

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION
2101 WEBSTER STREET, Suite 500
OAKLAND, CA 94612

Tel: (510) 286-1255
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October 10, 1996

TO: Surface Cleaners and Cleaning Equipment Distributors

SUBJECT: Pilot Source Control Program for Mobile Cleaners

Mobile cleaners (surface cleaners, janitorial services, auto detailers, carpet cleaners, window cleaners) have been identified as a significant source of discharges of material, wastes, and polluted waters to storm drain systems in the San Francisco Bay Area. This information impacts surface cleaners in three ways:

- Surface cleaners are liable for pollutant discharges to the storm drain system resulting from their cleaning activities.
- Municipalities will soon be enforcing discharge prohibitions more reliably and possibly more severely.
- An opportunity is available for surface cleaners to become educated on appropriate methods of wash water disposal and gain some good publicity for environmentally responsible cleaning.

The San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) realizes that it may be difficult to deal with these discharges because of the variable quantity and quality of the discharge, the intermittent nature of the discharge, and the mobility of the discharger. Consequently, to eliminate and prevent water pollution resulting from these discharges, the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA) in conjunction with the Regional Board has developed a pilot source control/recognition program for mobile cleaners. This program is primarily focused on educating mobile cleaner businesses and their customers on practices to reduce pollutants from mobile cleaner activities. The purpose of this letter is to advise you of this program, and more importantly, to strongly recommend that surface cleaners:

- participate in the program by attending a source control/recognition workshop and becoming a Recognized Mobile Cleaner (see enclosed workshop notification), and
- use pollution prevention practices when cleaning.

The pilot source control/recognition program is initially focusing on a target group of mobile cleaners. The target group is comprised of surface cleaners (steam cleaners and pressure washers that clean sidewalks, plazas, building exteriors, parking areas, driveways, and drive-through areas). The surface cleaner program will be used as a prototype for developing materials and approaches for the remaining types of mobile cleaners. To date, the pilot program has completed the development of outreach material (including identification of pollution prevention practices), conducted one workshop on August 13, and has scheduled outreach/recognition workshops for surface cleaners on November 12 and 13, 1996.

If you have any questions regarding the pilot program or workshop please contact Geoff Brosseau with BASMAA at (510) 286-0615.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Mumley".

Tom Mumley

Enclosures:

Fact Sheet: BASMAA Pilot Source Control Program for Mobile Cleaners
Outreach/Recognition Workshop Flyer

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July 1, 1996

TO: Municipal Storm Water Programs and Municipal Departments that Hire or
Inspect Mobile Cleaners

SUBJECT: Pilot Source Control Program for Mobile Cleaners

Mobile cleaners (surface cleaners, janitorial services, auto detailers, carpet cleaners, window cleaners) have been identified as significant sources of discharges of material, wastes, and polluted waters to storm drain systems in the San Francisco Bay Area. This information impacts municipalities in two ways:

- A key component of the municipal storm water permit program is the effective prohibition of such discharges to storm drain systems.
- Municipalities and businesses that hire mobile cleaners are liable for discharges from these cleaning activities.

The San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) realizes that it may be difficult for municipalities to deal with these discharges because of the variable quantity and quality of the discharge, the intermittent nature of the discharge, and the mobility of the discharger. Consequently, to eliminate and prevent water pollution resulting from these discharges, the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA) in conjunction with the Regional Board has developed a pilot source control/recognition program for mobile cleaners. This program is primarily focused on educating mobile cleaner businesses and their customers on best management practices (BMPs) to reduce pollutants from mobile cleaner activities. The purpose of this letter is to advise you of this program, and more importantly, to strongly recommend that municipalities:

- participate in the program by becoming familiar with the BMPs (see enclosed outreach material) and incorporating them into the municipality's own storm water management program,
- become aware of surface cleaners and customers in the municipality's jurisdiction (see enclosed database), and

- make use of the mobile cleaners who participate in the program by only hiring for public contracts "Recognized Mobile Cleaners" that have been through the training and passed a test on BMPs.

The pilot source control/recognition program is initially focusing on a target group of mobile cleaners. The target group is comprised of surface cleaners (steam cleaners and pressure washers that clean sidewalks, plazas, building exteriors, parking areas, driveways, and drive-through areas). The surface cleaner program will be used as a prototype for developing materials and approaches for the remaining types of mobile cleaners. To date, the pilot program has completed the development of outreach material (including identification of BMPs) and has scheduled an outreach/recognition workshop for surface cleaners on August 13, 1996.

If you have any questions regarding the pilot program or workshop please contact Geoff Brosseau with BASMAA at (510) 286-0615.

Sincerely,



Tom Mumley

Enclosures:

Fact Sheet: BASMAA Pilot Source Control Program for Mobile Cleaners

For Storm Water Program Coordinators only:

Surface Cleaner BMP Folder: "Pollution From Surface Cleaning"

Surface Cleaner and Customer Database

For municipal customers of surface cleaners only:

Customer Flyer: "When You Contract for Surface Cleaning..."