

Spill Prevention & Treatment

Spills of hazardous materials must be cleaned up immediately to prevent hazardous products from entering the storm water or sewerage systems. Clean up procedures can be found in a product's Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS).

In the event of a spill to the environment, contact Emergency Management BC (EMBC) at 1-800-663-3456. If the spill is of a chemical that is flammable, toxic, corrosive or otherwise hazardous, call 9-1-1 immediately and ask for the Fire Department.

You Are Responsible

Any persons responsible for contaminating the storm water system may be held liable under the following environmental legislation:

- Federal Fisheries Act
- BC Hazardous Waste Regulation
- BC Environmental Management Act
- Delta Storm Sewer Bylaw No. 5786

— As the owner of a personal use vehicle or an operator of a vehicle washing facility, you play a role in protecting the environment —

For More Information

City of Delta

www.delta.ca

Climate Action & Environment

604-946-3253

**BC Ministry of the Environment Spill Reporting
Hotline**

1-800-663-3456

If you witness a spill or chemicals being poured into a storm drain during regular working hours, please call Climate Action & Environment immediately. If the spill is occurring outside regular working hours, please call the Ministry of Environment's hotline.

Delta

Environmentally Responsible Best Practices for Disposal of Vehicle Wash Water



We Need Your Help!

**Keep Delta's water and
delicate ecosystems clean!**



Hazardous Materials Risks

Vehicle Washing

Auto washing, steam cleaning and detailing operations use products and solutions which clean, deodorize and restore luster to cars, trucks and other equipment.

However, waste water from these cleaning operations often contain chemicals, detergents, oils, greases, sediment, and other contaminants.

These chemicals are **TOXIC** to fish and aquatic life, and must **NOT** be disposed of in storm water drains!

Review the following best management practices to safely store and dispose of hazardous materials.

**Keep your workplace safe
and Delta's waterways clean!**

Best Management Practices

Commercial Vehicle Washing

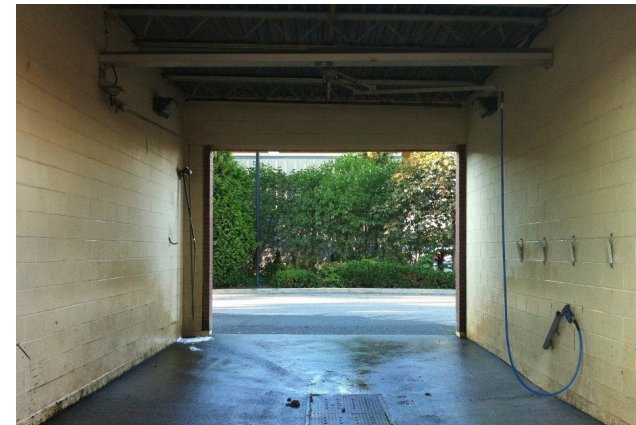
- Commercial vehicle washing operations should have a proper wash bay where effluent is directed to an isolated oil-grit interceptor on a sanitary sewer connection. This interceptor should be serviced by a disposal company at least once a year.
- Do not wash vehicles, tools and equipment in areas where wastewater flows directly to the storm water drainage system.

Residential Car Washing

- It is best practice to wash vehicles at a commercial facility where wastewater disposal is properly plumbed.
- If washing vehicles at home, it is best to do it on a grass or gravel area. When washing on pavement, direct wash water away from stormwater drains and to a landscaped, grassed or gravel area.
- Use a minimal amount of soap and rely more on physical removal (scrubbing, increasing water pressure) rather than chemical removal agents.

Did You Know?

Even "biodegradable soap" is harmful to fish and other aquatic species. Biodegradable only means that it will breakdown over time, but the substances can be harmful before the decomposition occurs.



Cleaning and Polishing Solutions

- Cleaning and deodorizing chemicals, polishing compounds and solvents must be stored in a secure area where spills can be contained.
- Unwanted cleaning, deodorizing and polishing chemicals may require special disposal. Follow the manufacturer's directions for disposal, or contact a hazardous waste management company.

Emergency Planning

- Develop a spill response plan. A spill response plan should have written spill clean-up instructions for each chemical you use.
- Have appropriate amounts of clean-up equipment and supplies available on-site.
- Review the response plan regularly and update it whenever you start using a new chemical.
- Post up signs at highly visible locations which display emergency contact names and phone numbers in the event of a spill.