

AUTOMOBILE FLUIDS



Be an Everyday Clean Water Hero!

Be **AWARE**, take **ACTION**, report **ACTIVITIES** that adversely affect streams, drainage channels and the ocean.

BE AWARE:

Improper disposal of used oil, which includes oil leaking from cars, contributes significantly to stormwater pollution. The EPA estimates that American households generate 193 million gallons of used oil every year, and improperly dump the equivalent of 17 Exxon Valdez oil spills every year. Just as with a tanker spill, dumping used oil into a storm drain can pollute local water sources. In fact, a 1-quart can of oil can create a 2-acre oil slick, which is about the size of two football fields.

TAKE ACTION:

- Repair those leaks. If you find yourself adding fluids monthly, weekly or even daily or discover spots in your driveway, make repairs right away.
- Recycle your oil. A best practice is to have your oil changed by a shop that recycles their waste oil. If you change your own oil, use an “oil change box”. Change your oil away from storm drains and have old rags or other absorbent materials available to respond in case of a spill.
- Recycle your antifreeze/coolant. A best practice is to go to a shop that recycles their coolants. Used coolants should not be flushed down the drain because they contain pollutants that may cause problems for wastewater treatment plants. Check your radiator hoses when changing your oil and inspect your car at the first sign of a coolant leak.
- Clean up leaks or spills promptly using dry absorbent material such as cat litter, and a broom. Do not wash down garage or driveway surfaces into the street or storm drain.
- Return used batteries to the place you bought them.

REPORT ACTIVITIES:

City’s Environmental Concern Line at **768-3300** or visit www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com

Reference: Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com
EPA Region 9 Water Program, www.epa.gov/region9/water/npdes/stormwater-feature.html, Region 5 RCRA,
<http://www.epa.gov/reg5rcra/wptdiv/p2pages/hhw.pdf>

