

AUTOMOBILE FLUIDS



Be an Everyday Clean Water Hero!

Be **AWARE**, take **ACTION**, report **ACTIVITIES**
that adversely affect streams, drainage channels and the ocean.

BE AWARE:

Improper disposal of used oil, which includes oil leaking from cars, contributes significantly to stormwater pollution. The EPA estimates that American households generate 193 million gallons of used oil every year, and improperly dump nearly the equivalent of the BP Gulf oil spill every year. Just as with an oil drill spill, dumping used oil into a storm drain can pollute local water sources. In fact, a 1-quart can of oil can create a 2-acre oil slick, which is about the size of two football fields.

TAKE ACTION:

- Repair those leaks. If you find yourself adding fluids monthly, weekly or even daily or discover spots in your driveway, make repairs right away.
- Clean up leaks or spills promptly using dry absorbent material such as cat litter and a broom. Do not wash down garage or driveway surfaces into the street or storm drain. This is a violation of the law and could result in fines!
- Recycle your oil. A best practice is to have your oil changed by a shop that recycles their waste oil. If you change your own oil, use an “oil change box”. Change your oil away from storm drains and have old rags or other absorbent materials available in case of a spill.
- Recycle your antifreeze/coolant. A best practice is to go to a shop that recycles their coolants. Used coolants should not be flushed down the drain because they contain pollutants that may cause problems for wastewater treatment plants. Check your radiator hoses when changing your oil and inspect your car at the first sign of a coolant leak.
- Return used batteries to the place you bought them.
- To arrange for auto junking services for your car, call 543-4325 or go to Satellite City Hall. To report an abandoned automobile, call 733-2530.
- Do not store used vehicle parts in areas that drain to a storm drain.

REPORT ACTIVITIES:

City’s Environmental Concern Line at **768-3300** or visit
www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com or **Honolulu 311 mobile application**

Reference: Revised Ordinances of Honolulu
EPA Region 9 Water Program www.epa.gov/region9/water/hpdes/stormwater-feature.html, Region 5 RCRA,
<http://www.epa.gov/reg5rcra/vpstdiv/p2pages/hhw.pdfhtml>



9 POLLUTION TIPS

NEIGHBORHOOD

1. **Keep It Clean** - It is your responsibility to keep sidewalks, curbs and gutters in front of your property clean.
2. **Dump No Waste** - Stencil storm drains with the message, "Dump No Waste, Protect Our Waters...For Life," and keep waste materials from polluting our waterways.
3. **Do It Right** - Use water-based paint and dispose properly.

CAR

4. **Use an Oil Change Box** - If you change your own oil be careful not to spill it in the street where it could enter the storm drain. Have old rags or other absorbent material handy to pick up the mess in case of a spill
5. **Use Water and Soap Sparingly** - Wash your car with a bucket, sponge, and nozzle on the end of the hose to conserve water and reduce the pollutants entering the ocean; too many pollutants in the water decreases water quality and can harm aquatic life.

YARD

6. **Cover Up** - Prevent soil and debris from leaving your property by replacing bare soil with vegetative cover or mulch and covering temporary stockpiles with tarps. Plant right for your site.
7. **Read the Label** - Read and follow the label on all fertilizers and pesticides. The label is the law.
8. **Yard Maintenance** - Gather leaves, grass clippings, and yard trimmings for proper disposal or composting. Practice smart watering. Use open pavers or other permeable paving that lets the rain soak into the soil. Minimize impermeable paving.
9. **Pick It Up** - Remove and dispose of pet waste before you leave an area.

Laws and Ordinances

The Federal Clean Water Act gave the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) the authority of implement water pollution control programs. Local statutes and ordinances address compliance and enforcement of the EPA's mandates.

The Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, Section 14-12-23(a) Environmental Quality Control—Violation states, "It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge or cause to be discharged any pollutant into any drainage facility which causes a pollution problem in state waters, or causes a violation of any provision of the city NPDES permit or the water quality standards of the State of Hawaii.

Discharging pollutants to the storm drain system is against the law. Violations can result in fines of up to \$25,000 per violation, per day.

*Department of
Facility Maintenance*

www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com