

## Your Responsibility

As a business operator or property owner, you may have responsibilities under:

### 1. Local government bylaws

Your municipality or the CRD may have stormwater-related bylaws that include:

- prohibiting all business waste and other specific prohibited wastes from entering the storm drain system and local waterways
- catch basin maintenance, inspection and record-keeping requirements
- spill response plans
- protection of natural water courses, ditches and stormwater drainage system
- codes of practice for specific business sectors

Also, Bylaw 4168 applies specifically to all businesses on the Saanich Peninsula. This bylaw helps protect streams, lakes, and marine shorelines from pollution by prohibiting domestic, commercial, and industrial contaminants from entering stormwater drainage systems. It includes codes of practice for parking lots and outdoor storage of materials or equipment.

### 2. Other jurisdictions

**Emergency Management BC** is responsible for responding to spills of any hazardous/harmful substance (oils/grease, gasoline, paints/solvents, mechanical fluids, soils, etc.) in any quantity that may impact the environment.

Any person responsible for a stormwater drainage system contamination may be held liable under the following environmental legislation:

- federal *Fisheries Act*
- BC Hazardous Waste Regulation
- BC *Environmental Management Act*
- BC *Water Sustainability Act*



## Be a Watershed-wise Business

Watershed-wise businesses ensure contaminants in stormwater runoff stay out of storm drain system, local waterways and marine shorelines.

### Learn More

To learn more about being a watershed-wise business, visit:

- [www.crd.bc.ca/Bylaw4168](http://www.crd.bc.ca/Bylaw4168)
- [www.crd.bc.ca/catchbasin](http://www.crd.bc.ca/catchbasin)
- [www.crd.bc.ca/clw](http://www.crd.bc.ca/clw)
- [www.crd.bc.ca/watersheds](http://www.crd.bc.ca/watersheds)



Making a difference...together

**Capital Regional District**  
Environmental Protection  
625 Fisgard Street  
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7  
250.360.3253

### In the event of a spill, contact:

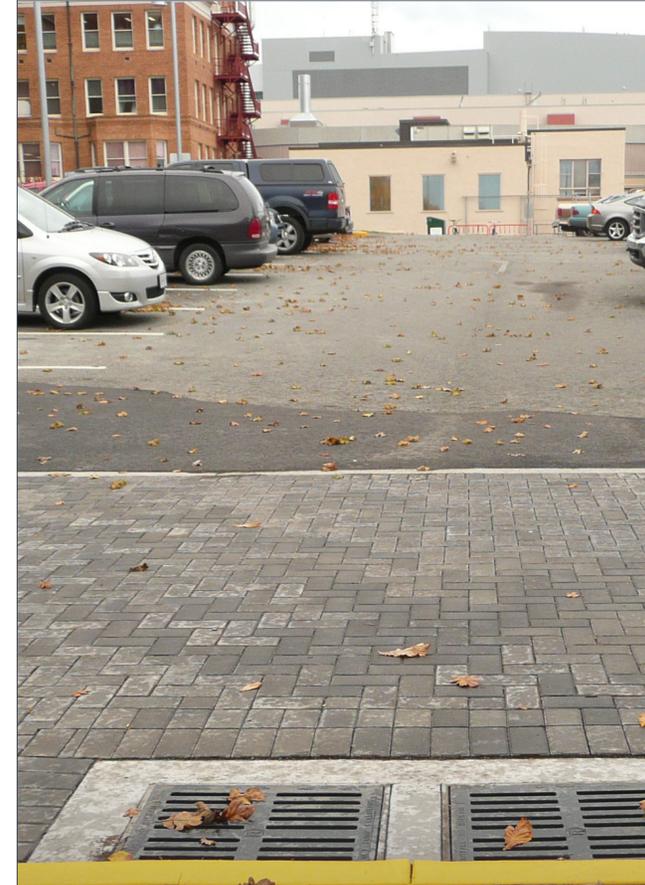
**1. Emergency Management BC:**  
**1.800.663.3456 (available 24/7)**

**2. Local government contacts:**  
**[www.crd.bc.ca/report-spill](http://www.crd.bc.ca/report-spill)**

For Business

## Parking Lots

**CRD** | Environmental Services



**Reduce your environmental liability by preventing stormwater contamination**



## Sources of Spills

Parking lots that service commercial, institutional, industrial or multi-family residential properties can be sources of spill or leaks from vehicles, liquid waste from storage containers and other contaminants.

Following stormwater best management practices or codes of practice is critical to preventing contaminants from entering the storm drain system, which leads directly to local creeks, lakes and marine shorelines.

## Spill Response

If you have a spill/leak:

1. **Call Emergency Management BC at 1.800.663.3456.** If the spill enters a storm drain, ditch or public roadway, also call your local government public works department. Phone numbers can be found at [www.crd.bc.ca/report-spill](http://www.crd.bc.ca/report-spill).
2. Make sure the spill poses no immediate threat to people. **Call 911 for spills that are flammable, toxic, corrosive or hazardous.**
3. If safe to do so, prevent continuous spills from entering storm drains, ditches, roadways, creeks or shorelines with absorbent pads, rags or kitty litter. **Do NOT clean up by hosing down the spill.**

## Best Management Practices

### 1. Spill prevention & response

- Have a spill response plan and spill kit easily accessible.
- Provide labelled containers for outdoor-stored materials, wastes and recycling that are appropriately sized, covered, away from catch basins and protected from vandalism.
- Place drip pans under any leaking vehicles.
- Routinely assess property to identify and address potential leaks and spills.
- Keep records of spill response and catch basin inspection and maintenance.

### 2. Employee/tenant/resident education

- Never dump or allow flow of anything but rainwater to enter the storm drain system.
- Vehicles, tools and equipment should not be washed in areas where wash water could flow into the storm drain.
- Train employees, tenants and residents about the property's spill response plan and spill kit.
- Regularly dry sweep small parking lots and work areas with a broom, placing debris in the garbage. Do not hose down.
- It is recommended that parking lot surfaces be cleaned with a professional street-sweeping truck.

### 3. Treatment works maintenance

- Stormwater rehabilitation units must be in good operating condition.
- Parking lots with catch basins may need:
  - to have a qualified company pump out catch basins every year, and
  - to be inspected every three months to ensure proper function — no smell or visual evidence of oil or gasoline should be present.
- Keep records of inspection and maintenance.

## Stormwater Pollution

Contaminated stormwater runoff is generated by rain or water from outdoor activities and transports contaminants over hard surfaces (i.e., outdoor work areas or parking lots) into the storm drain network through catch basins or ditches. These drains and ditches lead directly to creeks, lakes, wetlands or shorelines.

Potential sources of stormwater pollution from daily use and activities in and around parking lots include:

- leaks from vehicles
- washing vehicles, surfaces and equipment
- leaks from recycling, garbage, storage areas and containers
- runoff from excessive irrigation of gardens and lawns

Examples of contaminants include:

- engine fluids and other vehicle fluids
- motor oils and lubricating grease
- fuels (gasoline, diesel)
- metals and paint chips
- soaps, solvents and solids in wastewater
- liquid waste from storage containment areas

*Only rain should  
go down the drain*