



Put Hazards in Their Place: Safe Storage and Handling Tips for Chemicals and Hazardous Materials

As an industry owner, you are responsible for all pollutants that leave your property. You play a big role in keeping our waterways clean and healthy! Follow these tips to properly store and handle materials like pesticides, fertilizers, and oils.

DO



- Maintain accurate records and Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) information for stored materials at your site.
- Store chemicals and hazardous materials according to manufacturer's instructions. Storage areas should be dry, cool, well-ventilated, and insulated.
- Check storage areas often for leaks and spills. Be sure storage areas are equipped with easily accessible spill cleanup kits.

DON'T



- Don't leave materials out in the open. Store them indoors in covered, sealed containers, such as a locked cabinet.
- Don't dump excess, outdated, or waste materials in storm drains or other stormwater structures. Dispose of them according to the manufacturer's instructions and local regulations.
- Don't store materials incorrectly. Waste materials should be kept in secure, labeled containers.

Why is this necessary?

Rain that falls on and around your site can pick up trash and dirt as it drains away. Much of this water, or stormwater, ends up in our lakes, rivers, and streams. It's the fastest growing type of water pollution in Massachusetts. Stormwater pollution is bad business for our State's waterways. It harms fish and wildlife, makes our water unsafe to drink, and can spoil outdoor activities.

Industrial facilities can do their part to keep Massachusetts' waterways clean.

Find more tips like these at www.ThinkBlueMassachusetts.org.

