

## WHAT IS STORMWATER?

When it rains, water runs off roofs, roadways, sidewalks and lawns picking up oil, metals, salts, pet waste, fertilizer, grass clippings and other materials. Stormwater runoff ultimately flows into storm drains, which lead directly to our local rivers and streams.

## HOW DO COMMERCIAL CAR WASHES CONTRIBUTE TO STORMWATER POLLUTION?

- Toxic chemicals such as hydrofluoric acid, phosphates from detergents, lubricants and oil.
- Debris and sediments washed from vehicles.
- Litter.

**BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP):** Behaviors and practices used by individuals to prevent or reduce stormwater pollution impacts.



### CHEMICAL USE



Take care not to overuse, or allow chemicals, lubricants and oils to spill out of containers.



### CONTROL LITTER



Pick up any litter in an around the car wash to keep it from entering storm drains and nearby waterways.



### ROUTINE MAINTENANCE



If your car wash has a grit trap, have it cleaned regularly with sludge properly handled and disposed of.



### EDUCATE STAFF



Check out EPA's safer choice guide for products <https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice/products>



### ECO FRIENDLY DETERGENT



Use biodegradable, phosphate free, fragrance free and dye free detergents.



### CHEMICAL DISPOSAL



Properly dispose of unused chemicals.