

Five steps for protecting stormwater

Fact sheet



Help stop your business clouding our stormwater

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1 Check your drains

- Keep drains clear and clean of litter, cigarette butts, metal shavings, sand, sediment, raw materials or other products.
- Regularly picking up litter, sweeping outdoor areas and cleaning up drips and spills.
- Store fine material securely so that it can not be blown away.
- Stop forklifts and trucks tracking materials into outdoor areas.



Drains should be cleaned of litter

2 Washing plant, equipment or products

- Don't discharge wash effluent to any stormwater drains.
- Undertake car detailing or equipment washing in a covered, bunded wash bay.
- Connect your wash bay to the sewer system via a water/oil separator.
- Use a commercial wash bay facility if you only do this work occasionally.



Pit traps stop material entering stormwater

3 Secure loose material

- Control the escape of raw materials, product and wastes from where they are used or stored.
- Store and use fine material undercover or indoors.
- Store all waste securely undercover or in bins and skips.
- Keep all bins and skips closed.
- Sweep up material that has escaped and place it in a bin.



Store material securely

4 Store and manage liquids appropriately

- Use bunds around areas where liquids are used or keep them stored so they are contained should there be a spill.
- Use a spill pallet to catch any spills or drips if you only keep a few 205-litre drums.



Well positioned bunding to trap spills

5 Spill kits and spill response plans

- Ensure your spill kit and response plan is up to date and kept close to where liquids are used and stored.
- A good spill kit contains absorbents, brooms, personal protective equipment, contaminated waste bags, drain seals and leak sealing putty.
- Maintain a spill response plan that describes what to do and who to contact in the event of a spill or leak.



Spill pallets correctly placed will catch any spills

If a spill or discharge occurs to the stormwater, contact EPA 24 hours a day on 1300 372 842 (1300 EPA VIC).

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