

PREVENT STORMWATER POLLUTION- VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

The **storm drain system** is designed to help prevent flooding by carrying excess stormwater (i.e. rain and snow) away from streets. An **illicit discharge** is any discharge to the storm drain system that is not composed entirely of stormwater. They are considered "illicit" because storm drains ARE NOT connected to treatment plants, resulting in the discharge of **untreated, polluted stormwater** directly into our surface waters.

DID YOU KNOW? ONE QUART OF OIL CAN CONTAMINATE 250,000 GALLON OF WATER!

Vehicles and equipment can develop leaks if not maintained, contributing to stormwater runoff pollution. In addition, common automotive maintenance routines can result in stormwater pollution when handling, storing, and disposing of materials is not done properly.

Never dump motor oil, antifreeze, or any other chemicals down the storm drain. Instead, follow these easy best management practices (BMPs):



VEHICLE CARE BMPs

- ✓ Designate an area **AWAY** from storm drains to change automotive fluids.
- ✓ Use a **FUNNEL** when pouring liquids. Place a **DRIP PAN** under vehicles to contain leaks.
- ✓ If you spill fluids, **DON'T HOSE** the spill. Keep shop rags, dry absorbent materials, and a wet/dry vacuum cleaner on hand to **CLEAN UP** spills.
- ✓ **DRAIN** all fluids from vehicles kept in storage.
- ✓ Drain brake fluid and other non-recyclables into a proper container and handle as a **HAZARDOUS WASTE**.
- ✓ Collect and **RECYCLE** motor oil, antifreeze, transmission fluid, and gear oil.

For more information on LaRC's Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) program visit our environmental website at <https://environmental.larc.nasa.gov/water/idde/>. The LaRC Water Quality team asks that you **REPORT** illegal dumping, pollution, or spills on Center by contacting the environmental office at **4-7517** or **4-7243** or through our **online form** (<https://environmental.larc.nasa.gov/reporting-water-pollution/>).