewer.** Wash vehicles in designated areas only.
- If you must wash your vehicle in an area not plumbed to the sanitary sewer, use berms and a vacuum truck to capture the water and safely dispose of it.



Spill Clean-Up

- Pesticides, paints, cleaners, fertilizers, and petroleum products can pollute stormwater if spilled.
- A very small amount of oil can pollute a large quantity of water. **Proper clean-up is important.**
- Use an absorbent to clean spills off of hard surfaces. Shovel up the contaminated material and dispose of it in an approved location.
- If a petroleum spill of greater than 25 gallons occurs, it must be reported to the Ohio EPA, the local fire department, and the local emergency planning committee.

Catch Basin Maintenance & Cleaning

- Catch basins near sensitive water bodies should be prioritized for cleaning.
- Catch basins should be cleaned before the sump is 40% full.
- Repairs to stormwater structures should be done immediately where structural integrity is in question.

