

Automotive Industry Fact Sheets

For more information contact:

- ✓ The City of Ryde (9952 2222)
- ✓ Department of Environment and Conservation (131 555)
- ✓ Motor Vehicle Industry Council (9712 2200)
- ✓ Auto Parts Recycling Association of Australia (03 9587 2194) www.apraa.com.au

Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997

- Minor breaches can result in an infringement notice with a penalty up to \$1500.
- Other pollution offences carry penalties of \$250 000 for companies and \$120 000 for individuals.
- Serious offences carry penalties of up to \$1 million and/ or 7 years imprisonment.



This project has been assisted by the New South Wales Government's Clean Air Fund via the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC)



The City of Ryde has carried out preliminary environmental audits of the automotive industries in the Buffalo Creek Catchment area.

As a result of these inspections Council has produced a series of factsheets to advise on air pollution issues.

Please find enclosed the information factsheets.

✓ Do's

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

- **Do** spot clean any spills.
- **Do** sweep the floor. Use less water by adopting dry cleaning methods.
(*use a broom NOT a hose*)
- **Do** store all liquid chemicals in a bunded area so that potential pollutants are contained in the event of a spill.
- **Do** wash vehicles and parts only in an approved wash bay drained to sewer.
- **Do** drain or wipe oil from parts prior to washing.
- **Do** ensure that no liquid materials enter the stormwater drain.
(*the drain is just for rain*).
- **Do** regularly maintain pollution reduction equipment (oil separators, grease arrestors, waste floor baskets).
- **Do** apply to Sydney Water to discharge any wastes to the sewerage system.
- **Do** design and maintain your workplace to avoid accidents and spills.
- **Do** reduce any offensive noise. Check and fix rattling or high pitched noises.
- **Do** minimise the use of heavy-duty chemicals (use alternatives where possible).
- **Do** store contaminated parts (e.g. used oil filters) inside or in a covered, sealed and bunded area.
- **Do** use "quick break" detergents.
- **Do** recycle your brake fluid and motor oils.
- **Do** control any fumes or vapors that are detectable outside the premises.
- **Do** control dust from your yard areas and work areas.
- **Do** keep tight fitting lids and caps on all chemical containers to avoid fumes and vapours escaping or evaporating to atmosphere.
- **Do** recycle any metal and liquid waste.

SPRAY BOOTHS

- **Do** only spray paint in a properly constructed and filtered spray booth.
- **Do** make sure spray booth filters cover the entire vent area.
- **Do** maintain the vents of the spray booth - ensure that they are working efficiently.
- **Do** clean your spray booth filters regularly.
- **Do** use airless spray guns or HVLP guns to minimise paint wastage.
- **Do** recycle any left over paint.

Duty to Notify Pollution Incident

If pollution occurs and it threatens or harms the environment, you must tell the DEC or Council.

✗ Don'ts

AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY DON'TS

- **Don't** wash or place any pollutants where they can enter stormwater drains.
- **Don't** wash vehicles or equipment where the runoff can enter a stormwater drain.
- **Don't** place any pollutants such as oils, into the sewerage without first receiving an approval from Sydney Water.
- **Don't** cause soil contamination.
- **Don't** cause offensive noise.
- **Don't** spray paint, blast or create any dust or air pollution without first seeking advice and approval from Council and the WorkCover Authority.
- **Don't** hose the footpath or forecourt area, use a broom and spot clean.
- **Don't** litter the external area of your premises.
- **Don't** install, service or decommission vehicle air conditioners that use CFCs or HCFCs without the appropriate licence.
- **Don't** burn anything including oily or greasy rags, oil-soaked paper and sawdust. Place them in an industrial waste bin.
- **Don't** clutter your premises with combustible materials.
- **Don't** spray paint or sand down in the open as this creates air pollution.
- **Don't** keep disused equipment & waste materials such as tyres around the workshop.
- **Don't** allow spent solvents to evaporate to atmosphere as this causes air pollution.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- ✓ **Prepare an emergency response plan to prevent chemical spills.**
 - ✓ **Provide & maintain conveniently located spill clean-up kits .**
- ✓ **Ensure all Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) are on site for all chemicals and refer to them if a spill occurs.**
 - ✓ **Keep fire extinguishers serviced.**
 - ✓ **Obtain WorkCover approval to store dangerous goods.**
- ✓ **Store solvents away from heat, oil and other flammable liquids and use a covered container with a tap, to avoid the need to pour.**