



# Automotive Service Facilities Wastewater Information Handout

Automotive service facilities must adhere to The City of Calgary Wastewater Bylaw 14M2012 and The City of Calgary Stormwater Bylaw 37M2005. Use these tips to comply with regulatory requirements, lower fees and protect your business, the community and the environment.

## Substances of concern

Automotive service operations use many substances that can present risks to the wastewater and stormwater system. Individual facilities may contribute smaller quantities of these substances, but the collective impact from the automotive sector can be significant.

Pre-treatment systems such as oil-water separators, industrial sumps and interceptors must be properly maintained to avoid blockages, costly wastewater charges, fines and to ensure protection of the wastewater system and environment.

Substances of concern	Sources
Hydrocarbons	Fuels, oils, grease, solvents, flammable liquids and automotive fluids
Glycol	Anti-freeze
Phosphorus	Detergents, cleaners and exterior finishes
Metals and solids	Rust, sand, sediment and paint chips

## Wastewater Bylaw 14M2012 Fines for Non-Compliance

### Schedule "A" Prohibited Substances

The following must not be released into the wastewater system:

(k) wastewater having a pH of less than 5.5 or greater than 10;

(n) corrosive or toxic wastewater that causes or will cause an adverse effect.

### Release of Substances

22 (1) (a) A person must not release or allow the release of any wastewater that contains a prohibited substance into the wastewater system  
**Specified Penalty \$3000**

35 (1) Failing to immediately notify the proper authorities in accordance with subsection 35 (1) where a substance is released into the wastewater system in contravention of the Bylaw

### Sector Specific Pre-Treatment

27 (2) (a) Failing to install an interceptor as required  
**Specified Penalty \$2000**

27(2)(b) Failing to monitor, operate, properly maintain and clean each interceptor as required  
**Specified Penalty \$1500**

### Records Maintenance

26(4)(b) Failing to obtain and retain manuals, instructions and specifications related to the installation, operation, maintenance and cleaning of the pre-treatment system installed as a premises  
**Specified Penalty \$500**

**Pre-treatment options**

Pre-treatment systems are a cost-effective way of preventing unwanted wastes from entering the wastewater system. If your business does not already have one, you will need to install a pre-treatment system that is designed and sized in accordance with the requirement of the National Plumbing Code of Canada to prevent hydrocarbons, flammable liquids and suspended solids from passing into the wastewater system.

Pre-treatment selection and installation must be completed by a qualified consultant or tradesperson. If you have any questions about the pre-treatment system selection or installation, contact [PlumbingGasTAC@Calgary.ca](mailto:PlumbingGasTAC@Calgary.ca) or call 311.

For your pre-treatment system to be effective, it must be cleaned regularly and checked to ensure it is in proper working order. Most devices require cleaning when the last outflowing chamber is at 25 per cent settled solids capacity. You are required to complete and retain maintenance records on-site for a two-year period. See sample below. Your service provider can assist with the cleaning, maintenance record keeping, as well as the integrity of the pre-treatment system.

**What to do if you have an accidental release**

In the event of an unintentional release it is important to act quickly to prevent the material from entering the wastewater or stormwater system.

The Wastewater Bylaw section 35 under “*Release Reporting*” requires the person who released or allowed the release to notify:

- The 9-1-1 emergency telephone number.
- The City of Calgary by contacting 311 as well as the Industrial Monitoring Group at [img@calgary.ca](mailto:img@calgary.ca)
- The owner of the premise where the release occurred.
- Any other person that may be affected by the release.

For any spills that could harm the environment you will also need to report the spill to Alberta Environment.

For more information please contact 311 or the Industrial Monitoring Group at [img@calgary.ca](mailto:img@calgary.ca)



## Pre-treatment Maintenance Record

A written record of all maintenance, cleaning and inspections of your pre-treatment must be kept on file for two years. The form below is available at [calgary.ca/IMG](http://calgary.ca/IMG)

Business name: \_\_\_\_\_ Business address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of inspection	Cleaned Yes/No	Contractor used Yes/N	Contractor name (if applicable)	Disposal location	Condition of interceptor (good, fair, poor)	Sludge or Sediment layer (%)*

\*\* Solids should not be more than 25% of the final chamber