FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 28, 2017

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A Well-Oiled Machine Keeps our Waters Clean: Town of Insert Town Name Reminds Industrial Facilities of Responsibility to Prevent Leaks and Spills

(Your Town) For industrial facilities, keeping your vehicles and equipment in tip-top shape is a year-round effort. That’s why Insert Town Name officials are urging facility owners to take extra care to prevent spills and leaks when performing repairs and routine maintenance.

“Gasoline, oil, and grease can spoil outdoor fun when they end up in lakes, rivers, and streams. We want to keep our waters clean and healthy 365 days a year,” said Town Official. “Industrial facilities can do their part by adopting common-sense practices to prevent leaks and spills as part of their daily operations.”

Facility owners are encouraged to make a habit of inspecting their vehicles and equipment for leaks. That way, any problems found can be fixed as soon as possible. Prevent spills by using drip pans to catch fluids. A cleanup kit should be kept close by or in an easy-to-access place, in the event a spill should occur. This kit should include absorbent materials, like sand and kitty litter, which can help dry up spills. Any chemical spills, especially those that happen outside, should be cleaned up immediately.

Why is preventing leaks and spills so important? Fluids like gasoline, oil, and grease can wash into storm drains that eventually empty into lakes, rivers, and streams. Once pollutants reach these waterways, they can cause harm to fish and other wildlife. They can even make our water unsafe to drink.

Insert Town Name is stepping up to stop pollutants from entering our local waters. It’s participating in the Think Blue Massachusetts campaign. The campaign is a statewide effort to help residents and businesses do their part to reduce polluted runoff and keep our state’s lakes, rivers, and streams clean and healthy.

Preventing stormwater pollution is not only good for Insert Town Name and local waterways, it’s also the law. Many kinds of industrial facilities are required by federal law to take steps to prevent stormwater pollution. Insert Town Name officials urge facility owners to check with the town’s conservation commission to see if they need to obtain a permit.

“I know our local industrial facilities want to be good neighbors and protect our waterways,” said Town Official. “The best way they can make a difference is by keeping spills and leaks from happening in the first place.”

For more tips on how to do your part to keep our waterways clean, visit www.thinkbluemassachusetts.org.