

### **R-3: Residential Vehicle Repair and Maintenance**

Many people repair and maintain their vehicles at home. Keeping your vehicle from leaking oil or other fluids is an important pollution prevention measure. These activities cannot pollute streams, rivers, and lakes.

*Potential pollutants include but are not limited to hydrocarbons, metals, oil and grease, oxygen demanding substances, pH, sediment, and other pollutants.*

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are required by King County Water Quality Code (KCC 9.12). If the BMPs included here are not enough to prevent contamination of stormwater, you will be required to take additional measures.

#### **Required BMPs**

- Collect all used oil, antifreeze, and other vehicle fluids in containers with tight fitting lids. Do not mix these fluids in the same container.
- Recycle oil at an auto parts store or service station. Oil and other fluids can be disposed of at a household hazardous waste collection site. Call the household hazardous waste line at 206-296-4692 or see <https://www.hazwastehelp.org/HHW/disposal-locations.aspx> for recycling and disposal information and locations. Never dispose of any fluids or waste materials into the stormwater drainage system, surface waters, or onto the ground.
- Never clean the engine or undercarriage of your vehicle at home. For this type of cleaning, take the vehicle to a commercial car wash facility.
- Use drip pans, tarps, or even cardboard and newspaper under the vehicle to capture leaks or spills that may occur during maintenance and repair activities. This ensures spilled fluids won't be washed to the stormwater drainage system.
- Clean up spills with rags or absorbent material, such as sand, dirt, or cat litter. Do not wash down spills. Sweep up absorbents and dispose of them as garbage.
- Store used batteries under cover and off the ground or inside until they can be recycled.

#### **Tips**

- Take your vehicle to a commercial car repair facility where fluids are handled, recycled, and disposed of properly.

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*For more information or assistance contact the King County Stormwater Services at 206-477-4811 and visit [kingcounty.gov/stormwater](http://kingcounty.gov/stormwater).*