

# Pressure Washing & Surface Cleaning

## Stormwater Best Management Practices



Discharge of pressure washing wastewater to the storm drain system is prohibited because it contains pollutants from cleaning compounds or from the surfaces being cleaned. But, when done properly, pressure washing activities can help improve the quality of our waters and have a positive effect on the environment. When pollutants are removed from pressure washed surfaces, there is less chance for those pollutants to end up in our waterways.

Proper Disposal of Pressure Washing Wastewater		
<b>Discharge to landscaped areas without drywells</b>	Sidewalk/Plaza Areas	* No outdoor eating areas, food, or garbage * No cleaning additives
	Building Surfaces	* No peeling paint or paints with heavy metals * No cleaning additives
<b>Discharge to sanitary sewer or contained for off-site disposal</b>	Sidewalk/Plaza Areas	* No outdoor eating areas, food or garbage * Non-hazardous cleaning additives
	Building Surfaces	* No peeling paint or paints with heavy metals * Non-hazardous cleaning additives
<b>Discharge to sanitary sewer equipped with appropriate pretreatment device (oil/water separator, interceptor, sediment trap, etc) or contained for off-site disposal</b>	Sidewalk/Plaza Areas	* Outdoor eating areas * Non-hazardous cleaning additives
	Parking Lot & Delivery Areas	* Non-hazardous cleaning additives
	Dumpster Areas	* Non-hazardous cleaning additives
<b>Discharges that must be contained for off-site disposal</b>	* Any surfaces cleaned using solvents or any other potentially hazardous or flammable additives	
	* Building surfaces with peeling paint; surfaces containing heavy metal paints; using hazardous additives	

## What Can I Do?

- Sweep or vacuum all dirt, debris, and trash prior to washing.
- Use absorbent materials to clean-up oil deposits.
- Use as little water, without detergents as possible.
- Seal all stormwater inlets in the area that is being cleaned.



For additional information or questions, please contact:

Maricopa County Environmental Services Department

Stormwater Quality Program

2222 S 27th Ave

Phoenix, AZ 85000

602-506-5557

[esd.maricopa.gov](http://esd.maricopa.gov)



Environmental Services  
Department