



### SPILL PREVENTION & CLEANUP

Clean up spills immediately. Have a spill cleanup kit available at all times, with items such as brooms/shovels, dustpans, booms, rags, absorbents, safety glasses and gloves. Never hose down or bury spills. Remove material and dispose of properly. Educate employees about spill prevention and cleanup. Spills that pose threat to human health or the environment should be reported to 911 and to City if any spills enter a storm drain inlet.



### City of San Dimas Public Works Department

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## STORMWATER PROGRAM

## BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR MOBILE PRESSURE WASHING SERVICES



City of San Dimas  
Public Works Department  
245 E. Bonita Avenue  
San Dimas, CA 91773

# Best Management Practices for Mobile Pressure Washers

This brochure provides information about using best management practices (BMPs) for the collection, treatment, and disposal of wash water generated from washing cars, parking lots, building exteriors, etc.

## Why should we be concerned with pressure water cleaning waste water discharge?

Pollutants from pressure washing and cleaning include heavy metals (copper, lead, nickel and zinc), hydrocarbons (oil & grease), toxic chemicals (solvents, chlorinated compounds, glycols), acids and alkalis. These pollutants drain off other surfaces finding their way into the street, the storm drain system and eventually our creeks and ocean, which can harm aquatic life and the environment even if cleaning solutions are labeled nontoxic or biodegradable. The implementation of the proper BMPs is required for compliance with State and local regulations which were developed to prevent water pollution and protect the public health.

*Please note that it is unlawful for wash water or other non-storm water generated by mobile pressure washers to enter storm drains. Mobile pressure washers that do not prevent waste water from entering the storm drain systems are subject to Administrative Citations and/or fines under San Dimas Municipal Code Chapter 14.11.*

## Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Mobile pressure washers must use the following BMPs to comply with the City's water quality requirements and water pollution prevention:

- Review City Water Conservation Ordinance for possible water use restrictions before starting work.
- Minimize water use by using high pressure, low volume nozzles.
- Minimize pollutants generated by pre-cleaning area with rags, mops or brooms.
- Use phosphate free or biodegradable detergents according to manufacturer instructions and dispose of empty containers properly.
- Protect downstream storm drain inlets to prevent entry of wash water. Protection must be placed before starting the washing process and removed before you leave the site.
- Wash area must be contained so that water does not drain down streets and gutters— use booms, sand/gravel berms, wattles, or containment mats.
- If feasible, divert wash water or wash object on a vegetated or gravel surface where wash water can infiltrate into the ground without runoff.
- All wash water should be collected/ vacuumed and disposed of properly.
- Any wash chemical residue generated shall be rinsed from the surface and removed with the wastewater, leaving no residue on the washing surface.

## Options for wash water management

- **Preferred Option:**  
Zero discharge or closed-loop recycled water
- **Second Option:**  
Discharge into municipal sewer system including residential sewer cleanout, utility sink or toilet, etc. Precautions must be taken to prevent disposal of any heavy debris, hazardous materials or items that can clog sink or toilet. Wash water may also be taken off site for proper disposal at your home or business. **Contact the City Public Works Dept. for sewer disposal permitting requirements and/or prohibitions.**

**If you would like further information about water quality pollution prevention, contact the Public Works Department at (909) 394-6240 or visit our website at [www.sandimasca.gov](http://www.sandimasca.gov)**  
**Thank you for your effort in helping to improve the quality of our environment.**