

City of Issaquah Guidance on Pressure Washing



To report water pollution, call (425) 837-3400

What's the Problem?

Most pressure washing activities are conducted outside. This often results in the discharge of wastewater to the storm drainage system, unless the equipment operator takes steps to collect and dispose of it legally.

Who Says?

Issaquah Municipal Code 13.28.025 (The Stormwater Code) prohibits the discharge of anything other than stormwater into the storm drainage system. This includes washwater generated from many pressure washing activities. State and Federal laws also prohibit these discharges.

What should I do?

Plan ahead. Prior to beginning pressure washing activities, determine what you are cleaning, what collection method you will be using to capture the washwater, and how you intend to properly dispose of the wastewater generated from each cleaning activity. See the pressure washing scenario's below to best manage your water.

- 1) Pressure washing anything with soaps, biodegradable soap, or disinfectants that will enter the storm drain or ditch is prohibited. This water needs be directed to an area to infiltrate or discharged to the sanitary sewer system.
- 2) If you are pressure washing any pollution generating surface such as roadways, parking stalls, or dumpster areas the washwater is required to be collected and directed to an infiltration area or sanitary sewer.
- 3) Pressure washing non-pollution generating surfaces such as sidewalks, siding, or roofs without soaps is allowed if storm drain protection such as a filter sock is placed in the storm drain and any residual debris is swept up when pressure washing is complete.

***Call Friends of Issaquah Salmon Hatchery to borrow a storm drain /car wash kit
(425) 392-8025 to collect washwater and direct to sanitary sewer***

Remember, only rain down the drain!

