

PREVENT STORMWATER POLLUTION



Best Management Practices for Brake and Clutch Repairs



Asbestos has been a component of brake pads and linings, clutch facings and various gaskets for many years. Millions of brakes and clutches on cars, trucks, and on auto parts shelves still contain dangerous levels of the material, although it is not generally used in the production of new brakes or clutches. As asbestos brake and clutch materials wear down through normal automobile use, asbestos-containing dust is released. How you handle dust and cleaning residues during repair work affects whether or not asbestos is released to the outside environment. The mechanic may also carry asbestos dust home on work clothing, endangering family members.

Brake and Clutch Repair/Replacement

- Use a vacuum enclosed system to replace brake linings. This specially designed system encloses the entire brake assembly to control and capture brake dust.
- Designate an area specifically for brake and clutch repairs/replacements.
- Never use an air hose to clean brakes and clutches. This will cause fine asbestos fiber to become airborne and expose other employees or customers.
- Don't use a dry brush, rag, or shop vacuum to clean brakes; this causes fine dust to become airborne.
- Don't use a garden hose to clean brake dust from work areas.
- Equipment should be equipped with high efficiency particulate aerosol (HEPA) filtration systems.
- Use ready to install parts. If rotors/drums or pressure plates need to be resurfaced, use low speed machines to reduce the amount of metal shavings created. Properly dispose of waste metal shavings.
- Never hose-clean work bays into streets, alleys or stormdrains. This action is punishable by fines of up to \$27,500 per violation per day.
- Provide employees with clothing used for repairs of brakes and clutches. Dirty or used clothing should be sent to an industrial type laundry service.
- Wash thoroughly before eating or going home.
- Workers should not take work clothes home, potentially exposing family members to asbestos fibers.
- Don't eat, drink or smoke in work areas. Fibers can be ingested or inhaled causing health problems.
- Dispose of asbestos waste according to federal and local regulations.

Stormdrains are for Rainwater, Pure and Simple.

For further information regarding best management practices, contact the City of Tucson's Department of Transportation Stormwater Management Section at (520) 791-4251



Department of Transportation
Stormwater Management Section

