



WHEN YOU CONTRACT FOR
**SURFACE
CLEANING**

SIDEWALKS
PLAZAS
DUMPSTER AREAS
BUILDING EXTERIORS
PARKING AREAS
DRIVE-THROUGHS

MAKE SURE THE COMPANY YOU HIRE KNOWS HOW TO

**DO THE JOB
RIGHT!**

These outdoor cleaning activities are a significant source of water pollution in the Bay/Delta area. When soapy, grimy wastes reach a storm drain, they flow directly to local creeks, the Bay, and the Delta—with no wastewater treatment.

Storm drain pollution is against the law in California. Liability is shared by the property owner and the actual discharger of pollutant-carrying wastes.

Now there's a training/recognition program for surface cleaners who want to **Do the Job Right!**

Two regional regulatory agencies concerned with preventing water pollution are sponsoring a region-wide training program for these “mobile cleaners.” At a series of workshops presented by the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association and the Regional Water Quality Control Board, mobile cleaners are being trained to prevent storm drain pollution in a variety of cleaning situations.

Cleaners who have completed the training should show their certificate before beginning work, and leave you with a voucher declaring that your site has been cleaned according to the following guidelines listed on the back.

For a current list of recognized mobile cleaners, visit basmaa.org or call (510) 622-2326.

Preventing Pollution From Surface Cleaning

Type of Surface	Cleaning Method	Proper Disposal
Sidewalks, plazas	Dry cleanup* first, wash without soap	Screen wash water,* if needed, to catch debris THEN Discharge to landscaping,* or to a gutter, street, or storm drain
Sidewalks, plazas	Block the storm drain or contain runoff* Dry cleanup,* the wash with soap*	Discharge to landscaping* OR Collect water and pump to the sewer*
Parking areas, driveways, drive-throughs	1. Block the storm drain or contain runoff* 2. Use absorbents to pick up oil; then dry sweep 3. Clean with or without soap	Collect water and pump to the sewer* <i>Check the local wastewater authority's requirements for discharge</i>
Restaurant/food handling dumpster areas, grease storage	Block the storm drain or contain runoff*	If you must use water after sweeping/using absorbents, collect water and pump to the sewer* <i>Check the local wastewater authority's requirements for discharge</i>
Building surfaces, decks, etc., without loose paint	Dry cleanup Use high-pressure water, no soap	Screen wash water,* if needed, to catch debris THEN Discharge to landscaping,* or to a gutter, street, or storm drain
Unpainted building surfaces, wood decks, etc.	Block the storm drain or contain runoff* Use soap or acid wash to remove deposits, wood restorer, or other chemicals	Make sure pH is between 6 and 10 THEN Discharge to landscaping* OR Collect wash water in a tank* and pump to the sewer <i>Check the local wastewater authority's requirements for discharge</i>
Painted surfaces being cleaned to remove paint or graffiti	Block the storm drain or contain runoff* Use any cleaning method	Collect wash water in a tank and pump to the sewer, or dispose as hazardous waste, as appropriate* <i>Call the local wastewater authority or the state Department of Toxic Substances Control (510-540-3732) for help in determining whether the paint contains toxic pollutants such as lead, mercury, or tri-butyl tin; or if the solvent cleaners you use are hazardous</i>
Graffiti removal	Block the storm drain or contain runoff* Wet sand-blast	Direct all runoff to a landscaped or unpaved area* OR Follow instructions above for painted surfaces