

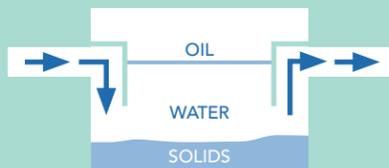
Safeguarding the Wastewater System and the Environment

Commercial Vehicle Washing Industry - Recommended Practices



1. Capture Wash Water

Ensure that all wash water is captured in drains that lead to sanitary sewers. Never discharge wastewater to lawns, storm drains, ditches or manholes, or allow runoff to the street.



2. Interceptor System

Install a vehicle wash interceptor system that captures oil and solids from all wash water before it goes to the sanitary sewer.

A vehicle wash interceptor is a building and plumbing code requirement. Hire an engineer or a plumbing professional to help select the right vehicle wash interceptor for your operation.



3. Interceptor Maintenance

Inspect the vehicle wash interceptor weekly, and have it cleaned out by a qualified service provider. This should be done according to the manufacturer's maintenance recommendations, or, as a general guideline, before the oil level reaches 2.5cm deep, and before the solids level reaches 30cm below the outlet.



4. Soaps

Use biodegradable and phosphate-free soaps.



5. Sign Posting

Post signs that prohibit engine washing, use of customer-supplied detergents, and disposal of anything except wash water to the wash area drain (this applies to self-serve facilities).



6. Cleaning Chemicals

Minimize the quantities of cleaning chemicals kept on site. Appropriately dispose of old or used fluids and containers through a Provincial Take Back Program (if applicable) or by returning to the supplier. For more information, check the Recycling Council of British Columbia website at www.rcbc.bc.ca or call 604-RECYCLE.



7. Labelling

Label cleaning and polishing products according to WHMIS requirements and store in a secure area where spills can be contained.



8. Spill Clean-up

Promptly clean up spills with a dry absorbent and appropriately dispose of used absorbents as outlined on the spill kits.



9. Staff Training

Train staff on the practices described above and maintain good records of inspection and cleaning to optimize the interceptor cleaning frequency.

For more information, see "Guide to Managing Wastewater – Commercial Vehicle Washing Industry" (available at metrovancouver.org)