Pressure Washing

Stormwater Best Management Practices

Protect creeks and lakes.
Avoid fines for polluting.







Prior to Pressure Washing

Determine the following:

- How dirty wash water will be collected and disposed.
- Whether detergents or chemicals will be needed. If so, use eco-friendly products.
- Which direction the wash water will flow and where it will collect.
- Which nearby storm drains have the potential to be impacted.

Pre-Cleaning

- Prior to pressure washing, remove trash, debris, and oil buildup using dry methods such as absorbents, sweeping or shoveling. **Do Not** hose off the area.
- Protect nearby storm drains from being impacted during washing operations by using filter socks, booms or other methods.
- Train employees regularly to ensure they are knowledgeable about proper cleaning techniques and discharge requirements.

Collection of Wash Water

- Wash water can contain detergents, chemicals, oil, grease, heavy metals, paint, or excess sediment and should always be collected and disposed of properly.
- Refer to the QR code below to determine if wash water needs to be collected and disposed of.
- When needing to collect wash water, use a sump pump or wet vacuum to collect the wash water from the determined collection point.
- Store collected wash water in leakproof containers and ensure they are secured during transport to prevent spills.

Disposal of Collected Wash Water

- **Never** discharge collected wash water into a public sewer manhole or a storm drain. Only use approved disposal locations.
- Contact Charlotte Water at 704-525-6435 for approval and discharge requirements before sending collected wash water to the sanitary sewer system (i.e. toilets, wash basins, utility sinks, and cleanout pipes).
- Always test wash water pH before disposal. If it is outside the allowable range (6–9) or if the water contains excessive solids, poses a fire/explosive hazard, or may include hazardous waste, contact an environmental services company.

Scan the QR code or visit StormWater.CharMeck.org for more information and acceptable practices for disposal of wash water.

Mecklenburg County and the City of Charlotte are committed to making our services and programs accessible to all. To make a reasonable accommodation or language access request, please email stormwater@mecknc.gov or call 980-314-3218.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg STORM WATER Services

Storm Drains are for Rain Only



Stormwater goes directly to our creeks and lakes without treatment. Pollution that washes away with rain and enters storm drains is called stormwater pollution.

Preventing stormwater pollution is important for:

- Drinking Water
- Recreation
- Fish & Wildlife
- Quality of Life

Pollution *isn't just* bad for the environment—IT'S ILLEGAL.

You can be fined up to $10,000 per day, per event.

Report Spills and Stormwater Pollution to 311 or (704) 336-7600

For more information, visit StormWater.CharMeck.org.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg STORM WATER Services