Parts Washers

Spent parts washer solvents normally represent the largest waste source of vehicle repair shops. Spent parts washer solvents can be a hazardous waste but non-hazardous aqueous solvents for parts washers are now the norm. Avoid contamination of parts washer solvents with other hazardous wastes such as degreasers, brake cleaners, etc.

Correct:
- Utilize the services of a reputable waste hauler.
- Call EHS for help in determining if the sludge and spent solvents are hazardous.
- If you have not already done so, consider switching to a water based parts washer that does not use petroleum based solvents.
- Keep accurate records of spent solvent shipments and disposal for a minimum of five years.

Incorrect:
- Do Not dispose of spent parts washer solvents by pouring them on the ground or into drains, or by evaporating them in the air.
- Do Not mix parts washer solvents with any other wastes, including used oil.
- Do Not use aerosol spray cans near your parts washer.

For more information concerning the proper management of parts washers, contact Frank Stillo in the Dept. of Environment, Health, and Safety at 919-962-5723, 919-962-5507, or via email at fjstillo@ehs.unc.edu