

WHY ARE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs) IMPORTANT?

BMPs are enforceable procedures, based on regulations, that minimize pollutants that are discharged to the sewer system or the environment. BMPs are needed at both industrial and commercial facilities that can produce wastewater containing higher levels of pollutants than what are typically found in residential wastewater.

REQUIREMENTS

COMPLIANCE WITH LOCAL CODES

- ◇ All commercial car wash operations that send wastewater to the sewer system must ensure their wastewater complies with all local codes and requirements.

APPLY FOR A PERMIT IF NEEDED

- ◇ Car wash operations must apply for a permit if they discharge over 25,000 gallons a day.

CONTACT US



City of Spokane
(509) 625-4600



Spokane County
(509) 477-7177



Airway Heights
(509) 443-5667

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

HAZARDOUS WASTE HANDLING:

Department of Ecology
(509) 329-3400
www.ecy.wa.gov

Spokane Regional Health District
(509) 324-1560 ext. 3
www.srhd.org

For hazardous spills or any other emergencies, call 911

April 18, 2025

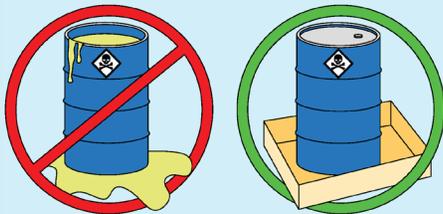
COMMERCIAL CAR WASH OPERATIONS



COMMERCIAL
WASTEWATER
BEST MANAGEMENT
PRACTICES (BMPs)

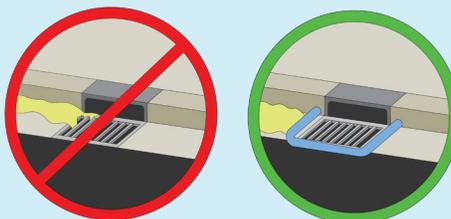
CAR WASH BMPs

- ◇ Determine whether each waste material is hazardous by using the guidelines found in both WAC 173-303-9903 and WAC 173-303-9904.
- ◇ Post signs above drains/sinks prohibiting the discharge of chemicals and oils.
- ◇ Make sure wash water does not run into the gutter or storm drain.
- ◇ Develop a written spill response plan, keep spill clean up materials on-site, immediately clean up spills, train employees on clean-up procedures, and replace leaking containers.
- ◇ Install secondary containment for all liquid storage capable of containing 110% of the largest possible spill.



- ◇ Visit www.spokanecounty.org/FOG for oil-water separator information and maintenance requirements.

- ◇ Never allow wash water or any other liquids to enter the street, gutter, storm drains, or dry wells.



- ◇ Store batteries, chemicals, and all wastes where they will not be exposed to rainwater.



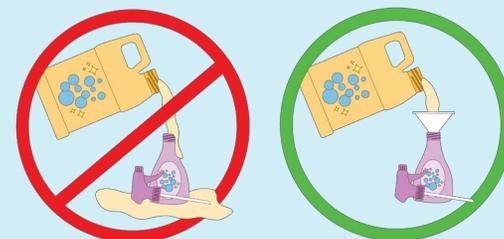
- ◇ Storage and waste containers should have clear labels indicating their contents.
- ◇ Dry sweep floors before mopping or hosing down.



POLLUTION PREVENTION TIPS

These tips are not enforceable, but will help your business reduce its impact on the environment.

- ◇ Develop and follow a written Environmental Management Plan, periodically inspecting and repairing equipment.
- ◇ Use environmentally friendly cleaning products.
- ◇ Send wash water through a water recycling system to reduce water use.
- ◇ Use spigots, pumps, and funnels when pouring solvents and cleaners.



- ◇ Vacuum or brush off dust from vehicles prior to washing.