Pollution Prevention for Snow Plow Drivers

HOW TO COMPLY WITH ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

@DOEE_DC
WHY DO WE CARE?

1. Pollution
2. Health impacts
3. Environmental regulations

- Exhaust
- Stormwater pollution
- Asthma
- Fish advisory
Exhaust is the #1 contributor to District air pollution

1. Health Impacts
   - Headaches, dizziness, and trouble breathing
   - Soot causes lung cancer and cardiovascular disease

2. Environmental Harm
   - Increased ozone
   - Climate change

In some areas of Washington, 1 in 3 children has Asthma. That is more than twice the national average of 1 in 7 children.
AIR REGULATIONS

1. Do NOT idle for more than 3 minutes - it is illegal!
   ● Up to 5 minutes if it is below freezing

2. Where NOT to idle:
   ● In residential areas
   ● At loading docks
   ● By building air intakes
Rain and snow melt run off hard surfaces and become stormwater runoff.

Runoff picks up pollution and carries it into stormdrains.
2/3 of stormdrains empty into our streams and rivers with little to no treatment
STORMWATER REGULATIONS

Clean Water Act
- Protects rivers and streams from polluted stormwater
- Regulates discharges
- Sets water quality standards

Municipal Operations
- EPA Consent Order
- District-wide Stormwater Permit
- Industrial Facility Permits
STORMWATER POLLUTION

Anything other than stormwater

- Dirt
- Trash
- Wash water and soaps
- Vehicle and equipment fluids
- Pesticides and fertilizers
- Paints and solvents
- Salt and Brine
- Rust
- Pet waste
SALT POLLUTION

While salt is naturally occurring, too much is destructive:
- Contaminate drinking water
- Accumulate to toxic levels in soils
- Damage native animal habitat

Growing concern:
- More complaints
- Drinking water quality
- Health of rivers and streams

SALT BURN

OVER-SALTING

DRINKING WATER
RESPONSIBILITIES

- MAINTAIN EQUIPMENT
- MINIMIZE SALT USE
- PREVENT & CLEANUP SPILLS
- PRACTICE GOOD HOUSEKEEPING
MAINTAIN EQUIPMENT

1. Conduct pre- and post-trip inspections
2. Do not delay repairs
3. Wash vehicle and equipment in designated areas
MINIMIZE SALT USE

1. Travel at a reasonable speed
2. Set spreader to designated application rate
3. Only apply where and as often as directed
4. Do not spin off excess

Older trucks must stop spreader if stopped
PREVENT AND CLEANUP SPILLS

1. Salt Spills
   ● Never overload trucks
   ● Close your gate
   ● Store salt inside – return to dome
   ● Clean up salt spills ASAP

2. Fluid Spills and Leaks
   ● Keep an eye out
   ● Clean it up immediately
SPILL REPORTING

● Call 911 or FEMS if it gets into a public storm drain or cannot be controlled
● Notify facility staff of any spills or leaks
PRACTICE GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

KEEP IT CLEAN & TIDY

COVER & ELEVATE STORAGE

UNCOVERED STORAGE

KEEP IN SECONDARY CONTAINMENT

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GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

LITTER

SPILLS & LEAKS

POOR STORAGE

CLOSE LIDS

CLEAN UP

CLOSE & PUT AWAY
Prevent Air Pollution
1. Don’t idle for more than 3 minutes
2. Avoid idling in residential areas, at loading docks, and by building air intakes

Prevent Stormwater Pollution
1. Maintain equipment
2. Minimize salt use
3. Prevent and cleanup spills
4. Practice good housekeeping
QUESTIONS?

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