

Retail Gas Stations

Best Management Practices (BMPs)



Stormwater Pollution Prevention

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Best Management Practices (BMPs)

BMPs are procedures and practices that help to prevent pollutants and other hazardous materials from entering the storm sewer system. Gas stations are a source of stormwater pollution. Fuel dispensing areas, trash bins, and car washes can accumulate and discharge automotive fluids, grease, trash, and other materials that may be harmful to the environment. Discharge or disposing of these materials to the storm drain are PROHIBITED by law and are a violation of the City of Moorhead's Stormwater Ordinance. Your business can help keep stormwater clean by applying the following tips.

- Cleanup spills as soon as they occur. Use dry methods such as rags or absorbent materials and dispose of properly.
- Mark the storm drains near your facility. Contact Fargo-Moorhead River Keepers about the storm drain marking program.

Fuel, Air, and Water Dispensing Areas

- Fueling areas should NEVER be hosed down unless the wash water is contained and disposed of into the sanitary sewer.
- Have spill containment and absorbents readily available for any spill that may occur.

Trash Areas

Minimize the possibility of stormwater pollution from outside trash bins by doing the following.

- Use only watertight bins and keep lids closed.
- Install a berm around the waste bin.
- Install a roof over the waste bin area.

Automatic Car Washes

- Discharges from automatic car washes to the storm sewer are a PROHIBITED discharge.
- Use biodegradable, phosphate free water based cleaner whenever possible.
- Clearly label materials and store hazardous materials securely.

Charity Car Wash

Hosting charitable car washes is not illegal; however any wash water generated on site must stay onsite. Wash water must be contained, collected and disposed of to the sanitary sewer system. Consider sponsoring car wash vouchers for your automatic car wash and share the proceeds with the organization.

Did You Know

Storm drains are NOT connected to the sanitary sewer system or wastewater treatment plant. The primary purpose of a storm drain is to carry rainwater and snowmelt away from developed areas to prevent flooding.

As water flows on the ground it picks up a variety of pollutants that flow into local stormwater ponds, ditches and the Red River.

