

# Floor Drains



## Potential Environmental Impacts:

Repair shop wastewater typically contains chemicals such as oils, degreasers, gasoline, diesel, detergents, heavy metals and antifreeze. In some instances it may contain solvents. If discharged through a dry well or septic system to the ground, these chemicals may render drinking water supplies unfit for human consumption. If discharged directly or indirectly to surface water these chemicals can be toxic to fish and other aquatic life.

## Legal Requirements:

- Floor drains from mechanical shops must be connected either to a holding tank (1,000 gallon minimum capacity) which meets the standards of tanks installed in accordance with RCSA §22a-449(d)-1, or to the sanitary sewer with an oil and grit separating tank (1,000 gallon minimum capacity). You may not discharge this wastewater into a septic system. If you send less than 500 gallons of wastewater per day to the municipal sewer, filing for a CT-DEP permit is not required, but you must follow all the BMPs listed below to ensure that petroleum product is removed from the water before discharge. If you send more than 500 gallons per day to the municipal sewer, contact CT-DEP's Bureau of Water Management at (860) 424-3018 for more information on the *General Permit for Miscellaneous Discharges of Sewer Compatible (MiSC) Wastewater*.
- Waste oil generated from oil/water separators or wastewater from holding tanks must be tested for hazardous components and properly disposed [40 CFR 279 and RCSA §22a-449(c)-199; 40 CFR 262.11 and RCSA §22a-449(c)-102(a)(2)(A)]. See Appendices B and C for more information.

## Best Management Practices:

- ★ Avoid or minimize the use of any ammoniated, petroleum or chlorinated solvent-based cleaning agents.
- ★ Sweep or vacuum floors often and immediately before floor washing.
- ★ Clean up fluid spills quickly with absorbent material. See Appendices B and C for disposal information. Cover floor drains if there is a spill. There are inexpensive covers available for this purpose.
- ★ Permanently seal floor drains with concrete if they do not connect to a sewer or holding tank.

## Checklist for Clean Marina Certification:

No Clean Marina certification criteria specific to floor drains.