

# Secondary Containment Protects Your Business and Local Waterways

## Why Use Secondary Containment?

Hazardous materials such as petroleum products, paint, antifreeze, and solvents pose a threat to local waterways if the containers they are stored in leak, fail, or spill. Substances should be stored so that if a leak or spill occurs, the materials remain contained and do not contaminate the environment.

## What is Secondary Containment?

*Secondary containment* is a liquid-tight barrier that will contain hazardous materials released from the primary storage container(s). This secondary containment captures potential spills. Secondary containment can be a portable plastic tub, metal drum, pallet with a containerized base, bermed impervious or paved area, dead-end sump, or slanted floor.

## Volume Requirements

The *secondary containment* must hold 110 percent of the volume of the largest container, or 10 percent of the volume of all the containers, whichever is greater.

*Note: Outdoor storage requires covering both the materials and containment, so rainwater does not fill the containment volume.*

## Examples of Secondary Containment

- Place drums on containment pallets, decks, or covered drum spill containment
- Use a double-walled tank for fuel storage
- Place a 5-gallon drum inside a 55-gallon drum
- Place a 5-gallon drum or large fuel tank inside a concrete bunker

## Additional Tips

- Place tight-fitting lids on all containers.
- Label containers (include “hazardous” if applicable).
- Store containers so labels are clearly visible.
- Select container materials for compatibility with stored products or wastes.



## What is stormwater?

Rainwater or snow that can pick up pollution and carry it to local waterways from parking lots and roadways through storm drains or ditches.

**ONLY RAIN DOWN THE STORM DRAIN**



Drums on a containment pallet in a covered outdoor area



Drums on a containment pallet in an indoor area



Drums stored outdoors in covered drum spill containment

