



Stormwater drain markers remind us that we are all connected to our surrounding environment.



Auto Dismantlers & Parts Recyclers

Protect Our Aquatic Environment by Preventing Stormwater Contamination

Spill Prevention

Spills must be contained, and cleaned up immediately to prevent hazardous products from potentially entering the stormwater drainage or sanitary sewer systems. Clean-up procedures can be found in a product's Material Safety Data Sheet.

In the event of an accidental spill to the environment immediately contact the **Provincial Emergency Program (PEP)** at **1.800.663.3456**. In the event that the chemical is flammable, toxic, corrosive or has other hazardous properties call the **Surrey Fire Department** immediately at **911**.

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

- Federal Fisheries Act
- BC Hazardous Waste Regulation
- BC Environmental Management Act
- Surrey By-law No. 16610

It is recommended that you review your operation with respect to the prevention of contamination of soil and/or the drainage systems, and implement the "Code of Practice for the Auto Recycling Industry in British Columbia" of the Auto Retailers Association of British Columbia.

For more information

Automotive Retailers Association of BC
604.432.7987

RCBC Recycling Hotline
604.732.9253

City of Surrey
Drainage & Environment Section
604.591.4321

Surrey Fire Department
604.543.6760

Metro Vancouver
Source Control
604.436.6777

BC Ministry of Environment
604.582.5200

If you witness spill or chemicals being washed into a stormwater drain, please contact the City of Surrey's Engineering Department at **604.590.7226**, after 4:30pm at **604.591.4431**.



Auto Dismantlers & Parts Recycler

Businesses that reclaim and salvage various automotive parts for resale, or that buy and sell automotive vehicles for dismantling and recycling of metals often generate a number of pollutants and other waste materials.

The dismantling of automobiles involves the handling of significant quantities of automotive fluids and other hazardous materials that can include:

- oil
- grease
- suspended solids
- metals
- fuels
- transmission fluid
- antifreeze
- brake fluid
- refrigerants
- power steering fluid
- mercury switches
- lead acid batteries

Many of these materials are considered special wastes in the BC Environmental Management Act and require special handling, storage and disposal considerations. If businesses conduct dismantling operations in uncovered areas, these wastes and contaminants may be washed into the stormwater drain system. In addition, flammable liquids may create explosive conditions and must not enter any stormwater drainage, sewer or plumbing fixture.

The products listed above are toxic to fish and aquatic life and must not enter the stormwater drainage system. In Surrey, stormwater drains discharge untreated into local creeks and streams. There are over 1500 km of open creeks and streams in Surrey and these waterways form an important network of watercourses, which provide natural habitat for salmon, trout, and other aquatic life.



Best Management Practices

To prevent contaminants from entering the stormwater drainage system and ultimately our streams and creeks please observe the following practices:

- Do not store vehicles until the various fluids, batteries, mercury switches etc., have been properly removed. All materials should be stored in appropriate containers for recycling or disposal by an approved disposal or recycling company.
- All fluids must be drained and collected on a dismantling pad enclosed in a building or contained under a roof. Surface runoff must be prevented from flooding the pad and the pad must be able to retain any spilled fluid.
- Use drip pans to collect fluids from leaking vehicles until vehicles are properly drained.
- All vehicle parts containing fluids, solvents, cleaning solutions and automotive fluids must be stored in leak-proof containers or under cover on an impermeable surface with spill containment.
- Use a crusher with a built-in fluid collection system or place the crusher under cover with drip pans.
- Do not allow wastewater from pressure washing, steam cleaning or caustic tanks to spill to the ground or enter the stormwater drainage system. Use a wastewater recycling system or an approved connection to the sanitary sewer system.
- Scrap containers should be covered to prevent them filling with rain and must not have perforated bottoms that allow fluids to escape.
- Never dispose of solvents or other chemicals by pouring them down stormwater drains or on the ground.
- Stormwater drainage systems at automotive recyclers should be designed so that a minimal number of stormwater drainages are required. All stormwater drainages must be connected to an oil interceptor and a shut-off valve must be installed before the connection to the municipal stormwater drainage system.

- Ensure that all employees and your customers are aware of their important role in preventing stormwater contamination.

Storage of Automotive Batteries and Mercury Switches

- Store batteries in a curbed area under cover. Temporarily store leaking or damaged batteries in impermeable polypropylene plastic pails. Avoid long-term storage of batteries.
- Check batteries routinely for leaks and cracks, especially when exposed to freezing temperatures.
- Keep a neutralizing agent nearby in case of spills or leaks from batteries.
- Store mercury switches in a leak-proof, closed container.
- Many items such as lead acid batteries and mercury switches are considered "special wastes" under the Environmental Management Act. Contact the Ministry of Environment for storage and disposal requirements.

Storage of Tires

- If tires must be stored outside, cover with tarps, preferably within a secondary containment area. This will prevent water from becoming trapped in the tire rims and will also prevent contamination of stormwater from residual oil deposits on the tire. Waste tires can provide a breeding ground for mosquitoes and rats, pose a potential fire hazard.