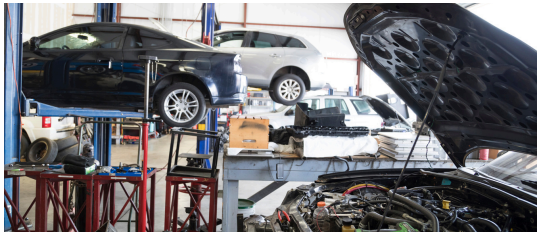
SEWER USE BY-LAW

PROTECTING OUR SEWER SYSTEM STARTS WITH PROPER DISPOSAL.
The City of St. Thomas regulates discharges to municipal sanitary and storm sewers under By-Law No. 82-2024. The By-Law places limits on materials that may be discharged to municipal sewers and is enforced by the City's Pollution Control section.

Pollution Control inspectors have the right to inspect sanitary or storm sewers servicing your garage.

FINES

Personal
First Time Offence: $ 10,000
Second Time Offence: $ 25,000
Corporation
First Time Offence: $ 50,000
Second Time Offence: $ 100,000



SPILL RESPONSE CONTACT NUMBERS

City of St. Thomas Pollution Control
Spill Response
519-631-1098 X 6222

Ministry of the Environment,
Conservation and Parks
1-519-873-5000
Spills Action Centre:
1-800-268-6060

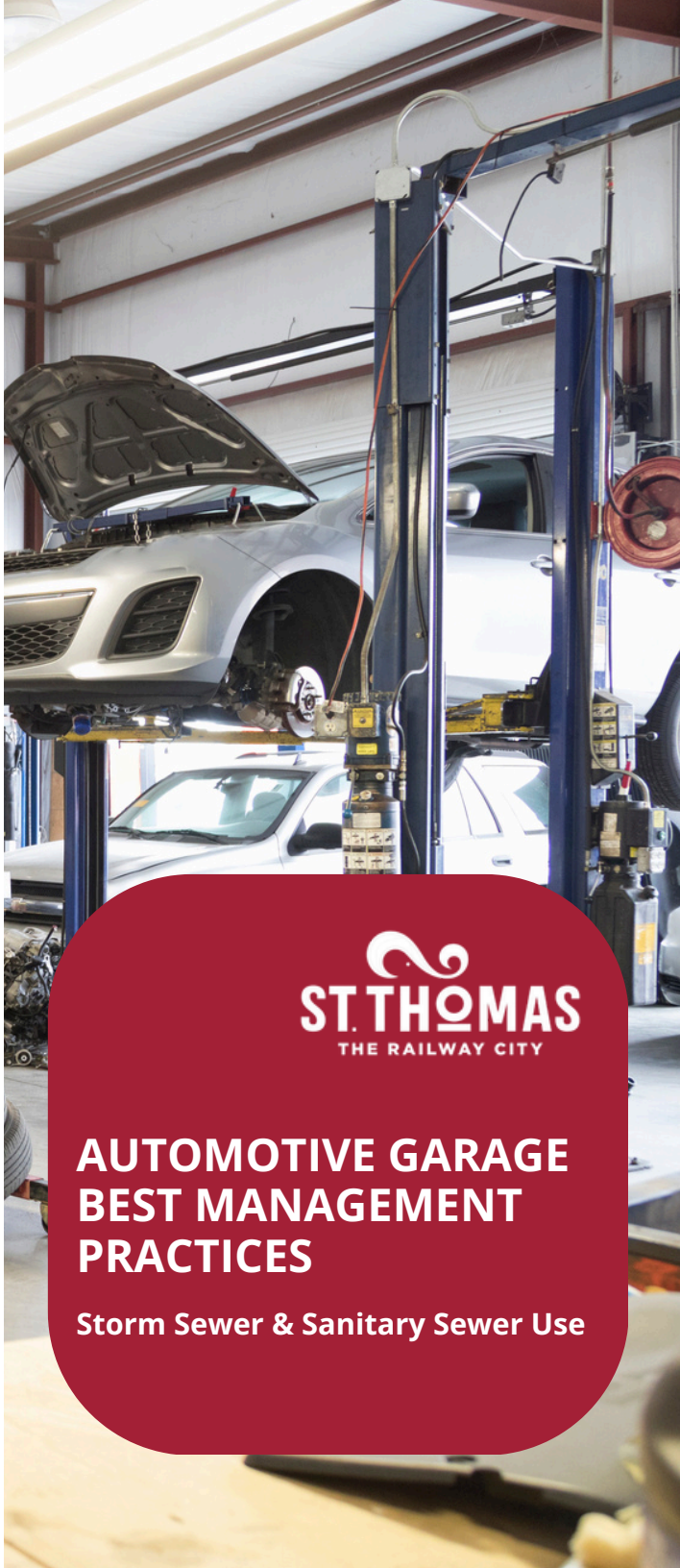
QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION?

(t) 519-631-1098 x 6222
clacroix@stthomas.ca

Mailing Address:
Environmental Services
PO Box 520
545 Talbot St.
St. Thomas, ON
N5P 3V7

Scan the QR code for more information about sewer use and spill prevention.

ST. THOMAS
THE RAILWAY CITY



ST. THOMAS
THE RAILWAY CITY

AUTOMOTIVE GARAGE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Storm Sewer & Sanitary Sewer Use

SEWER USE FACTS

There are 2 types of municipal sewers that may be servicing your garage:

Sanitary sewers are connected to your garage's bathroom facilities, and floor drains. These sewers carry sanitary wastes to an interceptor then to a treatment plant before releasing them to the environment.

Storm sewers carry rainwater from the area surrounding your garage directly into a river stream or lake without treatment.



DID YOU KNOW?

- Absolutely **nothing** is allowed to be washed down the storm sewer outside your garage or in the roadway. This includes any solids, soaps, de-greasers and car fluids that may be present.
- Your garage's sanitary sewer must be fitted with an oil interceptor.
- Properly designed and maintained interceptors can remove up to 98% of oil and solids if properly maintained.
- Provincial law states that the service station operator must have a current written agreement for the collection and management of wastes with an approved carrier. These wastes should be disposed of on a regular basis.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

1. KEEP STORM DRAINS FREE OF WASTE

What to do: Never wash or pour oils, fluids, soaps, degreasers or other waste into storm drains.
Why it matters: Stormwater flows directly to local rivers, streams and lakes without treatment.

2. CLEAN FLOORS THE RIGHT WAY

What to do: Direct wash water to sanitary drains connected to your oil interceptor. Keep wastewater out of parking lots and storm drains.
Why it matters: Wastewater entering the sanitary system can pass through your oil interceptor before going to the treatment plant.

3. COMPLETE REPAIRS INDOORS OR UNDER COVER

What to do: Perform vehicle repairs indoors or under a covered area whenever possible.
Why it matters: This helps prevent spills and leaks from being carried into storm sewers by rainwater runoff.

4. STORE FLUIDS AND MATERIALS SAFELY

What to do: Keep storage containers sealed and well maintained. Use curbing and a canopy around storage areas.
Why it matters: Proper storage reduces the risk of spills and costly environmental cleanups.

5. REPORT SPILLS IMMEDIATELY

What to do: Report any discharge to a storm sewer immediately to the municipality and the Ministry of the Environment.
Why it matters: Quick action can help prevent contaminants from reaching the environment.

6. CLEAN UP SPILLS WITHOUT WATER

What to do: Use dry cleanup methods whenever possible. If water is necessary, direct it to sanitary drains connected to your interceptor.
Why it matters: Dry cleanup reduces the amount of contaminants entering the sewer system.

7. MAINTAIN YOUR OIL INTERCEPTOR

What to do: Keep your oil interceptor operational and schedule regular inspections, cleanouts and maintenance.
Why it matters:
An interceptor becomes less effective as it reaches its capacity.

8. KEEP GOOD RECORDS

What to do: Record interceptor inspections, cleanouts and spills.
Why it matters: Good records help you stay on top of maintenance and identify potential spill risks.

9. DISPOSE OF AUTOMOTIVE WASTE PROPERLY

What to do: Never pour vehicle fluids or hazardous waste into sinks, toilets, floor drains, storm drains or garbage. Use appropriate waste collection and disposal services.
Why it matters: Proper disposal helps prevent contamination of sewer systems and protects health and safety.

10. RECYCLE WHEN POSSIBLE

What to do: Recycle solvents, paints, oil filters, antifreeze, motor oil, batteries and lubricants.
Why it matters: Recycling keeps these materials out of City sewer systems and the environment and may also save your business money.