



Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), water that flows into storm drains is **not treated** before entering our waterways and should never contain washwater or pollutants generated by mobile businesses.

Power Washing

Vehicle Washing



Who is H₂OC?

H₂OC is YOU! H₂OC is also a cooperative stormwater program which includes all 34 cities in Orange County, the County of Orange, and Orange County Flood Control District (OCFCD). Clean and healthy beaches, creeks, rivers, bays, wetlands, and ocean are important to Orange County. H₂OC provides resources to residents and businesses to encourage personal action and prevent polluted runoff from entering our waterways.

Join Us

Visit h2oc.org to learn more about runoff, water pollution, and how you can be the solution to runoff pollution and protect our water resources!

Contact

📞 **24-hour Pollution Reporting Hotline:**
1-877-89-SPILL (1-877-897-7455)

📱 **24-hour Reporting Website:**
myOCeServices.ocgov.com

For emergencies, dial 911

* There are several criteria that washwater must meet before it can be discharged to landscaped areas or the sanitary sewer system. Visit h2oc.org for more information.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
FOR BUSINESSES

WATER POLLUTION AND THE MOBILE BUSINESS INDUSTRY

YOU ARE THE SOLUTION TO RUNOFF POLLUTION



How is Water Quality Affected by Mobile Businesses?

The mobile business industry generates a variety of waste products which can become pollutants. These can include metals, grease, oil, chemicals, dirt, and bacteria. If not properly managed, washwater containing these pollutants can be transported to Orange County's rivers, creeks, channels, and ocean through our storm drain system.

Examples of Mobile Businesses using BMPs to contain and collect pollutants and washwater.

Carpet Cleaning

Pet Grooming



You can protect water quality by using and deploying BMPs appropriate to your Mobile Business.

← Learn more inside



By law, mobile businesses are required to implement best management practices (BMPs) to prevent runoff pollution.

Best Management Practices for Mobile Businesses

Implement these required best management practices (BMPs) to be in compliance and avoid enforcement actions:



Scan for more information about mobile business BMPs or visit h2oc.org/resources/pollution-prevention-for-businesses/mobile-businesses/



Locate

business operations away from storm drain inlets to prevent accidental flows or discharges from reaching the storm drain system.



Locate and protect all drains and catch basins where washwater could potentially enter the storm drain system.



No discharges to the curb and gutter or storm drain system are allowed.



Contain

your work area by deploying adequate and effective BMPs prior to beginning work.



Minimize water use and use dry cleanup methods in the work area before performing work.



Use appropriate BMPs specific to your mobile business.



Collect

all washwater using a wet/dry vacuum, pump, washwater tank, or alternative recovery system. Washwater tanks must remain closed at all times until the contents can be properly disposed.



Regularly inspect and maintain equipment to prevent spills/leaks and ensure proper function.



For mobile vehicle washing, use a dry-cleaning method or portable water containment mat equipped with berms.



Dispose

of washwater properly* by following one or more of the options below:



With property owner permission, direct the flow of washwater to a landscaped area. All washwater must completely soak into the ground before you leave the site.



Dispose washwater in a sewer cleanout, utility sink, or toilet with property owner permission. Remove all heavy debris, hazardous materials, or anything that can clog the sink or toilet.



Take washwater off site for proper disposal at a sanitary sewer dump station, your business location, or place of residence.

What Pollutants are Generated By Mobile Businesses?



Vehicle Washing

When vehicles are cleaned, pollutants generated can include toxic cleaning chemicals, automotive fluids, dirt, and metals from brake dust (copper, lead, nickel, and zinc).



Carpet Cleaning

Carpet cleaning services can generate pollutants including toxic cleaning chemicals, dirt, and carpet fibers.



Pet Grooming

Mobile pet grooming services can generate pollutants including bacteria, soaps, chemicals (e.g. flea medication), fur, and dirt.



Power Washing

Power washing of buildings and impervious surfaces such as walkways, patios, roofs, walls, or waste storage areas can generate pollutants including dirt, debris, bacteria, and chemicals.