



<p align="center"><b>City of San Diego</b> <b>PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT</b></p>  	<p><b>CATEGORY</b> CHEMICAL</p>	<p><b>PAGE</b> 1 of 2</p>	<p><b>DATE</b> Revised August 2004 Supersedes September 2002</p>
	<p><b>BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE (BMP)</b> PREVENTING WATER USED FOR POWER WASHING FROM ENTERING STORM DRAINS</p>		

**PROCEDURES**

1. Locate storm drains; visually inspect and remove debris prior to beginning activity. When possible, move activity away from storm drain inlet.
2. Protect the storm drain(s) if there is any chance the pollutant could enter using a tarp to cover the storm drain and sand bags to secure the tarp. This added protection of the storm drain is secondary to the containing and capturing of the wash water.
3. Before using power washing equipment: Assess if water is necessary to remove the substance(s) from the surface. Use dry clean up methods (broom or absorbent material), or mop to clean the surface whenever possible.
4. If power washing is necessary, locate high and low spots to determine the direction of flow from the work area, and where the wash water can be pooled for collection or directed into landscaped areas to seep into the ground.
5. Be certain the work area is free of all debris prior to power washing (follow all BMPs that apply).
6. Fully assess the work area and how wash water can be contained. Items to be considered include the location and size of the area, wash water containment options, wet/dry vac capabilities, and wash water disposal methods (landscaping or sewer system). For example, the work may require two staff to complete (one person to power wash; one to collect the wash water), or if done solo, the work will need to be completed in stages to completely contain and collect the wash water.
7. Place safety cones around the area to be power washed. Set up containment barriers as needed.
8. Wear all appropriate personal protective equipment (eye protection, boots).
9. During the power washing activity: Monitor the containment area continuously to ensure that wash water is contained and not allowed to enter the storm water conveyance system (including parking lots, street gutters, roads, and storm drains). Wash water from power washing **parking lots** must be captured and contained before it reaches the street gutter. Wash water from power washing **sidewalks** may be contained in the street gutter if absolutely necessary, providing no wash water overflows the containment barrier.
10. Avoid using chemicals in the power washing process.
11. Dispose of wash water into landscaped areas or through the sewer system. Wash water directed into landscaped areas must seep into the ground and not cause run off.
12. At conclusion of activity, visually inspect storm drain, clean up any debris; remove tarps, sand bags, safety cones, and containment barriers.

**CHEMICAL**

<p><b>MAPS</b> Map of storm drain locations must be available to staff at every work location.</p>
<p><b>MONITORING/FREQUENCY</b> Perform this Best Management Practice (BMP) as often as needed.</p>
<p><b>FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, REFER TO THE FOLLOWING RESOURCES</b></p> <p><b>CITY POLICY</b> Storm Water Guidelines For Power Washing In Downtown Enhancement Areas</p> <p><b>DEPARTMENT POLICY</b> No written policy at this time</p> <p><b>BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE</b> See ALL</p>

**PARKS AND RECREATION JOB CLASSIFICATIONS THAT PERFORM THIS TASK**

Equipment Technician  
Grounds Maintenance Worker  
Utility Worker  
(plus any site staff who may be required to power wash in an emergency situation)

**NON-CITY EMPLOYEES WHO PERFORM THIS TASK**

Contractors

**EQUIPMENT/SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR ALL SITES**

Maps Indicating Storm Drain Inlets  
Personal Protective Equipment (ex., Eye Protection, Gloves, Tyvek Suit, Rubber Boots)  
Spill Kit  
Storm Drain Protection Equipment (ex., Tarp, Sand or Gravel Bags, Absorbent Socks, Cover)

**SITE SPECIFIC EQUIPMENT/SUPPLIES NEEDED**

Blower  
Broom/Dustpan  
Containment Barrier (ex., Additional Sand Bags, Absorbent Socks)  
Filter Fabric  
Mop/Bucket  
Power Washing System  
Safety Cone  
Squeegee  
Trash Bag  
Wet/Dry Vac

**POSSIBLE LOCATIONS OF USE/ACTIVITY**

Medians  
Parks  
Recreation Centers  
Rights-of-Way

**POSSIBLE SURFACES AFFECTED**

Asphalt  
Concrete  
Dirt  
Gravel  
Sand  
Turf

**PROCEDURES FOR SPILLED/DUMPED/MISHANDLED PRODUCT/ACTIVITY**

Shut down power wash equipment immediately and shut off water at the source. Wet/dry vac excess water. Check containment barriers and storm drain protection; reinforce if needed.

**EVALUATION CRITERIA**

Following Storm Water Code Enforcement requirements.  
Supervisors will conduct and document periodic visual inspections.

**BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE  
DEVELOPED BY:  
Parks and Recreation Department  
Staff**

Johnny Tully, Grounds Maintenance Manager

**BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE  
REVIEWED/COMPILED(♦) BY:  
Department Storm Water Advisory Group**

Div Brasted, District Manager  
Joy Newman, Environmental Services  
Margaret Ransom, Training Coordinator ♦  
Lisa Rini, Training Program Manager

**REVISION HISTORY**

**2004** Joy Newman and Lisa Rini

Please notify the Training Program Manager of the need for corrections and/or revisions, 619/525-8245.  
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