



ABOUT THIS GUIDE

Most people or businesses don't realize their practices may affect our local streams, creeks, lakes, rivers, or ocean with pollution. This guide provides general Best Management Practices (BMPs) for business operations. The BMPs are not limited to those presented in this handout. Additional resources are listed for a more extensive array of BMPs available.

Mobile cleaning operations can generate significant amounts of wash water and wastewater that can contain common pollutants such as sediment, oil and grease, soap, metals, and food waste. When rain does not soak into the ground, it can travel across bare earth, driveways, sidewalks, and streets to the nearest storm drain inlet. A storm drain then transports the stormwater through pipes that discharge to our local streams, creeks, lakes, rivers, and ocean. Pollutants can be picked up by stormwater runoff, and if we are not careful, pollution can end up in our water. You can help reduce water pollution by following a four-step approach:

- 1 Do a dry clean-up before washing down.
- 2 Wash without soaps and solvents, unless you have 100% containment.
- 3 Keep wash water out of storm drains.
- 4 Dispose of wash water and/or wastewater correctly and legally by discharging to the sanitary sewer or to a landscaped area (check local regulations).

Even if you use a small amount of water and it evaporates onsite, the areas may need to be swept clean to collect any residual pollutants left behind.

Did you know? Even cleaning products labeled "Non-Toxic" and "biodegradable" are not safe. "Non-Toxic" means the product is not toxic to the user. "Biodegradable" means the product will eventually break down. These products are still harmful to wildlife and the environment.



COMMON POLLUTANTS

Carpets and Upholstery

- Carpet fibers
- Cleaning chemicals and solvents

Vehicle and Equipment Cleaning

- Heavy metals (copper, lead, nickel, and zinc)
- Oil and grease
- Antifreeze
- Cleaning chemicals and solvents
- Acids and alkalis

Food Service Industry

- Food waste
- Fats, oil, and grease
- Cleaning chemicals, disinfectants, and pesticides

Swimming Pools and Spas

- Copper and chlorine
- Solids from filter backwash

Surface Cleaning

- Heavy metals (copper, lead, zinc)
- Oil and grease
- Trash

Water Softeners

- Brine (chlorides, calcium, magnesium)

TIP: If removing paint, verify it does not contain lead or other toxic pollutants that may require handling and disposal as hazardous waste.

MOBILE CLEANING—CARPETS AND UPHOLSTERY

- Never discharge wash water or wastewater from carpet and upholstery cleaning activities to the street, gutter, or near a storm drain.
- Wastewater from carpet and upholstery cleaning must be collected and discharged to a sink, toilet, or another drain connected to the sanitary sewer either onsite or at the service provider's facility.



MOBILE CLEANING—VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT CLEANING

- Never discharge wash water or wastewater from vehicle and equipment cleaning activities to the street, gutter or near a storm drain.
- Use a portable or temporary containment pad to collect the wash water and discharge to a sink, toilet, or another drain connected to the sanitary sewer either onsite or at the service provider's facility.
- If vehicles and equipment are washed by use of 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.
- Wash water in contact with engine parts may contain hazardous materials that require handling and disposal as hazardous waste.



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT OUR PARTNERING AGENCIES

WANT TO KNOW MORE?



The Cities of Buellton, Carpinteria, Goleta, Lompoc, Santa Barbara, and Solvang and the County of Santa Barbara have extensive Stormwater Management Programs, with an even greater selection of information and useful tools to help your business.

Take advantage of the following FREE services to you:

- Download or print BMP materials

Be sure to always check:

- Local wastewater authority's discharge requirements
- Drought restrictions
- Business license requirements for the City where you are operating your mobile cleaning service

TIP: Arrange a location to discharge wash water ahead of time.

**ONLY RAIN DOWN
THE STORM DRAIN**

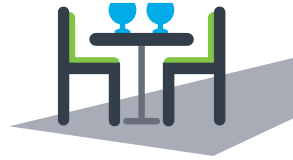


MOBILE CLEANING

FOOD SERVICE INDUSTRY

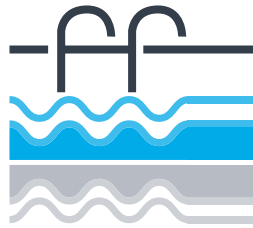
- Wash water from cleaning trash enclosures must be collected and discharged to a sink, toilet, or another drain connected to the sanitary sewer.
- Clean floor/kitchen mats, filters, and garbage cans in a sink or near another drain connected to the sanitary sewer. Do not wash these items in a parking lot, alley, sidewalk, street, or gutter.

Did you know? Floor/kitchen mats, filters, and garbage cans can also be cleaned at a public car wash that discharges to a sanitary sewer.



SWIMMING POOLS AND SPAS

- Do not clean a filter in the street, gutter, or near a storm drain.
- Rinse cartridges and/or backwash diatomaceous earth filters into a landscaped or unpaved area. Don't forget to dispose of the spent diatomaceous earth in the trash.
- Swimming pool and spa water must be discharged to sanitary sewer unless access to sanitary sewer connection is unavailable. If a sanitary sewer connection is not available, the swimming pool and spa water must be de-chlorinated before discharging to a landscape area.



SURFACE CLEANING

- Washing buildings and hardscape areas such as sidewalks and driveways is not allowed except where necessary to protect the public health and safety. Pressure washing is allowed for construction as long as the water is filtered, captured, and discarded appropriately.
- Use dry methods for cleaning up spills (use absorbent, broom sweep) rather than rinsing down areas.
- Wash water must be collected and discharged to a sink, toilet, or other drain connected to the sanitary sewer or be directed to a landscaped or unpaved area. Try to wash without soaps and solvents.
- Setup a perimeter berm and/or block storm drain inlets.
- Use mop bucket for spot cleaning.
- Use a shop vacuum to collect wash water, and dispose of it appropriately.



WATER SOFTENERS

- Do not discharge wash water or wastewater from water softener cleaning activities in the street, gutter, or near a storm drain.
- Wash water or wastewater from water softener cleaning (including brine) must be collected and discharged to a sink, toilet, or another drain connected to the sanitary sewer.



City of Buellton
www.CityofBuellton.com



City of Carpinteria
www.carpinteria.ca.us



City of Goleta
www.CityofGoleta.com



City of Lompoc
www.CityofLompoc.com



City of Santa Barbara
www.sbcreeks.com



City of Solvang
www.CityofSolvang.com



Santa Barbara County
www.SBProjectCleanWater.org