



Fluids Management

What Are They?

Fluid spills are likely to occur while dismantling, draining or storing salvaged vehicles, parts and cores. Proper dismantling, draining and storage procedures help prevent pollution, such as fluids seeping into ground water, running off into area streams or air conditioning refrigerant (freon) escaping into the air.

Best Management Practices

Perform dismantling and draining operations in an area where spills can easily be contained, such as inside a building or on an impermeable (such as concrete) surface with proper spill controls, including drip pans (or absorbents, if needed). Use absorbents sparingly as they must be handled as a hazardous waste once contaminated with waste fluids. Keep dedicated drip pans under the dismantled parts while you are un-clipping hoses, unscrewing filters and removing parts.

☞ **A “dedicated” drip pan means a pan used for a specific type of waste fluid being drained to avoid mixing wastes. Remember to replace drain plugs when done draining.**

➔ Inspect engines before draining to determine the condition and usability of the engine or parts. If possible, drain vehicles immediately after inspection. If certain parts are destined for resale and need the fluid, store each part in such a way so they can not leak. All vehicles, parts and cores should be drained before storing and/or disposal.

These parts should be drained:

- engines
- air conditioning units
- differentials
- lines/hoses
- window-washing fluid tanks
- transmissions
- master cylinders
- torque converters
- radiators
- heater cores
- fuel tanks



Best Management Practices (*cont.*)

- Plug all hoses after draining. Plugs, small balls, bolts and golf tees work well to plug rubber hoses. Crimp all metal lines.
- Pour collected fluids into properly labeled containers immediately after draining. Use or reuse all clean fluids such as gasoline and antifreeze.



For more information about storing wastes, refer to the “Storing Hazardous Waste” Fact Sheet.

- Store all parts, scrap and cores in a leak-proof container (if there is a possibility of fluids leaking) or on a covered and impervious (concrete) surface with spill controls. Parts and cores should be stored in closed bins or in a covered area to keep rainwater and snow from coming into contact with them. This will help prevent polluted run-off from contaminating surrounding soil or surface waters.