

## Containment and Recovery Options

**CONTAINMENT MATS.** Portable structure with foam berms on all sides placed under vehicle to contain wash water. Foldable for easy transport.

**BERMS.** Filter socks, sand-filled tubes, sand bags, and gravel bags placed across flow path of water. Berms create a dam that contains wash water so it can be recovered for disposal.

**VACUUM/PUMP SYSTEMS.** Devices such as wet/dry vacuums, sump pumps, vacuum pumps, hoses and attachments used to recover contained wash water after washing. Pump systems may have multiple attachments to both contain and recover wash water.



Containment mats



Berms



Vacuum/pump systems



## Stormwater Pollution and Water Quality

The sanitary sewer system and the storm drain system are not the same thing.

Washing or sweeping anything into the street gutter is against the City Municipal Code and is harmful to the environment.

### Disposal Options

**LANDSCAPED AREA.** Disposal of small volumes where non-toxic cleaning products were used. Minimize use of strong detergents and other chemicals. All wash water must soak into the ground and not flow off landscaped area. Must have permission of property owner.

**SANITARY SEWER.** Disposal at place of business for small volumes of collected wash water and always for carpet cleaning wash water. Large volumes may be disposed of at the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant.

### Product Resources

- [www.lowes.com](http://www.lowes.com)
- [www.homedepot.com](http://www.homedepot.com)

*All references to products, retailers, or manufacturers are for informational purposes only and do not represent an endorsement of any particular product or entity by the City.*

#### Did you know?

Dumping one quart of motor oil down a storm drain contaminates 250,000 gallons of water.

# Mobile Washer GUIDE

for Protecting Stormwater Quality



**MOBILE WASHING OPERATIONS THAT CAN NEGATIVELY IMPACT WATER QUALITY IN THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA:**

- Car and equipment cleaning
- Pressure washing and surface cleaning
- Carpet cleaning
- Mobile bottling and canning

CITY OF SANTA MARIA



**Utilities Department**



**City of Santa Maria UTILITIES DEPARTMENT**

Questions?  
Call (805) 925-0951 ext. 7270  
[www.cityofsantamaria.org](http://www.cityofsantamaria.org)

# NO STORMWATER POLLUTION



# YES POLLUTION PREVENTION



## Pollution Prevention Steps

1. Locate storm drain inlets within your working area.
2. Look for high and low spots to determine the direction wash water will flow.
3. Cover or protect storm drain inlets that are in the flow path of wash water.
4. Dry sweep work area before and after tasks are complete.
5. Use rubber sand, tube sock, gravel bags, or other device to create a berm to pool wash water.
6. Collect pooled wash and rinse water using a vacuum or sump pump.
7. Small amounts of wash or rinse water can be discharged to landscaped, vegetated, or grassy areas with permission of property owner.
8. Dispose large amounts of wash or rinse water to the sanitary sewer via utility sink, tub, toilet.
9. Always dispose of carpet cleaning water to the sanitary sewer.
10. Minimize use of soaps, solvent cleaners, and water.
11. Never discharge wash or rinse water to the storm drain system.

**NOTHING BUT RAIN DOWN THE STORM DRAIN**

Water discharged by mobile washing activities can carry pollutants like heavy metals, oil, grease, soaps, solvents, and toxic compounds to the City's stormwater basins, channels, and the Santa Maria River.