



# Your Actions Prevent Stormwater Pollution!

## Standard Operating Procedures for Water Quality Protection

### Vehicle Washing SOP

#### Why

**Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)** have been prepared for all activities conducted as part of the City's Municipal Operations that have the potential to impact 'waters of the state. One of the primary goals of these SOPs is to **provide time-tested, generally accepted routine procedures that minimize the potential for release of pollutants from the site during the performance of municipal operations activities.**

#### What

This **Vehicle Washing** SOP provides operational best management practices (BMPs) developed to control pollutant discharges by promoting a conscious effort when washing City-contracted vehicles and equipment to reduce the amount of sediment, antifreeze, heavy metals, oil and other materials that may runoff from the wash rack. Uncontrolled washing activities have a potential to produce a high concentration of pollutants in runoff wash water to the stormwater system. These procedures are critical steps that must be included in every vehicle washing activity at the Road & Bridge South Peoria Street facility Wash Rack, including the truck rinse off area to the west of the Wash Rack.



#### Who

All City employees and City-contracted personnel including Trustees, who provide vehicle washing services.

#### Where

All activities at the Road & Bridge South Peoria Street facility Wash Rack for vehicles and equipment, including the rinse off area for trucks.

### DO

- Keep the Wash Rack area neat and well organized. Sweep or pick up all trash and debris daily or as needed, before it is carried away during a storm event.
- Keep the drain sock handy and close by as it will be used frequently. Replace drain sock when it can no longer hold back the sediments from the drain.
- Use the drain socks to protect the wash rack drain from excessive sediments. Prior to any washing activity, put the "sock" filter medium around the four sides of the drain to catch any sediment and debris from washing activity. Even if you might not 'see' any sediment, there is usually quite a bit on the undercarriage.
- After each washing activity, sweep up the filtered sediment and debris after it is dry to keep it from going back down the drain or off site during a storm event. Transfer to a container for storage. Use DRY cleanup only, do not hose down accumulated sediments.
- Transport the dried sediment to the Vector Truck washout area when quantity collected and stored is sufficient to warrant a trip there.
- Use biodegradable, phosphate free detergents.
- Keep equipment clean; do not allow a buildup of oil/grease. Conduct daily inspections.

### DO NOT

- DO NOT** let waste accumulate at Wash Rack.
- DO NOT** let filtered sediments that were kept from the drain with the drain sock go either back down the drain or be carried off site in a rain event.
- DO NOT** wash or hose down the washing area except where the wash water will only enter the sanitary sewer drain as an approved discharge.
- DO NOT** handle detergent containers alone if awkward or requires over-exertion on your part. Get help and spread the weight load.
- DO NOT** use phosphate detergents; this is in the Cherry Creek basin that has a regulatory standard in place for Phosphorous.
- DO NOT** use spray-on acid-based wheel cleaners where the rinse water may flow to a storm drain untreated.