JOINT BASE LEWIS MCCHORD
PERMIT REQUIRED MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
WASTEWATER PRETREATMENT

This permit required management practice (PRMP) is being issued instead of an individual permit. PRMPs are mandatory under the Clean Water Act (CWA) and promote compliance with the NPDES permit requirements for stormwater and pretreatment programs. The intent is to provide efficient and effective procedures that protect personnel, plant operations, groundwater, surface water, marine waters and prevent wastewater treatment plant pass through. When these PRMPs are followed properly, they are an effective means of source control which prevents potential pass through or 'slugs' of untreated pollutants from entering the sanitary sewer system or illicit discharges to the stormwater system.

OIL/WATER SEPARATORS (OWSs)
(For PW Staff maintaining OWSs)

Oil/water separators (OWSs) are devices used on Army Installations to separate oil from wastewater discharges. They are installed to pre-treat wastewater prior to discharge into sanitary sewer systems. They employ various separation methods including gravity, filtering, flocculation, and flotation. OWSs are typically used in maintenance and industrial areas that receive oily wastewater from lubricating, fueling, vehicle and heavy equipment repair, and steam or pressure washers. Clean products, degreasers, solvents and hot/steam water can interfere with effectiveness of OWS.

To Properly Maintain an OWS:

1. To remove oil from an OWS with separate or integral used oil holding tanks, pump when the oil volume approaches 75 percent of the tank's total capacity. Call Public Works (PW) Environmental Services, (253) 966-3170, if an OWS tank is 75 percent (75%) or more full and/or the volume alarm has been activated.
2. For an OWS without distinct used oil holding tanks, remove oil when the thickness is approximately 1 inch. Never let the oil thickness reach 2 inches or greater.
3. Solids accumulation in the OWS separation chamber should never exceed 25 percent (25%) (10 percent [10%], if hydraulically overloaded, wherein the detention time at maximum flow is less than 45 minutes).
4. Schedule routine solids removal for an OWS either annually or semi-annually based on past historical records and current use. Cleaning frequency may be adjusted based on service order requests, inspection records, and/or cleaning reports.
5. Conduct regular inspection of the OWS oil coalescing media. Clean the media in coalescing OWSs annually or more frequently at the discretion of PW Environmental Division.
6. Remove miscellaneous debris, empty buckets, broken equipment, etc. from areas around an OWS. Check for and remove debris floating on tanks.

7. Visually inspect oil tanks for oil level and oil tank fittings to ensure they are tight and secure. At wash racks, inspect valves for hoses and the condition of booming in drain troughs.
8. Replace and properly dispose of contaminated booms.
9. If an OWS or oil collection tank need repairs or needs to be cleaned, obtain a Service Order at (253) 967-3131.
10. Practice proper spill prevention and cleanup. Ensure there are sufficient spill response supplies including absorbent booming, oil collection boxes, and over-pack drums are in good condition and readily available.

For additional pretreatment information, contact the Public Works Pretreatment Program at usarmy.jblm.imcom-central.list.dpw-pretreatment@mail.mil.

NOTE: All PRMPs are in the process of significant format and content update to meet multiple NPDES permit discharge requirements, JBLM 200-2 and JBLM 200-3.