Fueling Stations

Fueling may occur at warehouses or businesses that maintain a fleet of vehicles at their facilities*. Fuels contain organic compounds and metals that adversely affect aquatic life. The following steps are recommended to prevent contamination of stormwater runoff that will ultimately reach surface water bodies:

1. Cover island to prevent contact with stormwater runoff.
2. Install curbing or grade the area around the fueling island to prevent stormwater from flowing onto the area and becoming contaminated.
3. Pave the fuel island.

- Use concrete, not asphalt, because gasoline will react slowly with asphalt and dissolve it.
- The paving should be sloped to one side with a drain installed at the bottom of the slope to trap all fueling operation spills.
- The drain needs to be connected to the sanitary system, if allowed by the Source Control Division 503-823-5320, or collected in a lined dead end sump that will prevent spillage or leakage of spills to surface water or groundwater.
- The drain needs a control valve, such as a locked drainage valve or plug, to prevent the release of large spills into the sanitary sewer.

4. Do not clean fueling island with water and detergents.
   - Spilled fuels, oils, and grease will leave the site and contaminate surface waters if this method is used.
   - Clean the fueling island using dry methods like spot cleaning with absorbents or mechanical sweepers.
   - Use a damp cloth for pumps, and a damp mop will be effective for the paved area.

5. Retain suitable cleanup materials at the site for prompt cleaning of all spills.
   - Absorbent materials like spill pads, spill booms or kitty litter will be effective in containing certain spills.
   - Do not wash any spills into the storm drain.
   - Dispose of absorbent materials appropriately.

6. Post signs to educate employees. Personnel responsible for fueling vehicles should be trained in spill response procedures and instructed to avoid overtopping fuel tanks. Employees should stay with the vehicle while fueling.

7. If the fueling facility serves very large mobile equipment, construct a curb or berm around the fueling area both to collect rainwater falling on the pad and prevent the run-on of stormwater from the surrounding area. Follow procedures in BMP 3 for loading and unloading materials.


* Facilities subject to new development standards as identified in the City’s Stormwater Management Manual may have additional or different requirements than those listed on this BMP. For information please contact the City’s Development Assistance staff at 503-823-7122.