



# R-1 AUTOMOBILE REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE

Automobile repair and maintenance activities have the potential to contribute directly to storm drain systems primarily through spills or the dumping of waste fluids being conveyed to the storm drain. Automotive fluids, such as oils, greases, and solvents, are hydrocarbon based, and may contain metals, chlorinated hydrocarbons, and other toxic compounds. Removal of caked dirt and grime from an automobile increases the sediment load to the storm drain system. The pollution prevention activities outlined in this fact sheets are used to prevent the discharge of pollutants to the storm drain system.

Think before conducting automobile repair and maintenance activities. Remember - The ocean starts at your front door.

The activities outlined in this fact sheet target the following pollutants:	
Sediment	x
Nutrients	
Bacteria	
Foaming Agents	
Metals	x
Hydrocarbons	x
Hazardous Materials	x
Pesticides and Herbicides	
Other	

## Required Activities

- Recycle used oil and antifreeze by taking them to service stations and other recycling centers. Never pour oil in storm drains or other areas.
- Do not perform repair and maintenance activities during rain events.
- Immediately clean up and contain any spills. Dispose of all waste and adsorbent materials properly.
- Store hazardous materials and wastes (including, but not limited to, fluids, solvents, parts containing fluids, batteries) indoors, under cover, or in watertight containers.
- Perform automobile maintenance and repairs over impervious surfaces such as concrete, so spills and waste material should be readily cleaned up. Use drip pans, plastic sheeting, etc. to contain spills and waste material.
- Dispose of cleaning solvents at the designated hazardous waste center.



## Recommended Activities

- Conduct auto repair activities at a commercial repair facility
- Perform automobile repair and maintenance activities under a covered area.
- Do not buy fluids containing target pollutants (e.g. degreasers containing PERC).
- Monitor parked or stored vehicles and equipment for leaks and place pans under leaks to collect fluids for proper disposal or recycling.

For additional information contact:

County of Orange, Watershed & Coastal Resources - Stormwater Program  
(714)567-6363 or visit our website at: [www.ocwatersheds.com](http://www.ocwatersheds.com)