

Power Carwash/ Mobile Cleaning Business

Car-wash and mobile power washing water contains chemicals and sediment that, if released, can contaminate drinking water supplies and block sewer lines, damage pumps, and upset the proper treatment of wastewater and/or pollute the MS4 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System. The following steps will help keep your business in compliance and keep our community's water supply safe:

- Check to see if you need a Permit.
- Use biodegradable and non-toxic cleaning products as well as phosphorous free soap. (Cleaning products labeled "nontoxic" and "biodegradable" can still harm wildlife if they enter a storm drain system.) Some examples are: Green Earth Technologies Car Wash; Eco Touch Waterless Car Wash; and Simple Green Wash and Wax.
- Store, recycle, and dispose of all wastes to avoid spills or releases. You are responsible for the proper management of any waste from the time the waste is generated through final disposal.
- Take appropriate precautions and obtain required registrations related to any fuel tanks at your site.
- Use best management practices to ensure a clean and healthful car wash for your customers, employees and the environment.
- Filter the dirty wash water before it enters the storm sewer system. Catch basins and sand and grit traps can serve this purpose.
- Check with Texarkana Water Utilities at 903-798-3800 to inquire about discharging wash water into the sanitary sewer system.

You are in violation if:

Any wastewater from a commercial/mobile power washer or from the washing or other cleaning of a building exterior that contains any soap, detergent, degreaser, solvent, or any other harmful cleaning substance enters a storm drain.

Stormwater

Stormwater is rain and snow melt which runs across the ground "runoff" picking up pollutants like sediment, soap, pet waste, chemicals, fertilizers, etc. and drains into the inlets, storm drains, streams, creeks, lakes and rivers. This stormwater "runoff" is not cleaned or filtered in anyway. Therefore, if anything except rain goes down the inlets, storm drains, streams, creeks, lakes and rivers may contaminate our drinking water.

See the back for relevant sections of the ordinance

The City of Texarkana, Texas
Stormwater Management
919 Elm Street
Phone: 903-798-3948 Fax: 903-792-6419
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Sec. 125-34. - Specific prohibitions and requirements.

The specific prohibitions and requirements in this section are not inclusive of all the discharges prohibited by this chapter.

(a) No person shall recklessly introduce or cause to be introduced into the MS4 any discharge that causes or contributes to causing the city to violate a water quality standard, the city's TPDES permit, or any other discharge permit for discharges from its MS4.

(b) It shall be a violation of this chapter for any person to intentionally deposit, discharge, dispose, drain, dump, emit, empty, leak, leach, pump, pour, spill, throw or otherwise introduce or cause to be introduced into the MS4, or any storm sewer manhole, catch basin, private drain, ditch, street, gutter, creek, stream, tributary, or any other drainage device which connects with or drains into the MS4, any of the following described materials or substances within the city limits:

(6) Any wastewater from a commercial carwash facility; from any vehicle washing, cleaning, or maintenance at any new or used automobile or other vehicle dealership, rental agency, body shop, repair shop, maintenance facility, or automotive related facility; or from any washing, cleaning, or maintenance of any business or commercial or public service vehicle, including a truck, bus or heavy equipment, by a business that operates more than two (2) such vehicles.

(7) Any wastewater from a commercial mobile power washer or from the washing or other cleaning of a building exterior that contains any soap, detergent, degreaser, solvent, or any other harmful cleaning substance.

Ordinance Chapter 125-93. Penalty. You could be subject to a fine of not more than \$2,000.00 per violation, per day, or any greater fine authorized by law. Each day, or portion of a day, for which a violation occurs shall constitute a separate violation.

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