



**Standard Operating Procedure:
Utility Vacuum Truck Waste Management**

Issue Date: 5/1/2024 Version: 4 Review Frequency: Annual

Scope

This procedure applies to the management of the wastes collected by the utility vacuum truck operated by Facilities Management (FM) employees.

Responsibility

Anyone responsible for the management and operation of a vacuum truck on UVA property must comply with this procedure.

Procedures

1. Water contaminated with detergents, debris, chemicals, soils, and other waste products must not be disposed of via the storm sewer system.
2. **Truck Material Discharge Options**

Material	Discharge Options
Storm sewer system wastes	Vacuum Truck Transfer Station and/or landfill
Gravel & Other Construction Debris	CDD landfill or temporary storage at Vacuum Truck Transfer Station
Sanitary wastes, truck rinse water	Moores Creek Treatment Plant or UVA sanitary sewer
Any other materials	Consult Environmental Resources

NOTE: Oil-water separators are NOT to be cleaned out using the vacuum truck. These wastes should be removed by an outside contractor.

3. **General Storm Sewer Waste**
 - a. Storm sewer cleaning waste consists of general debris that collects in storm drainage systems and includes materials such as litter, leaves, soil, sand, gravel, and other general urban wastes.
 - b. Leaves, mulch, and other naturally derived organic matter can be taken to the vegetative debris collection site on Observatory Hill and placed in the leaf composting area. There cannot be any other litter or trash in this material and it cannot contain free liquids (i.e., it cannot be dripping wet).

- c. All other loads of storm sewer wastes are to be taken to the FM yard at the Forestry Complex on Fontaine Avenue Extended and placed in the Vacuum Truck Transfer Station. This station is designed to provide for some dewatering of the material as well as staging for loading into trucks for transport to permitted waste disposal facilities off campus. Dewatered organic matter free of trash may be transferred to the vegetative debris collection site located on Observatory Hill.
- d. The only on site outdoor location for disposal of non-hazardous wastewater, such as decant water from the vacuum truck, is a **sanitary** sewer drain at the FM Leake Yard, which include the FM wash bay, the drain under the small covered Landscape storage area east of the Landscape building, and the trench drain in front of the salt/sand storage shed. In addition, any UVA sanitary sewer manhole lid may be opened provided the sewer is confirmed to be going to the sanitary and not the storm sewer. Coordinate with RWSA as needed.
 - i. Wastes may also be handled like sanitary wastes and taken to the Moores Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant
- e. Wastewater from oil-water separators shall not be put in the vacuum truck. An outside contractor must be used for these maintenance operations.

4. **Vacuum Truck Transfer Station**

- a. The Vacuum Truck Transfer Station is located at the FM Yard on Fontaine Avenue Extended in the VA Forestry Complex on George Dean Drive and is designed to allow for the dewatering of the delivered waste through gravity separation and evaporation.
- b. The station is made of concrete and has side walls to prevent runoff from the waste from leaving the containment area while preventing run-on into the station from the surrounding areas.
- c. The station has a drain port that must be kept closed when waste is present. The drain port is designed to allow clean rainwater to pass through the system when the station is not in use.
- d. The wastes should be spread out within the basin, so the materials will dry more quickly.
- e. Waste collected in the facility will be loaded on trucks or placed in a dumpster for disposal at an appropriate permitted waste disposal facility. Dewatered leafy debris free of trash may be taken to the vegetative debris collection site on Observatory Hill.
- f. Wastes must be removed from the facility at a frequency that will prevent liquid or solid waste from overflowing the containment area either from excess quantities of waste or weather events.
- g. If accumulated rainwater is pooling in the waste unloading section of the station, use the vacuum truck to remove the rainwater before transferring storm sewer wastes into it or if the water is clear and free of obvious contamination, it can be released via the drain port on the lower side of the station. If the water is not clear, it must be discharged to the sanitary sewer due to potential contamination from residual pollutants within the containment area.

5. Sanitary Wastes

- a. Sanitary wastes may only be discharged back into the UVA sanitary sewer system or at the Moores Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- b. After handling sanitary wastes, the truck's holding chamber will be washed. The wash water will be managed the same as the sanitary waste.

6. Other Wastes and Wastewater

- a. Other wastes and wastewaters collected in the vacuum truck could include spilled materials that normally would not be found in storm drainage systems.
- b. The disposal of all other wastes will be done on a case-by-case situation through consultation between Outside Utilities and Environmental Resources and/or the Office of Environmental Health and Safety. The disposal of wastewater or chemical residue outdoors violates the University's Stormwater Discharge Permit.