

# AUTOMOBILE FLUIDS



## Be an Everyday Environmental Hero!

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

### BE AWARE:

If you took off your radiator cap, oil cap, brake fluid cap (and other caps) and dropped your car in the ocean, it would have devastating effects. The five quarts of oil that an average vehicle has could create an oil slick the size of five football fields. An average car has 10 quarts of anti-freeze/coolant that equates to about 320 fluid ounces. Three ounces of antifreeze/coolant is enough to kill an adult and less could kill children and pets. Then add the brake fluid, power steering fluids, and transmission oil and you've almost doubled your five-football field oil slick.

### 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 around 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.
- Return used batteries to the place you bought them.
- Driving less is the best way to prevent pollutant. Carpooling, biking or using public transportation are great ways to help reduce the amount of pollution entering our environment.

### REPORT ACTIVITIES:

City's Environmental Concern Line at 768-3300 or visit [www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com](http://www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com)

Reference: Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, [www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com](http://www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com), Scott D. Williams, General Manager Lex Brodie's Tire Company

