Fueling Operations

This activity applies to you if you refuel vehicles on the premises, whether a large sized gas station or a single pump maintenance yard installation. It also covers mobile fueling operations. Stormwater runoff from fueling areas may be contaminated with toxic hydrocarbons, oils and greases, and metals.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS



The following BMPs, or equivalent measures, methods, or practices, are required if you are engaged in dedicated permanent fueling operations:

Cover the fueling area with an overhanging roof structure or canopy so that precipitation cannot come in contact with the fueling area.

See BMP Info Sheet 3 in Chapter 5 for information on covering options. An exception to this requirement is granted for mobile fueling equipment, floating fuel islands on water, and oversized vehicles that can not maneuver under a roof.



Pave the fueling area with Portland cement concrete and contain the area to prevent uncontaminated stormwater from running into the fueling area and carrying pollutants to the onsite storm drainage system or adjacent surface water or conveyance systems.

See BMP Info Sheet 5 in Chapter 5 for information on containment.



Install and maintain an oil or spill control device in the appropriate catch basin(s) to treat runoff from the fueling area.

See the King County Surface Water Design Manual for various designs and the BMP Info Sheet 9 in Chapter 5 for further information on oil/water separators.



Never hose down the fueling area to the storm drains. Contaminated runoff must be collected for proper disposal.



Required Routine Maintenance:

- Post signs to remind employees and customers not to top off the fuel tank when filling. Post signs that ban customers and employees from changing engine oil or other fluids at that location.
- Store and maintain appropriate spill cleanup materials in a location known to all. Ensure that employees are familiar with the site's spill control plan and/or proper spill cleanup procedures.

If you cannot implement the above requirements on your site, consider ceasing your on-site fueling activities and take your vehicles to a fueling station that meets these requirements.

The following BMPs, or equivalent measures, methods, or practices, are required if you are engaged in mobile fueling operations:



Locate the fueling operation to ensure leaks or spills will not discharge, flow, or be washed into the storm drainage system, surface water, or groundwater.



Use drip pans or absorbent pads to capture drips or spills during fueling operations.



If fueling is done during evening hours, lighting must be provided.



Required Routine Maintenance:

 Store and maintain appropriate spill cleanup materials in the mobile fueling vehicle. Ensure that employees are familiar with proper spill control and cleanup procedures.

ADDITIONAL BMPs



The following BMPs are optional unless the above minimum required BMPs do not provide adequate source control.

Use absorbent pillows or similar absorbent materials in or around storm drain inlets on the property to filter oily runoff. These require frequent maintenance and close attention, but can be useful in short-term situations. Used absorbent materials containing oil must be picked up by a qualified disposal contractor.



A catch basin insert configured for oil removal may remove some of the pollutants in runoff from this activity. Catch basin inserts require frequent maintenance to be effective. Carefully consider this when evaluating your options. The oil absorbent filter media must retain absorbed oil during future storm events. See Chapter 6.6.1 of the King County Surface Water Design Manual for more information regarding which filter media provide acceptable oil retention.

See BMP Info Sheet 10 in Chapter 5 for more information.

For more information or assistance in implementing these best management practices, contact the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks Water and Land Resources Division at 206-296-1900.

Reader Note: The above requirements are the minimum required BMPs. If these BMPs fail to prevent discharges to the storm drainage system, you will be asked to take additional measures to correct the continued pollution discharges.