

PREVENTING POLLUTION FROM COMMERCIAL CLEANING ACTIVITIES

The following Best Management Practices are recommended to prevent mobile cleaning wastewater discharges (such as carpet, flooring, drapery or furniture cleaning washwater) from entering storm sewers.

DO:

Discharge the washwater into the sanitary sewer:

- at the job site (a toilet, sink or clean out)
- at your (contractor's) place of business
- at a discharge location specified by the local municipality or Monroe County Pure Waters.

Dry cleanup first, before washing, to reduce contaminated runoff.

Dispose of all water and detergents, even those that are labeled nontoxic or biodegradable, to the sanitary sewer.

Use a lint trap or filter to remove any solids before discharging to the sanitary sewer.

Throw solids into the garbage, unless contaminated with hazardous materials.

Read and follow all label instructions.

DON'T: Discharge any washwater into a storm drain or a basement sump.

DON'T: Dispose of washwater into a street, gutter, driveway, parking lot or storm drain.

DON'T: Use untreated washwater for landscape irrigation. It may harm plants.

DON'T: Dispose of solids into sanitary sewer systems. Solids may clog pipes.

SPILLS:

Mobile cleaners should have the equipment, materials and personnel to handle a spill. Take preventative action to act quickly to reduce harmful and illegal discharges.

If a spill occurs, use environmentally friendly products (e.g. kitty litter) to contain the spilled materials. Protect storm drains. Report all spills and discharges that cannot be contained to local authorities for their help.



To learn more about reducing stormwater pollution, visit the Stormwater Coalition of Monroe County website: www.thestormwatercoalition.org, or the H2O Hero website: www.h2ohero.org