



from the street to the creek Business Done Right

Auto Body Repair work can generate several contaminants include sanding waste, filler residue, paints, waste water from car washing, solvents, motor oil and other automotive fluids. If spilled or disposed of improperly these contaminants can pollute our local creeks.

The most important thing to know about sewers and storm drains is that they are two different systems. When water flows off your property, it flows directly into the storm water drainage system. The storm water drainage system consists of street gutters, inlets, catch basins, and ditches. Many people believe that storm water gets “cleaned” but it does not. Rather, it flows directly into our creeks, rivers, lakes, and the ocean without any treatment at all. Only the water that goes down a sink, toilet, or another inside drain flows to the wastewater treatment plant. Toxic material cannot be discharged to either system. Auto body repair shop owners, managers and employees should be aware that the discharge of pollutants from their shop’s activities into the storm water drainage system, or into surrounding water bodies, is prohibited by local ordinance and state and federal law.

As a valued member of the local business community, we know that you are invested in protecting the quality of life that your customers, members of the community, and visitors enjoy.

Wastewater Requirements

It is required that all Auto Body shops in Cotati, Rohnert Park, Santa Rosa, and Sebastopol obtain a Wastewater Discharge Permit with the Environmental Compliance section. Go to www.srcity.org/autoapp for a Wastewater Discharge Permit Application.

Equipment Use and Cleaning

- Perform all body repair, wet/dry sanding, and painting activities inside your shop.
- Use sanding tools equipped with a vacuum to pick up

debris and dust.

- Do not use water in the paint booth to control overspray or dust.
- Never discharge gun cleaning solvent to the sanitary sewer or storm drain system. All spent solvent should either be recycled onsite with a still or collected for offsite removal by a licensed hauler.
- Calculate paint needs based on surface area so as to minimize wasted paint and thinner. Use low volume paint mixing equipment and high efficiency painting tools.
- Do not use acid based wheel cleaners or solvent based degreasers.
- Use a City approved laundry to clean shop rags.
- Any vehicle or equipment washing must be performed within a City approved pretreatment system that is connected to the sanitary sewer.

Keep Your Shop Clean

- Never hose down or pressure wash work areas unless the resulting wash water is contained, treated, and disposed of properly. It is never okay to discharge wash water into the storm drainage system.
- It is possible to discharge wash water to the sanitary sewer system if and only if the shop has an approved oil/water separator or sump that the wash water drains into.
- The best option is to regularly sweep, vacuum, or use other dry cleanup methods when cleaning the shop and parking lots, collect all metal filings, dust, and paint chips, and properly dispose of all waste to the garbage or hazardous waste bin.
- Inspect damaged vehicles for leaks, and use drip pans if necessary.
- Clean-up drips or small spills with rags or absorbents.
- Do not dispose of mop water outside, or to the storm drain system. Mop water should be disposed of into the sanitary sewer or onsite oil/water separator.

Appropriate Material Storage

- Store hazardous materials and wastes in a place where they are protected from rain and where spills or leaks cannot reach the storm drain or sanitary sewer.
- Never mix hazardous wastes. Waste oil, fuel, antifreeze, solvents, sanding wastes, painting wastes, and all other hazardous wastes should be stored separately to increase your waste recycling and disposal options, reduce your disposal costs, and eliminate the chance for chemical reactions.
- Use secondary containment for all bulk fluid storage to prevent accidental discharges to the storm drain system or sewer.

Proper Dumpster Use

- Dumpster lids are to be kept closed at all times in order to prevent animals and water from getting in and wind from scattering garbage.
- The pavement area around a dumpster should be kept clean.
- Ensure dumpsters do not leak and that any drain holes are plugged. If the dumpster leaks or is missing its drain hole plug contact your local garbage company for a replacement free of charge.

Are You Ready to Respond to a Spill?

- Have a written plan.
- Train your employees on clean up procedures.
- Have your plan and spill cleanup materials accessible.
- Know how to handle hazardous materials.
- Have Material Safety Data Sheets for any products you are using.
- Report hazardous spills at (707) 528-5151 or 911.

Santa Rosa Contact Information

- For more information on storm water and the City's storm drain system call the Utilities Department at (707) 543-4200, and ask for Storm Water.
- For proper disposal questions on hazardous materials and recycling call Eco-Desk at (707) 565-DESK (3375), or visit www.recyclenow.org
- If spilled material reaches the storm drain system call (707) 543-3800 to report it.
- If spilled material contains hazardous materials call 911 or (707) 528-5151.
- For more information about obtaining a Wastewater Discharge Permit, contact Environmental Compliance at (707) 543-3369 or visit www.srcity.org/envcompliance
- For information on proper storage and disposal of hazardous materials contact the Fire Department at (707) 543-3500.

Releasing pollutants into the storm drain system or a waterway violates the City of Santa Rosa's Storm Water and Sanitary Sewer Use Ordinances



Contact information for businesses outside of Santa Rosa:



City of Cloverdale

Public Works Department

<http://www.cloverdale.net/index.aspx?nid=254>

(707) 894-1792



City of Cotati

Public Works/Engineering Department

<http://www.ci.cotati.ca.us/sections/departments/pw-storm-water.cfm>

During Business Hours: (707)665-3637

After Hours: (707)792-4611

Businesses in Cotati seeking to apply for a wastewater discharge permit should contact the City of Santa Rosa Environmental Compliance Section at 707-543-3369.



City of Fort Bragg

<http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/planning/stormwater.htm>

(707) 964-5379



City of Healdsburg

Public Works Department

<http://www.ci.healdsburg.ca.us/index.aspx?page=192>

(707) 431-3346



City of Rohnert Park

Public Works Department – Public Safety Dispatch

<http://www.rpcity.org/index.aspx?page=357>

(707) 588-3300

Businesses in Rohnert Park seeking to apply for a wastewater discharge permit should contact the City of Santa Rosa Environmental Compliance Section at 707-543-3369.



City of Sebastopol

Public Works Department for reporting issues

Engineering Department for questions

<http://ci.sebastopol.ca.us/page/water-wastewater-storm-water>

During Business Hours: (707) 823-5331

After Hours: (707) 829-4400

Businesses in Sebastopol seeking to apply for a wastewater discharge permit should contact the City of Santa Rosa Environmental Compliance Section at 707-543-3369.



City of Ukiah

Public Works Department

<http://www.cityofukiah.com/?p=173>

(707) 463-6296



Mendocino County

<http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/planning/stormwater.htm>



Sonoma County

PRMD Engineering

<http://www.sonoma-county.org/prmd/sw/sw-contact.htm>

<http://www.sonoma-county.org/prmd/sw/sw-spill.htm>

During Business Hours: (707) 565-2502

After Hours: (707) 573-1365 (REDCOM)



Sonoma County Water Agency

Public Works Department – Engineering Division

<http://www.scwa.ca.gov/storm-water/>

During Business Hours: (707) 521-1865



Town of Windsor

<http://www.ci.windsor.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=232>

(707) 838-5340