



“When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world.” — John Muir

When it rains, storm water flows over driveways, lawns, sidewalks, roads and parking lots on its way to the nearest entrance into the storm drain system.

In most cases the storm water system discharges this polluted runoff to the nearest creek, stream or ultimately the river with NO treatment.

This is unlike the water that goes down the toilet or sinks in your home which discharges to the wastewater system for treatment.

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, polluted storm water runoff is the nation’s greatest threat to clean water.

Storm water pollution is toxic to fish and wetland wildlife.

It threatens all of us who use and enjoy our most valuable resource – WATER!

*Conserving Resources Today For
Redding's Tomorrow.*



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Redding Municipal Utilities Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program

Storm Water Best Management Practices (BMP'S)

Auto Cleaning

Brochure 2



Auto Exterior Washing

Most auto detailing jobs begin with a thorough exterior wash. Many industry experts recommend using “lots of water” and “generous amounts of detergent” when washing and plenty of water again when rinsing, but they don’t tell you what to do with the sudsy rinse water. The fact is, that to be disposed of safely and legally, this water must go into the sanitary sewer and must not be washed into the street, storm drain or any outside drain. Biodegradable products are harmful to aquatic life and not permitted down storm drains.



Dry Cleanup

In many cases you can eliminate the need to collect and/or divert wastewater if you follow this two-step process:

1. Use absorbents such as rags, absorbent mats or pads, rice hull ash, cat litter, vermiculite or sand to pick up small amounts of wastewater or spilled cleaning and detailing products.
2. Sweep or vacuum saturated absorbents. Dispose of saturated material appropriately in the trash or as hazardous waste, checking the disposal instructions on the product label.

Wet Cleanup



Small amounts of runoff may remain on paved surfaces to evaporate. If there is sufficient water volume to reach a storm drain, plug the storm drain and pump the water to a sanitary sewer inlet or storage tank. A catch system, including a sump pump and a collection mat under the vehicle, is a typical and effective way to collect wastewater. A storage tank (usually 55-gallon) collects the water delivered by

the pump and contains it safely for later disposal into a sanitary sewer inlet at your place of business.



A less preferable option is to direct wastewater to a landscaped, dirt or gravel area. Check the slope and other physical characteristics of the area to avoid runoff to the street, storm drain or other outside drain. Wastewater should be directed onto an area large enough to contain all of the water. If the soil is dry, wet it down before discharging to help wastewater soak into the ground.

Remaining Soapy Water in Bucket



Should be discharged to a sanitary sewer inlet, or distributed over a dirt or gravel area.

Glass Cleaning



Most glass cleaners contain ammonia. Did you know that ammonia is harmful to fish and stimulates abnormal algae and plant growth? Some cleaners also contain alcohol and a variety of detergents. These materials are not allowed down storm drains, as they are harmful to fish and aquatic life.

Use rags to pick up spilled glass cleaner.

Auto Interior Cleaning

Vacuuming



Dispose of debris in a trash container. Do not sweep debris into the street.