Know the Drill for Spills: Spill Prevention for Industrial Facilities

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 prevent spills at your facility and reduce polluted runoff.

**DO**

- Inspect facilities yearly and perform maintenance activities as needed.
- Ensure floor drains and other drains are properly connected to sanitary sewer systems.
- Keep up-to-date maintenance and inspection records on-site.
- Keep your Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure Plan (SPCC) in an easy-to-find location. Know how to implement it in case of a spill. Review procedures periodically and update every 5 years.
- Train employees to respond to spills.
- Keep spill response kits in accessible locations throughout the facility, especially near areas where spills may occur.
- Consider purchasing drain cover seals to isolate areas to prevent spilled materials from entering the drainage system and local waterways.

**DON’T**

- Don’t leave chemicals and hazardous materials in open or loosely sealed containers. Store them in closed and labeled containers.
- Don’t store chemicals and hazardous materials outside. Containers should be kept inside secure buildings and on impervious surfaces.
- Don’t forget to wear appropriate protective equipment, such as gloves, goggles, and hazmat boots, when cleaning up a spill.
- Don’t allow spills to enter storm drain systems. Report & monitor any spills to storm sewer or waterways to appropriate state and local authorities.

**Why is this necessary?**

Rain that falls on and around your site can pick up trash, dirt, and chemical residue 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.

**For More Information:**

EPA NPDES Permit Requirements: https://www.epa.gov/npdes/final-2015-msgp-documents

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

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