

DUMP SMART

It's not just water

Wash water from mobile cleaning activities may contain toxic chemicals that we don't want entering our environment. Heavy metals, grease and oils, sediment, and detergents may be lurking in that wash water. Never dump wash water down a storm drain.

DID YOU KNOW:

Stormdrains take water from our streets and parking lots to the Portneuf River. This stormwater is not treated to remove mobile wash water pollutants, which are harmful to fish, people, and other wildlife.

This guide provides general Best Management Practices (BMPs) for mobile cleaning businesses to keep these pollutants out of the Portneuf River and other local streams.

CLEANING METHOD BMPs:

1. Determine disposal method. Secure approval for sanitary sewer disposal.
2. Locate and block storm drains. Keep a spill kit on hand to deal with spills. Train your employees to use the kit.
3. Do a dry cleanup (e.g. sweep) before washing with water.
4. Wash without soaps and solvents, if possible. Use hoses with nozzles and minimize water use.
5. Collect all wash water in a holding tank or with a containment berm that a wet/dry vacuum can access.
6. Sweep up/place all debris collected during cleaning activities into the trash, or if it is hazardous, dispose of it properly.



DID YOU KNOW:

There is no such thing as "environmentally safe soap." All soaps kill fish. Keep it out of storm drains, streets and streams.

DID YOU KNOW:

Federal and state regulations prohibit the discharge of anything but rain water to streams, roadways and the storm drain system.

WASH WATER DISPOSAL OPTIONS:

-  Onsite Landscaping.
Wash water without solvents, harsh soaps, trash, or hazardous materials may be directed onto onsite landscaping with landowner permission. Wash water must completely soak into vegetation before you leave the site.
-  Sanitary Sewer.
Approval from the Wastewater Treatment Plant is required prior to discharging wash water/ wastewater to a sink or another drain connected to the sanitary sewer (either onsite, at the service provider's facility, or at the Wastewater Treatment Plant Dump Station).

NEVER drain wash water/wastewater into streets, gutters, parking lots, dry wells, or storm drains.



If you discharge wash water generated by mobile cleaning activities to a storm drain, you are violating City/ County code and may be subject to a fine. (PCC 8.48, CCC 8.48, BCC 15.18)

Contact your local wastewater treatment plant for discharge requirements (including pollutant limits & testing) for wash water/wastewater entering the sanitary sewer system. Typical mobile cleaning operation pollutants with sanitary sewer discharge limits include:

- Oil & grease
- Acid solutions (pH)
- Solvents and cleaners
- Metals

Pocatello Wastewater Treatment Plant:
(208) 234-6254/6256
www.pocatello.us/174/Pretreatment-Program

IF YOU SPILL... IT'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO:

-  Promptly clean up the spill.
-  Report all spills that reach a storm drain, ditch, or street to the City or County where your job is located.



City of Pocatello
Science & Environment Division
(208) 234-6225
stormwater@pocatello.us



City of Chubbuck
Engineering Department
(208) 237-2430
stormwater@cityofchubbuck.us



Bannock County
Planning and Development
Services
(208) 236-7230
stormwater@bannockcounty.us

CLEANING METHODS

PROPER DISPOSAL

CARPETS AND UPHOLSTERY

Vacuum prior to cleaning to minimize debris in wash water. Additionally, use a filter to remove carpet fibers and other solids prior to proper disposal.

Trash. Carpet fibers and debris.

Sanitary Sewer (approval required). Wash water disposal must meet Wastewater Treatment plant requirements.

VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT CLEANING

If using a bucket and/or hose equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle and the water evaporates, the washing area should be swept clean to collect any residual pollutants left behind.

Sanitary Sewer (approval required). Wash water disposal must meet Wastewater Treatment plant requirements.

Dry cleanup first. Block storm drains and collect all wash water.

Other. Wash water in contact with engine parts may contain hazardous materials that require handling and disposal as hazardous waste. Contact the city or county where your job is located.

If only washing the exterior of a vehicle (not the undercarriage or engine), wash on a previous surface if possible.

Onsite Landscaped Area. Wash water without harsh soaps or solvents or hazardous materials.

FOOD SERVICE DUMPSTERS, FLOOR MATS, AND FILTERS

Dry cleanup first. Block storm drains and collect all wash water.

Sanitary Sewer (approval required). Wash water disposal must meet Wastewater Treatment plant requirements. May require an oil/grease separator.

Trash. Food scraps and debris.

SWIMMING POOLS AND SPAS

Do NOT clean filters in the street, gutter, or near a storm drain. Rinse cartridges and/or backwash diatomaceous earth filters into a landscaped or unpaved area.

Sanitary Sewer (approval required). Wash water disposal must meet Wastewater Treatment plant requirements.

Landscaped Area or stormdrain/street. Dechlorination required prior to wash water discharge.

Trash. Spent diatomaceous earth.

PARKING LOTS AND DRIVEWAYS

Sweep first. Use dry methods for cleaning up spills (e.g. absorbent, broom sweep) rather than rinsing down areas. Use a mop bucket for spot cleaning. Try to wash without soap or solvents.

Onsite Landscaped Area. Wash water without harsh soaps or solvents.

Sanitary Sewer (approval required). Wash water disposal must meet Wastewater Treatment plant requirements. No solvents permitted.

BUILDINGS, SIDEWALKS AND PLAZAS

Setup a perimeter berm and block storm drains if soaps/solvents are used. Use a shop vacuum to collect wash water.

Stormdrain/Street. Wash water that does not contain soaps or solvents, where no spills of toxic/hazardous materials have occurred, and has not been in contact with loose paint. Screen wash water with filters to catch debris.

WATER SOFTENERS

Use a portable or temporary containment pad to collect the wash water.

Sanitary Sewer.

PET CARE

Use a portable or temporary containment pad to collect the wash water.

Sanitary Sewer.

GARBAGE CARTS

Use a portable or temporary containment pad to collect the wash water.

Sanitary Sewer (approval required). Wash water disposal must meet Wastewater Treatment plant requirements.