Vehicle & Equipment Repair SOP-22.0

Description of SOP:

Vehicle or equipment maintenance and repair is potentially a significant source of stormwater pollution, due to the use of materials and wastes created that are harmful to humans and the environment. Engine repair and service (parts cleaning), replacement of fluids (oil changes), and outdoor equipment storage and parking (dripping engines) can impact water quality.

Purpose of SOP:

Implementation of the following activities will prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to stormwater from vehicle and equipment maintenance and repair activities.

Suggested Protocols:

General

- Maintenance and repair activities will be done indoors or under roof cover whenever feasible
- Work areas should not be hosed down. Instead dry sweeping will be used.
- If work areas must be hosed down, waste water will be collected or directed towards the sanitary sewer/grit/sand traps
- Signs will be posted at sinks to remind employees not to pour hazardous wastes down the drains
- Leaking or dripping fluids shall be collected in drip pans or containers
- All waste material shall be disposed of according to the applicable laws and regulations.

Mobile Repair Units

- Field repair of vehicles and equipment shall be minimized. Vehicles and equipment shall be transported to the designated repair area.
- If field repairs are required then the following shall be implemented:
  - If repair is near storm inlets/manholes will be protected
  - Use a drip pan/trap/ ground cloth beneath the vehicle or equipment to capture all spills and drips. The collected material will be disposed, reused, or recycled properly

Parts Cleaning

- Cleaning agents which are able to be recycled shall be give priority in shop applications
- The use of solvents will be minimized. Parts will be cleaned without the use of solvents whenever possible
- Non-Toxic chemicals will be used whenever possible

- All part cleaning will be performed in the parts cleaning tank with the proper personal safety equipment (safety glasses, gloves, etc.)
- The parts cleaning solution will be stored in the cleaning tank and shall be properly labeled
- When the cleaning solution is unserviceable it shall be disposed of in the used oil tank
- The use oil tank shall be clearly labeled - "Used Oil/Chemicals"
- Do not dispose of left over cleaning solutions, solvents, and automotive fluids and oils in sanitary sewer

Maintenance and Repair Activities

- Keep a drip pan under the vehicles and equipment while you unclip hoses, unscrew filter, or remove other parts.
- Use a drip pan under any vehicle that might leak while you work on it to prevent splatters or drips off the shop floor
- Promptly transfer used fluids to the proper waste or recycling drums. Don't leave drip pans or other containers lying around
- Do not change motor oil or perform equipment maintenance in non-appropriate areas
- If equipment (e.g. radiators, axles) are to be stored outdoors, oil and other fluids should be drained first. This also applies to vehicles being stored and not used on a regular basis.

Oil Disposal

- Oil/chemical solutions will be disposed of in a designated container marked – "Used Oil/Chemicals"
- Used oil/fluid filters will be disposed of in a designated container marked – "Used Filters"
- Disposal of used filters and oil/chemical tanks shall be done by a licensed transporter

Inspection

- Regularly inspect vehicles and equipment for leaks, and repair immediately
- All incoming vehicles and equipment shall be checked for leaking oil and fluids.

Training:

- All employees shall be trained upon hiring and annually thereafter on proper methods for handling and disposing of waste.
- All employees shall understand stormwater discharge prohibitions, wastewater discharge requirements, and the best management practices (BMPs).

- Employees will be familiar with the site spill control plan and/or proper spill cleanup procedures

Spill Response and Prevention:

- Refer to SOP 11.0 Spill Prevention, Control, and Cleanup
- Have spill cleanup materials readily available and in a known location
- Clean up spills immediately and use dry methods (absorbents) if possible
- Properly dispose of spill cleanup material