



## RESOURCES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HELP

### Q How can I help keep our waters clean and healthy?

- Educate your staff about common surface water pollution sources (spills, leaky containers and vehicles, soaps and cleaners).
- Have a spill kit and written spill plan on site and readily available in case of a spill.
- Use tight fitting lids, cover outdoor storage areas and use secondary containment measures.
- Use drip pans and absorbent pads at taps and spigots in case of incidental spills.
- Sweep outdoor paved areas regularly with a broom, vacuum truck or mechanical sweeper to remove debris.
- Regularly maintain drainage facilities such as catch basins, oil/water separators, stormwater vaults and other systems.

*Oil, grease, soaps and other cleansers can be fatal to fish and aquatic species, even in small doses.*

#### Snohomish County Public Works Surface Water Management

425-388-3464

[www.surfacewater.info](http://www.surfacewater.info)

[pw.surface.water@snoco.org](mailto:pw.surface.water@snoco.org)

#### Snohomish Health District Moderate Risk Waste Program, Solid Waste & Toxics Section

425-339-5250

[www.snohd.org](http://www.snohd.org)

[swtquestions@shd.snohomish.wa.gov](mailto:swtquestions@shd.snohomish.wa.gov)

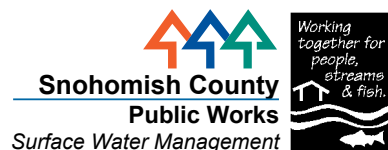
#### Washington State Department of Ecology

425-649-7000

[www.ecy.wa.gov/water.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/water.html)

#### Hazmat Spill Contractor List:

[www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/spills/spills.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/spills/spills.html)



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# BUSINESS INSPECTION PROGRAM



Working in partnership with the business community to:

- eliminate pollutant sources associated with everyday activities, and
- prevent contaminants from entering the storm drainage systems and surface waters in Snohomish County.



Snohomish County is required to inspect businesses and industrial sites for compliance with the Snohomish County Water Pollution Control Code (SCC 7.53) and the Snohomish County Drainage Manual, Volume IV.

The goal of the Business Inspection Program is to reduce pollutant and non-stormwater discharges to the stormwater system by:

- educating the business, multi-family and agricultural communities to understand their role in pollution prevention, and
- providing the necessary guidance to eliminate pollutants from the Snohomish County stormwater conveyance system and ultimately our streams, lakes and Puget Sound.



*Keep containers tightly covered and positioned on spill pallets. This helps prevent contaminants from leaking onto floors and making their way into the storm drain system.*

*Most storm drains in unincorporated Snohomish County drain to streams and lakes without passing through any filtration system.*

**Q Will I be charged a fee for the inspection visit?**

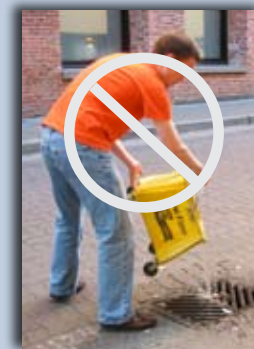
No. Surface water fees throughout the county were increased in 2009 to provide funding for this and other surface water programs.

**Q How will inspections help my business keep our waters clean?**

Inspectors will review the business operation and provide:

- alternative practices for how to keep pollution from entering the storm drain system, including cleaning and washing activities,
- remedies for improperly stored materials,
- suggestions for storm drain system maintenance,
- information about spill kits and spill plans,
- solutions for uncovered or leaking dumpsters, and
- strategies for staff training to implement these practices.

*Keep a spill kit and spill plan on site; it can save you thousands of dollars and a large cleanup effort. Kits are available through a number of vendors.*



*Dispose of mop water and other cleaning solutions into a utility sink.*



**Q What will happen if problems are found?**

In most cases inspectors will provide a list of conditions that need to be addressed and will provide a timetable for compliance. A re-inspection may be necessary to ensure that the remedies have been implemented. In a small number of cases involving ongoing pollution or spills, additional alternatives may be required, such as enforcement measures.

*Place drums and pails inside a secondary container so spills and leaks do not end up on the floor. When pouring liquids, use funnels and other measures to help direct the flow.*

