



Pressure Washing and Storm Water BMP

- Use dry cleanup methods to collect litter and absorb any liquid wastes prior to any pressure washing. These include using absorbents (e.g. kitty litter, rags, sand, etc.), sweeping, and scrapping off dried debris.
- If you are not using any detergents or chemicals and are only cleaning surfaces of ambient dirt or dust, then this wastewater can be directed to landscape or contained onsite and allowed to evaporate. However, if chemicals are used and/or there is any residue or oils on areas that are going to be washed, this method is NOT acceptable.
- Prior to pressure washing, identify where all storm drains are located. Storm drains may be located in the gutter at the end of a block or in landscaping hidden from view. Wash water must not be allowed to flow down gutters or to enter storm drains.
- Determine where water will pool for collection.
- Use the following types of equipment to protect storm drains and to contain and collect wash water: vacuum pumps, booms / berms, portable containment areas, weighted storm drain covers, inflatable plumber's plugs, oil/water separators, holding tanks, portable sump pumps, hoses, and absorbents. Using wet vacs in areas near creeks, storm drains, and ditches is the recommended BMP.
- Once water is collected, dispose of it properly. Collected wash water may be disposed of into a sanitary sewer drain at the job site or at the contractor's place of business. (FIRST ask for permission from property owner and the wastewater treatment plant. DO NOT dispose of wastewater to a septic system.)