



# Stormwater Pollution Prevention

*A Guide For Businesses*



## SPILLS HAPPEN

When a spill reaches a drain, **call 800.258.5990** for immediate assistance. **If the spill puts people at risk, call 911.** Stop the spill, contain the problem and properly clean up the area.

images: Beth Conyers



**Your business is required to prevent pollution of stormwater that could reach a creek, stream or river.**

Reducing pollution cuts costs, avoids expensive cleanups and protects a business from fines.

## ONLY RAIN DOWN THE DRAIN

Soaps, sediment, chemicals and other contaminated runoff can pollute nearby waterways and harm fish and wildlife.

It can even reach groundwater, which is where we get our drinking water.



**Clark County Clean Water**  
360.397.6118  
[www.clark.wa.gov/pollutionprevention](http://www.clark.wa.gov/pollutionprevention)

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For other formats, contact the Clark County ADA Office:  
360.397.2322; Relay 711 or 800.833.6388; [ada@clark.wa.gov](mailto:ada@clark.wa.gov).



**How do I know if my business has dangerous waste?** If your business uses these types of materials, you probably have dangerous waste.

**Wastes like:**

- Solvents
- Paints and thinners
- Adhesives
- Oil and antifreeze
- Disinfectants
- Fertilizers and pesticides
- Light bulbs
- Batteries

**Products labeled:**

- DANGER
- FLAMMABLE
- WARNING
- POISON
- CAUTION



## Reduce pollution and make your business river-friendly

- **Never dump waste or wash water** onto hard surfaces that empty into storm drains. Only rain in the drain.
- **Never pressure wash hard surfaces or equipment** unless you are sure the wash water flows to a sanitary sewer.
- **Check dumpsters** and compactors for leaks and working lids/covers.
- **Keep hazardous materials covered and contained.**
- **Inspect and maintain** stormwater facilities, such as oil/water separators, debris traps and catch basins, so they function properly.
- **Keep spill kits** readily available. When a spill happens, contain the spill, clean it up and dispose of material properly.
- **Keep equipment clean** and functioning properly to avoid leaks.
- **Train your staff** regularly on procedures to prevent pollution.
- Manage landscaped areas with **minimal chemicals**, such as fertilizers and pesticides. Follow all manufacturer instructions.
- **Wash vehicles at an off-site** or commercial wash or in a covered area that drains to a sanitary sewer.
- **Help rain soak into the ground.** Install rain gardens and pervious pavement to let rain infiltrate close to where it lands.



Our staff can assess your site and activities to help you understand pollution risks and solutions. Call Clark County for no cost technical assistance.

**Trisha Kraff**  
Animal Control Officer



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### What am I required to do?

- 1 Designate dangerous waste.
- 2 Handle and store dangerous waste safely.
- 3 Recycle or dispose of dangerous waste properly.
- 4 Watch the Washington Department of Ecology's *Dangerous Waste Basics* video: <http://bit.ly/2qyz3FW>.