



PACE
PARTNERS FOR A
CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

Stormwater Protection *Vehicle Repair*

Spring 2009

What is PACE?

PACE provides education outreach, technical assistance, and recognition for environmental achievement. The program is available at no cost to businesses in Boulder County. PACE offers:

- Assessments to identify opportunities for waste reduction, water conservation, and energy-efficiency
- Information and assistance to meet your business needs
- Compliance education
- Public recognition for your environmental efforts

Why Participate?

Compliance – Our free, non-regulatory consultations help you comply with environmental laws and ordinances and reduce your liability.

Cost Savings - Less waste means lower disposal and operating costs. Efficient use of water, energy, and materials saves money.

Public Image - Environmental practices impact your image with customers, the community, and regulatory agencies.

Public Recognition!

PACE publicly recognizes certified businesses through **free advertising**. This includes Internet listings and advertising in newspapers, magazines, utility bill inserts, and radio spots.

Certified businesses receive a PACE window decal and framed certificate. PACE encourages the public to support businesses that contribute to the community through environmentally sound operating practices.

What is stormwater?

Stormwater is rainwater and snowmelt. When stormwater flows across our parking lots and streets, it can pick up pollutants that are discharged directly into our rivers and streams through the storm drains located on streets and in parking lots. Any pollutants entering these drains flows untreated to the water bodies we use for drinking water, swimming, and fishing.

As mandated by the Clean Water Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has developed a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater permitting program. In 2003, this program required local municipalities in the Boulder and St. Vrain Watersheds to apply for stormwater permits with the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment. This permit covers municipal operations, small construction sites, and commercial industry not required to have individual permits.

Vehicle and equipment maintenance facilities are potential “hot spots” where stormwater can collect pollutants as it passes through the facilities. Some potential pollutants typically found at vehicle maintenance facilities include oil, antifreeze, brake fluid and cleaner, solvents, batteries and fuels. These materials can impact stormwater as a result of leaks, spills, or improper storage and disposal.

Your local Stormwater Ordinance considers any threatened or active discharge of any substance other than rainwater or snowmelt to be illegal and subject to fines up to \$1,000 per day, per violation. This resource sheet outlines recommended Best Management Practices (BMPs) to assist your shop in maintaining regulatory compliance and protecting water quality.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs)

The objective in stormwater protection is that only rainwater and snow melt go down the storm drain. Best Management Practices (BMPs) are specific steps taken to prevent stormwater pollution as a result of day-to-day activities of street maintenance operations. All employees shall review this information sheet as a training tool, and make every effort to keep pollutants from going down the storm drain by putting the following BMPs into practice.

ACTIVITY	BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not dump any liquids or other materials outside. Materials that are no longer contained in a pipe, tank, or other container are considered to be "threatened discharges" to stormwater unless they are actively being cleaned up. Direct flow of pollutants as well as threatened discharges to storm drains, gutters, or waterways are illegal.
Material Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not store any liquids or materials that could impact surface water outside unless adequate secondary containment and cover are provided or the container is specifically designed for outdoor storage. Do not load or unload materials near a storm drain inlet or drainage ditch or over unpaved surfaces.
Fueling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post signage prohibiting "topping off" and describing spill response procedures. Keep a spill response kit at or near each fueling area. Require that the person doing the fueling remain present during entire fueling operation. ("Don't walk away!")
Bulk Liquid Material Loading & Unloading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During bulk liquid transfer, cover or berm around all down-gradient storm drain inlets within 25 feet. Keep all drain valves in liquid bulk containers and secondary containments locked in the closed position. Require that at least one trained person (i.e. delivery truck driver) remain present during entire liquid bulk transfer operations.
Maintenance Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No maintenance or repair work is performed outside. Only emergency repairs and maintenance activities that do not involve fluids may be performed outdoors. Do not store leaking vehicles or equipment outdoors. Contain the leak, repair immediately, or move indoors and repair.
Washing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not wash vehicles outside unless in a specifically designated wash area that drains to the sanitary sewer. Post signs showing which drains go to sanitary.
Spill Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use spill prevention methods to ensure no hazardous materials reach the floor or ground. Keep spill cleanup equipment in or near all work areas and use only "dry" cleanup methods to manage spills. Develop a formal Spill Response Plan. Post the plan near spill clean up materials.
Stormwater Runoff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain a map of the property, identifying directions of stormwater flow and storm drains. Stencil (decal) storm drains on or near the facility.

Helpful Resources

See the PACE website for a list of helpful resource sheets
www.pacepartners.com

Keep It Clean Partnership

KICP is a collaborative approach in creating cost-effective solutions to implement a regional stormwater management program, not only to comply with Phase II regulations, but also to address broader water quality and watershed issues.

www.keepitcleanpartnership.org



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