



INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT PROGRAM BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR CAR WASH OPERATIONS

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are enforceable procedures that your business performs to comply with wastewater regulations and prevent adverse effects at treatment plants.



◆ Regulation

Dangerous or hazardous wastes may not be discharged to the sanitary sewer. It is your responsibility under federal, state and local law to designate, manage and dispose of each waste properly.

BMPs

- Designate each waste material to determine which are dangerous and what the hazards are. Helpful information on this process can be found at ecy.wa.gov. Search keyword “designation”.
- Post signs above all sinks and drains prohibiting the discharge of unapproved wastes:

SINK DRAIN IS
FOR WATER ONLY
DO NOT DISPOSE
OF CHEMICALS
IN SINK



◆ Regulation

All industrial users of the sanitary sewer must comply with Prohibited Discharge Standards, which include explosive, oily or greasy, toxic and foamy discharges, high or low pH, high temperatures, and viscous or solid content.

Prohibited Discharge Standards can be found online by searching “Spokane prohibited discharge standards” for Spokane and Airway Heights standards or “Spokane County industrial pretreatment program” for County standards.

BMPs

- Install secondary containment for all liquid storage, capable of holding 110% of the largest possible spill.
- Keep adequate spill prevention and clean-up materials on-site and available for use.
- Keep containers closed except when adding or removing materials.
- Immediately clean up any spills and replace any leaking containers.
- Develop and implement written spill response procedures, and train employees.
- Contents must be clearly indicated on storage and waste container labels.

◆ Regulation

Where installed, all grease, oil and sand interceptors must be maintained by the owner, at the owner’s expense and liability, in good order and condition at all times.

BMPs

- Develop and follow an inspection schedule for oil/water separators and sand traps.
- Contract with pumper for cleanout and waste disposal as needed.
- Retain records of inspections and pump-outs.
- Dry sweep floors before mopping or hosing down.

◆ Regulation

It is unlawful for any person to discharge, or cause to be discharged, directly or indirectly any pollutants into surface water, stormwater, ground water or directly or indirectly into street (storm) drains.

BMPs

- Do not allow wash water to run into a street, gutter, or storm drain.
- Store batteries, chemicals and wastes where they will not be exposed to rainwater.
- Never dispose of any liquids on the ground, in a storm drain, or in a dry well.

Pollution Prevention Tips for Car Wash Businesses

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 spigots, pumps, and funnels when pouring solvents and cleaners.
- Use environmentally preferable cleaning products.

Free Technical Advice Available for Environmental Compliance

The Local Source Control (LSC) program at Spokane Regional Health District (SRHD) visits small businesses that generate hazardous waste to evaluate their handling practices. Program specialists assess these businesses for regulatory compliance, while offering new and best management practices for improvements. The goal of the program is to identify and control contaminants entering wastewater, groundwater and stormwater at the source. Technical assistance visits are offered without charge to small quantity generators. SRHD LSC specialists can be reached at 509-324-1560 ext. 3 or by email at: pollutionprevention@srhd.org

If you have any questions about how to handle your wastewater, please contact us:

City of Spokane Riverside Park Water Reclamation Facility		(509) 625-4600
Spokane County Regional Water Reclamation Facility		(509) 536-3703
Airway Heights Water Reclamation Plant		(509) 443-5667
Hazardous waste handling: Department of Ecology		(509) 329-3400
Hazardous spills: Spokane Fire Department		9-1-1
Large volumes of spills to a drain:		
City of Spokane:	Sewer Maintenance	(509) 625-7900
	RPWRF	(509) 625-4600
Spokane County:	Sewer Maintenance	(509) 477-1984
	SCRWRF	(509) 536-3703
City of Airway Heights:	Public Works	(509) 244-5429
	AWHWRP	(509) 443-5667
Solid materials & recycling:		
	City of Spokane Solid Waste	(509) 625-7878
	Spokane County Solid Waste	(509) 477-6800
Spokane Regional Health District Local Source Control		509-324-1560 ext. 3
or by email at:	pollutionprevention@srhd.org	