

Chemical handling and storage



Follow these beneficial practices to help protect our community's drinking water.



Spill containment

- Keep chemicals away from storm drains, sanitary sewers and watercourses
- Seal floor cracks
- Complete drain assessments
- Cover or decommission drainage points



Record keeping

Document and retain dates and details for:

- Staff training
- Spill kit inventory checks
- Storage inspections and measurements



Storage tanks

- Store chemicals in aboveground, double-walled tanks with automatic leak detection system, corrosion and backflow protection
- Decommission and remove underground storage tanks



Spills plan

- Include prevention and response measures
- Review at least once a year
- Train staff upon hire with annual reviews



Handling

- Continuously supervise delivery and transfer of chemicals by staff trained on spills plan



Spill kits

- Stock with materials appropriate for chemicals on site
- Complete monthly inventory checks and restock as required
- Place in accessible locations at every chemical handling and storage location on-site



Storing smaller quantities

- Remove unknown and unused chemicals
- Store in appropriate containers as identified in Safety Data Sheets
- Store within a berm, dyke, pallet, tray or other system that can contain 110% of the largest container



Storage areas

- Store in secured area with restricted access
- Protect chemicals from all vehicular traffic



Regular inspections

- Inspect chemical storage areas and storage tanks at least once a week



Report all spills immediately

- Display emergency contacts including the Region of Waterloo

