

# Glycol (propylene and ethylene) disposal

Propylene and ethylene glycol are used in a range of industrial and commercial applications. Although not all glycol is classified as hazardous waste, all forms of glycol are prohibited from entering the wastewater and stormwater systems.

## Environmental damage

Impacts include:

- Significant risks to both land and water.
- Kills good bacteria essential to wastewater treatment plant processes.
- Potential contaminants such as lead, chromium and cadmium.

## Disposal options

Since glycol cannot be released into the wastewater system, it cannot be accepted by any of The City's wastewater receiving facilities. There are specialized processing companies that collect and recycle waste glycol. Visit the [Recycling Council of Alberta](http://recycle.ab.ca) website at [recycle.ab.ca](http://recycle.ab.ca) for more information.

If recycling is not an option, glycol must be disposed of at an approved hazardous waste facility authorized by Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (AEPA).

- Contact a hazardous waste transport specialist for correct hauling and disposal.
- Some Calgary Fire Department locations accept smaller quantities up to 20 litres per week. Visit [Calgary.ca](http://Calgary.ca) for [CFD hazardous waste disposal locations](#).

### Did you know?

Discharging glycol into wastewater or stormwater systems is prohibited in most Canadian municipalities, including Calgary.

Improper disposal includes actions such as releasing into a floor drain.

## Packaging and labelling

Collect waste glycol in a properly sealed and labeled container.

- If possible, use the original product container.
- Don't mix different chemicals!
- Ensure tight seals to prevent leaks.
- Follow WHMIS labelling procedures.
- Confirm with your transport specialist about any additional container or labelling requirements.

## Spills and releases

Prevention is key however accidents happen.

- Ensure you have a detailed spill response plan with spill kits.
- If a spill occurs, reduce the risk of a release by protecting any wastewater or stormwater infrastructure and clean up immediately.
- Contact 311 to report a release. The City will dispatch crews to contain any downstream contamination.
- Call 911 if there is immediate danger to human health or safety.
- To report a release that has either escaped the property or could harm the environment (air, soil, ground or surface water) call the Alberta Environment and Protected Areas hotline at 1-800-222-6514.

## Illegal disposal has consequences

Releasing harmful substances can result in regulatory fines.

### Wastewater Bylaw, No. 14M2012

Section	Description of Offence	Specified Penalty
22(1)(a)	A release of a prohibited substance into the wastewater system.	\$3,000
22(1)(b)	A release over the concentration limits in Schedules B and C.	\$3,000
22(1)(c)	Release not in compliance with any other Bylaw requirement.	\$3,000
35(1)	Failure to notify proper authorities of a release.	\$1,000
35(5)	Failure to take all reasonable measures to mitigate a release.	\$3,000

### Stormwater Bylaw, No. 37M2005

Section	Description of Offence	Specified Penalty
4(1)	Release of a prohibited material into the stormwater system.	\$3,000
4(3)(e)	Release without a permit.	\$1,500
5(1)	Failure to notify proper authorities of a release.	\$500
5(4)(a)	Failure to mitigate a release.	\$3,000

For more information visit [calgary.ca/IMG](http://calgary.ca/IMG) or contact 311 (request Industrial Monitoring inquiry).