

AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS – AIRCRAFT LAVATORY SERVICE

ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINES

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance on expectations for managing aircraft lavatory services in a way that minimizes environmental impacts and maintains compliance with DEN's regulatory requirements. Each airport tenant, contractor, and operator conducting lavatory water and waste operations is responsible for understanding the applicable regulations and managing their activities accordingly. This Environmental Guideline is meant as guidance and does not supersede any regulations.

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

The following guideline outlines the management of "blue water" and "blue water" waste from aircraft lavatory servicing activities (e.g. sanitary sewage collection/disposal and associated rinse water produced during servicing).

EXPECTATIONS

Shall Not

- Do not discharge lavatory waste to sanitary sewer connections other than at triturator (pulverizing) facilities.
- Do not perform lavatory truck clean out/backflushing at any location other than at triturator facilities.
- Do not wash lavatory waste into the trench drains. (See Emergency Response Section below.)
- Do not dispose of used absorbent in the triturator facilities. (See Emergency Response Section below.)

Best Practices

- Complete the DEN Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) Industrial Activities Survey/Matrix to assist in determining other potentially relevant environmental guidelines and whether a SWMP is required. A copy of the completed Matrix should be available upon request.
- Lavatory service equipment shall be equipped with absorbent, drip pans, and other spill response equipment.
- Perform routine preventative maintenance of equipment, including hoses and fittings used for transferring lavatory waste, as necessary.
- Lavatory service equipment should be inspected daily for evidence of leaking fluids. Where evidence of a leak is observed, use a drip pan, report to supervisor, and repair the equipment as soon as practical.
- Drain the aircraft connecting hose as completely as possible into the storage tank after servicing an aircraft. Properly secure all hoses, valves, and equipment when transporting or transferring wastes to eliminate leakage or spills.

- Practice good housekeeping techniques and follow company lavatory service and triturator use procedures.
- Keep the equipment in good working order through preventative maintenance; repair or replace worn equipment before leaks develop.
- Each operator or tenant conducting aircraft lavatory servicing must have spill response equipment readily available in proximity of the activity.
- Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for surfactant/disinfectant solutions shall be available for all personnel conducting these activities. Manufacturers of products will supply these documents on demand.
- Employee training programs shall inform personnel at all levels of responsibility who are involved in industrial activities that may impact stormwater runoff. Stormwater training shall address topics such as spill response, good housekeeping, and material management practices. Contractors or temporary personnel shall be informed of plant operation and design features in order to prevent discharges or spills from occurring.
- Employees should be trained in company lavatory service and triturator use procedures as well as in spill response, which may include on-the-job training. Records of this training should be maintained and available upon request.
- Lavatory service equipment should be emptied of waste prior to parking for any extended period of time.
- Use of drip pans is encouraged in case leaks develop while equipment is parked for an extended period of time.
- Perform surfactant/disinfectant mixing and transfers in the triturator area. This will allow the residues generated from such activities to enter the sanitary sewer system.
- Lavatory spills should be contained and cleaned up as soon as possible using either manual (e.g., absorbents, shovel) or mechanical (e.g., vacuum, sweeper) means to minimize potential stormwater impacts and biological hazards.
- Care must be taken to prevent wastes from reaching any drains at any location other than triturator facilities.
- Solids and liquids, to the extent possible, should be collected, returned to the lavatory truck, and transported to the DEN triturators for disposal. Small amounts of absorbent materials (approximately 5 gallons or less) used for containment and cleanup of any residual liquids can be placed in the commercial compactor or dumpsters for disposal at the municipal solid waste landfill. Large volumes of lavatory waste spill cleanup materials (greater than approximately 5 gallons) are classified as special waste and must be segregated, profiled, and manifested for disposal. The generator of the waste is responsible for completing this paperwork and arranging for the disposal.
- Disinfectants can be used to treat the affected pavement/worker work area. If disinfectants are used, the SDS must be provided to DEN Environmental Services for review and approval for compliance with Metro Wastewater Rules and Regulations. In addition, the residual materials should be cleaned up with a sweeper and the disposed in the triturator rooms or other interior sanitary sewer drain.
- If a spill occurs, call DEN Communications Center immediately at 303-342-4200.

REFERENCES

Contacts

- DEN Communications Center (for spill reporting): 303-342-4200
- DEN Environmental Services (Main Line): 303-342-2730; DENEnvironmental@flydenver.com
- Richard.Langlois@flydenver.com

Additional Resources

- Metro Water Recovery Contribution Permit
- DEN Industrial Stormwater Permit
- DEN Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP), including SWMP Industrial Activities Survey/Matrix and Instructions
- Metro Wastewater Reclamation District Rules and Regulations
- Denver Wastewater Management Division Rules and Regulations, Chapter 7
- Denver Revised Municipal Code, Section 56-102
- State Water Quality Regulations (Regulations 38, 61, and 65)
- DEN Rules and Regulations, Section 180
- State Solid Waste Regulations (6 CCR 1007-2)