

Parked automobiles may contribute pollutants to the storm drain because poorly maintained vehicles may leak fluids containing hydrocarbons, metals, and other pollutants. In addition, heavily soiled automobiles may drop clods of dirt onto the parking surface, contributing to the sediment load when runoff is present. During rain events, or wash-down activities, the pollutants may be carried into the storm drain system. The pollution prevention activities outlined in this fact sheet should be used to prevent the discharge of pollutants to the storm drain system.

Think before parking your car. Remember - The ocean starts at your front door.

Required Activities

- If the automobile is leaking, immediately place a pan or similar collection device under the automobile. Have the vehicle fixed as soon as possible. It is against the law to allow vehicles to drip vehicle fluids onto the City's streets.
- Use dry cleaning methods to remove any materials deposited by vehicles (e.g. adsorbents for fluid leaks, sweeping for soil clod deposits).

Recommended Activities

- If possible, remove vehicles from the street on designated street sweeping day.
- If possible, limit vehicle parking to covered areas.
- Perform routine maintenance to minimize fluid leaks, and maximize fuel efficiency.