Properly Store Wastes

As a small quantity generator, you are required to manage and store your waste materials in a manner that will not pose a threat to human health or the environment per Washington State Dangerous Waste Regulations, WAC 173-303 section 70(8). The City of Shoreline Stormwater regulations require hazardous materials located outdoors be stored in a covered area with secondary containment. Using one or more of the best management practices (BMPs) below will reduce your liability as well in case of a spill or leak. Please refer to the enclosed brochure, “Preventing Spills”.

Best management practices options for storing waste materials include:

1. Hazardous waste storage areas should be provided with secondary containment and have an impervious base that is free of cracks or gaps beneath the containers to contain leaks and spills.

2. For only a few drums of waste material that are stored inside, you can place them on an elevated platform that drains into a closed tub. Check for compatibility if using the same tub. The tub should have the capacity to hold 110 percent of the volume of the largest container or 10 percent of the volume of all the containers, whichever is greater. For more information, refer to page 9 of your Hazardous Waste Directory. For information on where to purchase secondary containment devices, please refer to your Hazardous Waste Directory under Spill/Spill Control or http://www.lhwmp.org/home/YellowBook/index.aspx.

3. Another approach to secondary containment is to build a water-tight curb completely around drum storage areas; or, if there are no floor drains in the shop, build a water tight curb next to exit doors and garage openings to prevent waste material from flowing outside into a storm drain. You can safely store your wastes indoors without using a water-tight curb or secondary containment if:
   a. the waste containers are located far away from doors so that if a drum leaks or spills, wastes are contained inside and can be cleaned up, and if
   b. the shop has no indoor floor drains that waste material could reach should a spill occur.

4. Wastes stored outdoors must have secondary containment as mentioned above. The area should be protected from storm runoff and should be covered to keep out rain water.