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## Water Quality Facts

1. Water that enters a curbside drain (storm drain) is not treated before it enters a waterway.
2. Even “Biodegradable” products should not be placed in the curbside drain (storm drain).
3. Water-based products (Cleaners, Chemicals, Latex Paint) should not be poured into the curbside drain (storm drain).
4. Grass clippings and leaves are organic; but, they should not be washed into the curbside drain (storm drain).
5. Most coulees and ditches in Lafayette Parish flow to the Vermilion River.
6. Litter and soil eroding into the curbside drain reduces the flow to the river.
7. The Vermilion River contains harmful bacteria found in home septic systems and animal waste.

### If a spill occurs:

- Stop the source of the spill immediately.
- Contain the liquid until the cleanup is complete.
- Cover liquid spills with an absorbent material.
- Keep indoor areas well ventilated.
- Dispose of clean-up materials properly.
- Do not use an emulsifier, such as soap, as a dispersing agent.
- Do not wash anything into the street, storm drain, ditch or river.



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## *Automotive Services*

## **Best Management Practices**

to

## **Protect Water Quality**



# Best Management Practices to Protect Water Quality

## Stormwater Ordinance

Please be advised that the Environmental Quality Division of Lafayette Consolidated Government has recently adopted a

### Stormwater Ordinance

#### Chapter 34. ENVIRONMENT

#### Article 5. STORMWATER

#### Division 4 Sec. 34-452

It is now in effect and being enforced. You may access this ordinance online at [www.lafayettela.gov](http://www.lafayettela.gov) or you may call our office at (337) 291-8529 and we will send you a copy by mail.

The purpose of this ordinance is to provide for the health, safety, and general welfare of Lafayette Parish citizens by regulating, to the maximum extent practicable as required by state and federal law, discharges of unacceptable materials (example: oil, dirt, debris) into the storm drainage system.

### POSSIBLE PENALTIES

**First Offense: \$250.00 per day per offense.**

**Second Offense: \$500.00 per day per offense.**

**Third Offense and thereafter: \$1,000.00 per day per offense.**

## Auto Repair Shops

- Use alternative, safer, non-toxic, auto fluids and cleaning products.
- Reduce storm water flow across the site and redirect flows away from storm drains, gutters, and streets.
- Conduct maintenance or repair work only in designated areas with spill containment.
- Do not pour liquid waste into floor drains, sinks, outdoor storm drain inlets or other storm drain or sewer connections.
- Sweep parking lots and areas around your facility instead of washing them down with water.
- Change or remove all automotive fluids under cover, if possible, to prevent the run-on of storm water and the runoff of spills.
- Keep a drip pan under the vehicle while unclipping hoses, unscrewing filters, or removing other parts. Use a drip pan under any vehicle that might leak.
- Develop and maintain a spill response plan.
- Provide on-going employee training.



**REMEMBER  
ONLY RAIN  
in the Storm  
Drain!**

## We Want Your Input

Go online to:

[www.lafayettela.gov/stormwater](http://www.lafayettela.gov/stormwater)

Below the phrase

Please ... only *rain*

Down the *drain!*

*Click on and fill out the*

[Local Water Quality Questionnaire](#)

## Car Washes

- If floor drains are used in car wash bays, they should discharge to a sanitary sewer, not a storm drain.
- Soapy water should be pre-treated before it reaches the sanitary sewer line.
- Treat and recycle wash water.
- Use an oil/water separator or other filtering device to trap leaking automobile fluids.
- Remove unnecessary hoses to discourage spraying of floors and paved areas.