



RIVERSIDE COUNTY
WATERSHED PROTECTION



Best Management Practices

for the Mobile Business Industry

Be the Solution. Prevent Runoff Pollution.

The water that flows into storm drains is not treated before flowing into Riverside County's creeks, rivers, lakes, and eventually the ocean (unlike the sanitary sewer system). It should never contain washwater or pollutants like metals, dirt, carpet fibers, toxic chemicals, and other hazardous substances generated by mobile businesses. If these pollutants are not properly contained and cleaned up right away, they can runoff into the storm drain and harm our waterways.

Preventing runoff pollution while serving your customers protects aquatic life, water quality, and keeps our waterways thriving. While conducting business activities, make sure to contain your work area, utilize control mechanisms like using as little water as possible, and properly dispose of all debris and wastewater.

Mobile Business Pollutant Sources

Vehicle Washing

Washing vehicles can produce pollutants like toxic cleaning chemicals, automotive fluids, dirt, and metals from brake dust (copper, lead, nickel, and zinc).

Carpet Cleaning

Cleaning carpets generates pollutants like cleaning chemicals, dirt, and carpet fibers.

Pet Grooming

Grooming pets creates bacteria, soaps, chemicals (like flea medication), fur, and dirt that can flow into the storm drain.

Power Washing

Power washing buildings and impervious surfaces like walkways, patios, roofs, walls, or waste storage areas can wash pollutants like dirt, debris, paint, and harmful chemicals into the street and down the storm drain.

Best Management Practices for Mobile Businesses

Protect our waterways while serving your customers by implementing these BMPs (best management practices):



Who We Are


Riverside County Watershed Protection is a partnership program between Riverside County, the Flood Control & Water Conservation District, Coachella Valley Water District, and 27 cities that manage watershed programs which protect, preserve, and enhance the quality of the water and the natural environment of our watersheds.


What We Do


The partnership uses a combination of public education, best management practices, evaluation, and water quality monitoring to eliminate stormwater pollution in our waterways and comply with all federal, state, and local regulations. Our aim is to empower residents with information about pollution prevention and implement tactics that keep our watersheds healthy.

Contact Us

To report pollution:

 Call (800) 506-2555

 Visit rcwatershed.org/get-involved/report-pollution

 For emergencies, dial 911



Plan Ahead

- ✓ Before starting business activities, ensure all drains and catch basins are located and protected from washwater.
- ✓ Prevent any discharges to the curb, gutter, and storm drain.



Contain

- ✓ Utilize dry cleanup methods and minimize water use as much as possible.
- ✓ Implement the BMPs relevant to your business, like using berms around pressure washing area.
- ✓ Wash vehicles and large animals over pervious surfaces (i.e., lawn, soil, gravel). Surfaces must be able to absorb the wastewater without runoff or soil contamination.
- ✓ Small animals should be washed in a sink or tub.



Collect

- ✓ Use a wet/dry vacuum, pump, washwater tank, or other recovery system, and keep tank closed until disposal.
- ✓ Frequently inspect and maintain equipment to prevent spills and leaks, as well as ensure proper function.
- ✓ Use dry-cleaning methods or a portable water containment mat with berms for mobile vehicle washing.



Properly Dispose

- ✓ With the property owner's permission, dispose of washwater over a landscaped area. Make sure all washwater completely soaks into the ground before leaving the site.
- ✓ Discharge washwater in a sewer cleanout, utility sink, or toilet with the property owner's permission. Ensure all heavy debris, hazardous materials, or materials that can clog a toilet or sink are removed before discharging.
- ✓ Dispose of washwater off-site at a sanitary sewer dump station, your business location, or the place of residence. Never dump washwater into the storm drain.



For more information about stormwater-safe business activities, visit: rcwatershed.org/residents/in-my-business/best-management-practices-for-businesses.

