

2 How to Use This Document

This document is organized into three main sections:

- 1 – Key Environmental Concerns, where environmental issues arising from highway maintenance and operational activities are discussed;
- 2 – Legislative Requirements and Performance Standards, where environmental objectives, standards, and legal requirements for highway maintenance activities are summarized; and
- 3 – Environmental Best Practices (BPs), where suggested resources, planning tools, and technique options are presented for various types of highway maintenance activities.

This format will help different user groups to quickly access information that is particularly relevant to them. For example, when planning maintenance activities, a review of the Key Environmental Concerns and Legislative Requirements and Performance Standards sections will help identify environmental issues and standards relating to the works involved. Or, if assembling work plans and preparing for work on a particular site, the Best Practices section will provide guidance to help meet the requirements of performance standards and environmental legislation.

Both supervisors and highway maintenance field crews can use the BPs as well as the links provided to other BP sources as guides to meeting performance standards and environmental legislation. Examples of regulatory agency protocols and BPs that have been developed in parts of the province are also provided for certain activities. Maintenance Contractors are encouraged to develop similar protocols with regulatory agency staff in their local area.

Electronic “links” to other sources of BP information are provided to supplement the BP section and to assist in identifying appropriate environmental protection measures that address the specific concerns of the project site.