

COMPLIANCE WITH A NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION ORDINANCE

Pollution
Prevention
Assistance



Thurston County Business Pollution Prevention Program

☎ 360-867-2664

📞 TDD: 360-867-2603

Small changes
make a
BIG
difference!

KEEPING OUR WATERWAYS CLEAN

This fact sheet describes the hazardous waste sections of the Nonpoint Source Pollution Ordinance (Article VI of the Sanitary Code) with regards to its requirements, enforcement, and implementation.

WHAT THE ORDINANCE MEANS

The hazardous waste section of this Ordinance requires businesses and residents alike to properly store and dispose of their hazardous waste. Specifically, you must:

- ◆ Properly store hazardous wastes and hazardous products so there is no risk that any spills could impact the environment, AND
- ◆ Properly dispose of hazardous wastes

STORAGE OPTIONS (SECONDARY CONTAINMENT)

Secondary containment is a liquid-tight barrier that will adequately contain hazardous substances that are released from a leaking storage container. The size and design of a secondary containment unit depends on the type and amount of hazardous liquids that it holds. Outdoor secondary containment should be covered to eliminate the potential of contaminating stormwater.

DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING

Thurston County requires the proper disposal of hazardous wastes and encourages the recycling of wastes when possible. If hazardous wastes cannot be properly recycled on site, there are two options: bring their hazardous waste to the Thurston County HazoHouse facility (for a small fee) or hire a licensed vendor to remove, recycle, and dispose of the waste for them. The HazoHouse is a moderate risk waste facility that accepts hazardous waste from both small businesses (for a small fee) and residents (for free). It is located by the Hawks Prairie Waste and Recovery Center at 2420 Hogum Bay Road NE in Lacey and is open daily. Businesses are asked to call in advance to set up disposal appointments prior to arriving (360-867-2912).

IMPLEMENTATION

The Health Department implements the ordinance by using both a proactive and a reactive approach. Proactive inspections are initiated by the Health Department and are usually part of a technical assistance campaign. Reactive inspections are conducted when the Health Department receives a complaint regarding a violation of the ordinance. Any individual or business with concerns may request free, on-site technical assistance visit to review the ordinance requirements, confirm compliance, and provide best management practice suggestions.

ENFORCEMENT OF VIOLATIONS

The ordinance specifies that compliance officers must respond to any violation they believe has occurred or is occurring. Staff are provided with three options for responding, which include issuing a Notice of Noncompliance, Notice of Violation, or a Notice of Civil Infraction. Which option is used will depend on the type and severity of the violation and prior opportunities the violator has had to learn about and comply with the law. It is important to understand that regardless of the initial response chosen and time frame allowed, the ordinance requires the Health Department to follow-up with increasingly stronger measures until the violation is corrected. Once you resolve your violation(s) or if you are already in compliance upon inspection, you will receive a Notice of Compliance.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information, including how to set up a free on-site technical assistance visit:

- ◆ Call the Thurston County Hazardous Waste Hotline at 360-867-2664 / TDD 360-867-2603
- ◆ Email PHSSPollutionPrevention@co.thurston.wa.us
- ◆ Visit our website at www.co.thurston.wa.us/health/ehhw/index.html

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