



## POLLUTION PREVENTION BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the West Virginia Division of Highways (DOH) are concerned about the potential release of environmental pollutants during paving operations and on construction projects. One of the biggest concerns is the potential release of cleaning solvents and oil-like fluids to creeks or rivers. That's because it is a violation of state and federal regulations to release materials to a body of water in an amount that causes a sheen on the surface of the water. It takes very little diesel fuel to cause a sheen and other environmentally friendly solvents, such as citrus-based products or animal fat-based products, are also likely to cause this problem. Other concerns include the dumping of waste asphalt and other materials along the roadside and the lack of proper clean-up of spills associated with vehicles and equipment.

The following Best Management Practices (BMPs) have been developed by the Asphalt Pavement Association of WV, in cooperation with the DEP and DOH to help contractors comply with environmental laws and regulations while using materials like diesel fuel and environmentally friendly solvents. These BMPs are to serve as a guideline to help workers operate their equipment in a way that will reduce harm to the environment.

### Cleaning of Pavers

- At the end of the work shift, remove all the excess asphalt from the paver that you can, using pry bars and other hand tools.
- The asphalt removed from the paver should either be incorporated into the project, scarified and blended into the stabilized shoulder if practical, or picked up and hauled back to the plant.
- Asphalt should never be disposed of over a hill, in a body of water, or other non-permitted disposal area.
- Park the paver in an area that is not near a stream, wetland, or ditch that flows directly into a nearby stream or wetland.
- If you cannot park the paver away from these areas, use absorbent pads under the paver to catch drips of solvent.
- If you are working in a park, wildlife, scenic or other recreation area, you need to be extra careful with the use of solvents and may want to use absorbent pads.
- Use as little solvent as possible to lubricate, not clean, the surfaces and moving parts of the paver.
- The solvent should be sprayed on the equipment, not poured.
- The solvent should not form puddles under the equipment.
- If you need to use enough solvent that it makes puddles on the ground that could be washed to a stream during a rainfall, use absorbent pads to catch it while you apply the solvent.
- If you use absorbent pads, do not leave them on the ground beneath the paver. Allow the solvent to drip off, then pick up the pads and store them for future re-use and disposal.
- The absorbent pads can be used several times, but they must be thrown away before they are wet and soggy. As long as the solvent cannot be squeezed from the pads, they can be disposed of like other garbage. They should be taken back to the plant for proper disposal.
- If the soaked pad is contaminated with a "listed hazardous waste solvent," proper disposal as a hazardous waste is required. Please consult the DEP Office of Waste Management at 558-5989 if you are unsure of the solvent status or proper disposal.
- Store the pads in closed containers between uses and before disposal.

## Cleaning of Truck Tailgates

- Park the truck in an area that is not near a stream, wetland or ditch that flows directly into a nearby stream or wetland.
- Apply solvent using a spray bottle or cloth so that you are using only the amount of solvent that you need to lubricate the hinges and tailgate.
- Do not pour solvent down the bed of the truck to lubricate the bed.
- If you have to use enough solvent that it makes puddles on the ground that could be washed to a body of water during a rainfall, use absorbent pads to catch it while you apply the solvent.
- If you use absorbent pads, do not leave them on the ground beneath the truck. Allow the solvent to drip off, then pick up the pads and store them for future re-use and disposal.
- The absorbent pads can be used several times, but they must be thrown away before they are wet and soggy. As long as the solvent cannot be squeezed from the pads, they can be disposed of like other garbage. They should be taken back to your shop for proper disposal.
- If the soaked pad is contaminated with a "listed hazardous waste solvent," proper disposal as a hazardous waste is required. Please consult the DEP Office of Waste Management at 558-5989 if you are unsure of the solvent status or proper disposal.
- Store the pads in closed containers between uses and before they are thrown away.

## Equipment Cleaning, Fueling and Maintenance and Good Housekeeping

- Vehicles carrying fuel and other maintenance fluids need to carry a spill kit, appropriate Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) and emergency phone numbers for use in the event of a significant spill.
- Drivers of these vehicles need to be trained in how to handle and report a spill.
- When cleaning tools, servicing equipment or doing routine maintenance, use care to avoid spills, leaks and drips of equipment and cleaning fluids.
- Use absorbent pads during these activities, if needed, and clean up any spills.
- Equipment should be maintained so as to prevent leaks of petroleum products.
- When cleaning up spills, do not leave the material used to absorb the spilled material on the ground. Collect it and return it to the plant for proper disposal.
- During construction, tack over-spray should be covered or cleaned up.
- Use general good housekeeping practices and do not leave waste behind you on the job.
- In the event of any spill of solvents, fuel, or other fluids to the ground or to a body of water, immediately contact your supervisor regarding additional clean-up or containment which may be required. Contaminated soils need to be cleaned up and disposed of properly.
- Spills to bodies of water must be reported to the WV Spill Notification Line at (800) 642-3074.

Electronic copies of this document can be downloaded at [www.asphaltwv.com](http://www.asphaltwv.com)



*. . . using all available resources to protect  
and restore our environment in concert with the  
needs of present and future generations . . .*