

Alternatives

- Use a commercial vehicle wash that recycles its water or sends its wash water to a sanitary sewer.
- Wash cars on lawn area to allow the grass and soil to act as a natural filter, capturing the material from your car (avoid grassy swales, which are connected to the storm drain).
- Wring sponges and wash rags into buckets, not onto the ground.
- The Car Wash at 3232 E. Kansas Ave. Contact Kenny Green at 620-275-6796.



Garden City Stormwater
Management Program

301 N. 8th St.
P.O. Box 998
Garden City, KS 67846

Stormwater Hotline: 620-276-1120
Email: stormwater@garden-city.org

Garden City Stormwater
Management Program



**STORMWATER
SPECIAL EVENTS**

*Only Rain
Down The Storm Drain*



GOOD HOUSEKEEPING PRACTICES FOR CAR WASH FUNDRAISING EVENTS:

FUNDRAISING CAR WASH

During a car wash, dirty water containing soap and detergents, residues from exhaust fumes, gasoline and motor oils washes off the cars, flows off the pavement and into nearby storm drains.

Unlike the water we use in our homes and businesses which is treated at wastewater treatment plants, the water goes into storm drains flows directly into the river. Alone, one car wash fundraiser event will have little, adverse environmental impact. Hundreds of summer car wash fundraiser events, however, contribute significant amounts of pollution to our water supply.

To help you comply with municipal regulations, we suggest that you follow the following "Good Housekeeping Practices" for an environmentally friendly car wash fundraising event.

Using these practices, you will achieve two equally important goals; 1) Raise a great deal of money for your cause and, 2) Minimize the amount of soapy wash water that enters any storm drain.

Good Housekeeping Practice #1

Get your permit from the City Stormwater Coordinator at the City Offices on 301 N. 8th Street, this way they know where the event is and they can set up their environmentally friendly equipment.

Good Housekeeping Practice #2

Before beginning your car wash, remove all trash and debris from the car washing area.

Good Housekeeping Practice #3

Use only soaps, cleaners, or detergents labeled "non-toxic", "phosphate free", or "biodegradable". Products that have a less negative impact on the environment, for this purpose are typically vegetable-based or citrus-based soaps.

Good Housekeeping Practice #4

Avoid the use of acid-based wheel cleaners. Along with other environmentally unfriendly cleaning agents.

Good Housekeeping Practice #5

Try to minimize the amount of water or soapy wash water running off the car washing area by trying the following:

- Always shut off or kink the hoses when not in use.
- Whenever possible, select a site where the cars can be driven onto grass or gravel for washing. Or, select a site

where wash water will drain onto grass, gravel or landscaping, or into the sanitary sewer system. This will allow the soapy water to filter through vegetation and soil instead of flowing into a storm drain.

- Use a bucket of soapy water to re-soap rags or sponges throughout the wash rather than adding more soap directly to the rag/sponge.
- Do not empty buckets of soapy or rinse water into the parking lot, street, gutter or storm drains. Always empty buckets into the sanitary sewer system (e.g. sinks or toilets).



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