



Stormwater drain markers remind us that we are all connected to our surrounding environment.



Wood Refinishing & Manufacturing

Protect Our Aquatic Environment by Preventing Stormwater Contamination

Spill Prevention

Spills must be prevented from entering the stormwater drainage system. Solvents and thinners are flammable and can create explosive conditions in our sewers and must not be allowed to enter any sewers or plumbing fixtures at any time. Wood debris, paint and other chemicals can be toxic or harmful to the environment and must not be allowed to enter the stormwater drainage system.

To be prepared in the event of a spill, develop a spill response plan which includes a spill response kit with absorbent materials that are appropriate for products used by your facility. Train employees to follow the spill response plan.

In the event of an accidental spill to the environment immediately contact the **Provincial Emergency Program (PEP)** at **1.800.663.3456**. In the event that the chemical is flammable, toxic, corrosive or has other hazardous properties call the **Surrey Fire Department** immediately at **911**.

Any person responsible for stormwater drainage system contamination may be held liable under the following environmental legislation:

- Federal Fisheries Act
- BC Hazardous Waste Regulation
- BC Environmental Management Act
- Surrey By-law No. 16610

For more information

RCBC Recycle Hotline
604.732.9253

Product Care Association
604.592.2972
www.productcare.org

Metro Vancouver
Air Quality & Source Control
604.436.6777

City of Surrey
Drainage & Environment Section
604.591.4321

Surrey Fire Department
604.543.6760

BC Ministry of Environment
604.582.5200

If you witness a spill or chemicals being washed into the stormwater drain, please contact the City of Surrey's Engineering Department at **604-590-7226**, after 4:30pm at **604-591-4431**.



Wood Furniture Refinishing & Manufacturing

Fillers, sealers, stains, shellacs, varnishes, lacquers, paints, solvents, thinners, paint removers, and adhesives are just some of the supplies commonly used for various wood product refinishing and manufacturing operations. All of which can be toxic or harmful to the environment and must not be allowed to enter the stormwater drainage system. Stormwater drains discharge untreated stormwater runoff into local creeks and streams. There are over 1500 km of open creeks and streams in Surrey. These creeks and streams form an important network of watercourses which provide natural habitat for salmon, trout, and other aquatic life.

Who should use this information?

- Furniture refinishers
- Furniture manufactures
- Cabinet and shelving manufactures
- Wood shops
- Wood finishers

Best Management Practices

To prevent contaminants from entering the stormwater drainage system and ultimately our creeks and streams, please observe the following practices:

- Avoid using solvents to remove existing finishes. Instead use mechanical methods such as hand scraping, a heat gun or electric sanding.
- Chemical or mechanical paint stripping residue, paints, paint chips and paint dusts containing lead, mercury, tributyl tin or other hazardous or leachable compounds, may be considered "special wastes" under the Environmental Management Act and may require special disposal considerations. Contact the BC Ministry of Environment for disposal requirements
- Use citrus-based paint removers whenever possible. They are less toxic than other chemical strippers.
- Do not clean out brushes or other applicators in a location that leads to a stormwater drain.
- For water-based paints, paint out brushes to the greatest extent possible, and rinse in a location that is connected to the sanitary sewer.
- For oil-based paints, paint out brushes to the greatest extent possible. Clean with thinner and then filter and re-use the thinners or solvents.
- Used solvents and thinners must be collected and must not be allowed to enter any stormwater drain, plumbing fixture or be disposed of in the garbage.
- Collect all leftover paints, solvents and other wastes; use leftover paint on the next job or give it to a charity for their use. Contact the RCBC Recycling Hotline for the nearest paint and solvent collection depot.
- Sweep areas as needed where dust accumulates from refinishing and manufacturing operations. Use power vacuum cleaners and sweepers to minimize generating airborne dust and for more efficient dust removal.
- Do not sweep wood chips, shavings or other debris into areas where it could enter the stormwater drainage system.
- Train employees on proper coating application, chemical usage and waste handling techniques. Educate them on calculating precise thinner to paint ratios to minimize coating waste.

