

# PUGET SOUND CLEAN CARS STORMWATER PARTNERSHIP

ISSUE  
**05**

APRIL 2018 NEWSLETTER  
WORKING GROUP MEETING

The Puget Sound Clean Cars Stormwater Partnership is a collaborative effort to reduce stormwater impacts associated with automotive vehicle fluid leaks in the State of Washington. In this fourth edition of our quarterly Newsletter, we present a brief overview and update of the project organization, expectations, and activities to date.



## Fourth Working Group Meeting

On December 13, 2017, the Puget Sound Clean Cars Stormwater Partnership Working Group held its fourth web meeting. Tom Lewandowski from Gradient kicked things off summarizing updates on draft report text and the work of the Chemical Review Sub-group. The sub group activities consisted of a two pronged approach to identify chemicals of concern related to vehicle leaks: 1) obtaining and reviewing safety data sheets (SDSs) for vehicle fluids commercially available within the past 3-5 years, and 2) reviewing research articles identifying chemicals of concern detected in stormwater runoff samples. As a part of these efforts, sub group members reviewed 50 – 100 SDSs, in an attempt to survey generally the types of chemicals currently used in automobile fluid products. It is important to note that SDS have limitations in terms of what chemical components are declared (depending on both hazard and concentration, typically 0.1%). Dr. Lewandowski summarized some preliminary findings, highlighted challenges inherent in this approach, and identified key next steps. The results and overall findings of this effort will be included in the draft report text to be distributed to the Working Group. Following this discussion a schedule of next steps for the draft report were proposed, and a preliminary timeline for report benchmarks was presented. The Working Group voiced no objections to proposed draft report schedule.

Dr. Lewandowski then summarized an opportunity for near term action (NTA) proposals to be included in the Puget Sound Partnership 2018-2022 Agenda. Ken Zarker indicated this will be work for the next 4 years, and that the Clean Cars project was originally funded this way. Ecology is interested in pursuing additional work beyond the current Clean Cars scoping study, and hearing from other interested Working Group members about collaborating in this area.

Detailed meeting minutes are now available on Ecology's website:

<https://fixcarleaks.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/WG-Meeting-Minutes-121317.pdf>

Presentation slides and other materials including a recording of the entire meeting will soon be made available by Ecology here:

<https://fixcarleaks.org/clean-cars-partnership/>

## Draft Report Text Submitted to Working Group for Review

In a culmination of the group's quarterly web meetings and research efforts to date, draft text for several key sections of the report were distributed to the Working Group in April 2018. Draft text was distributed for the following report sections:

### 1. Introduction

- a. Project background and scope are discussed in this section, along with information related to potential sources, frequency and volume of vehicle fluid leaks. Potential human health and environmental impacts of vehicle fluid leaks are also discussed.

### 2. Current Automotive Design and Maintenance Practices Related to Leaks

- a. Design features currently in-use to prevent fluid leaks or provide warning of fluid leaks are discussed, as well as maintenance efforts carried out by professional repair facilities are summarized in this report section.

## Upcoming Events

The fifth quarterly web meeting is scheduled for April 18, 2018, 3p.m. – 4p.m. eastern standard time (12p.m. – 1p.m. pacific standard time). Web meetings are 30 minutes to 1 hour in length, and are hosted by Ecology's consultant, Gradient, with assistance from SAE International. The Working Group will discuss project related tasks, information needs and progress updates. Findings and information collected during these web-meetings will be summarized in a final report delivered to Ecology in June 2018 and presented at a future SAE conference.

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**3. Approaches to Reduce Vehicle Leaks**

- a. In section 3 innovative and emerging technologies for reducing vehicle fluid leaks as well as reducing the impacts of vehicle fluid leaks are presented and discussed.

**4. Vehicle Fluid Composition and Safer Chemical Alternatives**

- a. This section provides an overview of the chemical composition of vehicle fluids. A summary of chemicals commonly identified across dozens of vehicle fluid safety data sheets as well as chemicals listed on the Global Automotive Declarable Substance List (GADSL) is presented. Chemicals identified from these efforts were then cross-checked against various databases of chemicals identified in stormwater samples. Opportunities for substituting safer chemical alternatives across the various vehicle fluid types are also discussed.

Highlights from these sections will be discussed at the upcoming quarterly web meeting.

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