DID YOU KNOW?

Stormwater runoff from the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) areas, which serves two-thirds of the District, drains into local streams and rivers with little to no treatment.

Rain can wash pollutants, such as oil, grease, and brake dust, from your shop into storm drains that empty into nearby waterways where pollutants harm the environment and human health.

Find out where your shop is located: https://bit.ly/DOESewerLookup

WASTE AIRBAG AND CRASH SENSOR MANAGEMENT

Many Takata airbags are currently being recalled. EPA has issued an interim rule for managing recalled airbags to speed up the process. This rule excludes airbag waste from the hazardous waste requirements so long as certain conditions are met.

Airbags that have been deployed are not included in the recall, are not hazardous waste, and may be placed in the trash.

How to dispose of waste airbags and crash sensors:

1. Never reuse recalled Takata airbags and/or airbag inflators. Other airbags and inflators that are not part of the recall may be reused under certain circumstances; check with the manufacturer.

2. Store waste airbag inflators in an appropriate, labeled container that is designed to address the risk posed by the inflator. Options include using the container the new airbag came in or purchasing a kit to store the inflator safely.
   - Label the container “Airbag Waste – Do Not Reuse”
   - Cardboard boxes are not acceptable

3. When storing waste airbag inflators at your site:
   - Never store more than 250 inflators at a time
   - Do not store inflators for more than 180 days

4. Keep shipping records and confirmation of receipt for waste disposal inflators for 3 years.

5. Dispose of crash sensors with hazardous waste if it contains mercury and store them in closed containers. These are separate from the airbag inflator.

Additional information:
- Affected Vehicles List www.nhtsa.gov/equipment/takata-recall-spotlightconsumersvehicles-affected

SIGN UP

The GreenWrench Program provides free pollution prevention guidance and training to District auto body and repair shops. GreenWrench services are free and include:

1. Technical assistance visits
2. Workshops
3. Toolbox Newsletter
4. Certification

Sign up online at does.dc.gov/service/greenwrench or by calling (202) 645-4231.
District’s, and most major cities have anti-idling laws that are similar to the Maryland and Virginia laws. It is illegal for gasoline or diesel-powered trucks or buses on public or private space to idle for more than three (3) minutes on public or on private property. It is illegal for gasoline or diesel-powered trucks or buses on public or private space to idle for more than three (3) minutes while the truck or bus is parked, stopped, or standing. Exemptions include:

1. Private, non-commercial passenger vehicles
2. Up to 5 minutes when temperatures are below 32°F
3. Power takeoff equipment

Under the pilot program, citizens can report engine idling violations using the District of Columbia’s 311 Mobile App (DC311 App). The information in the App allows residents to report violations in a manner that allows for civil enforcement of the District’s Engine Anti-idling Law. This means businesses and other entities can now receive violations in the mail.

Once a citizen’s DC311 App report is received by DOEE, the report is reviewed by an inspector for completeness. The citizen may then be asked to fill out and sign an affidavit with information about the violation and sworn under penalty of perjury, and if necessary provide testimony in an administrative hearing.

Background: The Engine Anti-idling Law (20 DCMR § 900.1) prohibits the idling of gasoline or diesel-powered trucks or buses on public or private space for more than three (3) minutes while the truck or bus is parked, stopped, or standing. Exemptions include:

1. Private, non-commercial passenger vehicles
2. Up to 5 minutes when temperatures are below 32°F
3. Power takeoff equipment

Learn more about the District’s Engine Anti-idling Law at doee.dc.gov/service/engine-anti-idling-law

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

Did you know?

Maryland and Virginia have anti-idling laws that are similar to the District’s, and most major cities now have them too.

ENGINE IDLING: Citizen’s Enforcement Pilot

DOEE recently launched a Citizen’s Engine Idling Enforcement Pilot Program that allows residents to report idling violations. Vehicle exhaust is the largest source of air pollution in the District, and it can have serious impacts on health, especially for youth and people with respiratory conditions like asthma.

Under the pilot program, citizens can report engine idling violations using the District of Columbia’s 311 Mobile App (DC311 App). The information in the App allows residents to report violations in a manner that allows for civil enforcement of the District’s Engine Anti-idling Law. This means businesses and other entities can now receive violations in the mail.

ROOFTOP SOLAR: Protecting the Environment and Your Bottom Line

It is no secret that installing solar panels on your business can help reduce or even eliminate monthly electrical bills. With the introduction of the Federal Solar Investment Tax Credit in 2006, investment in solar energy by businesses saw a huge increase. During the same period of time, the cost to install solar panel systems has dropped more than 70%. As a result of the numerous tax breaks, rebates, financing options, and reduction in installation costs, there has never been a better time to install solar panels.

In Northeast, AYT Auto Services is helping the District go green by investing in rooftop solar panels. Shop manager Bo Wu, who had solar panels installed in February, is optimistic that the panels will reduce operational costs and help his shop become more environmentally friendly. Bo even managed to save on the upfront investment by going with a financing option through DOEE.

Using renewable energy, such as solar, reduces greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution associated with energy production. Pairing this reduction with other small changes, like switching out old shop lights for new LED lighting and making the change to EPA certified Safer Choice products, provides a very real step forward in reducing pollution from auto body shops like AYT Auto Services, and other businesses across the District.

Learn more about the District’s Engine Anti-idling Law at doee.dc.gov/service/engine-anti-idling-law

Learn about DOEE Solar Financing Options at doee.dc.gov/service/solar-initiatives


Please note that the text continues on the next page with additional information about energy-related initiatives and contacts within the District of Columbia Government’s Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE).