

Furniture & Piano Restorers



There is a concern about small amounts of paint stripping products containing dichloromethane (DCM, also known as methylene chloride) and paint stripping residue, entering the sanitary sewer from various furniture and piano stripping operations throughout the capital region.

DCM and corrosive acids can damage household and municipal sewer pipes and harm the marine environment. DCM is also classified as a probable carcinogen to humans.

In order to reduce the amount of DCM and paint stripper residue entering our sanitary sewer system, please follow the best management practices on this card.



Making a difference...together

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1. Wipe down the stripped surface with water or lacquer thinner using cloth, steel wool pad or stiff bristle brush instead of hosing down the surface with water. Place used scrubbing materials in a sealed container for proper disposal as hazardous waste.
2. Storage tanks or containers containing dichloromethane-based paint stripper or other solvents should be equipped with dykes or a containment system to contain spills or leaks.
3. Keep lids on paint stripper containers tightly closed at all times to prevent leaks or evaporation to the atmosphere.
4. Consider using non-dichloromethane-based stripping alternatives such as citrus-based strippers and use manual stripping for easily removed layers of paint.
5. Capture and reuse paint stripper where applicable.
6. Detailed records should be kept for all hazardous waste disposal services used for dichloromethane-based paint stripper and other substances, including wastes that are prohibited or restricted under Bylaw 2922.
7. Employers should provide training in the handling and use of paint strippers and to ensure that employees are familiar with Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) or other health and safety documents.

For more information contact:

CRD Regional Source Control Program at **250.360.3256** or **sourcecontrol@crd.bc.ca** or visit **www.crd.bc.ca/sourcecontrol**