



*Wastes from pressure washers must be carefully managed to prevent contamination and ensure permit compliance.*

**DO**

- ✓ Operate the pressure washer as per the manufacturer’s operating instructions.
- ✓ For outdoor cleaning, use water only (no soap).
- ✓ Collect all wastewater from water-based or solvent-based *degreasing operations* in drip pans.
- ✓ Store drip pan waste in drums and conduct a hazardous waste determination.
- ✓ For outdoor *cleaning operations*, wastewater must flow to a BMP.
- ✓ Remove dirt from heavy equipment outdoors.
- ✓ See **Fact Sheet 7.5** for cleaning salt and deicer trucks.
- ✓ When using pressure washers to clean equipment, use only in designated vehicle wash areas. **See Fact Sheet 8.7.**

**DON'T**

- ✗ Don’t allow pressure washer overspray to get on building walls or doors.
- ✗ Don’t allow spilled solvent or degreasing wastes to reach the floor drain.
- ✗ Don’t use soaps or detergents for outdoor cleaning operations.
- ✗ Don’t degrease outdoors.

**Materials & Waste Management**

- ▲ Store collected drip pan waste in clearly labeled drums.
- ▲ Conduct a hazardous waste determination for collected degreasing wastes.
- ▲ Dispose of collected degreasing wastes using an industrial waste vendor.

**Facility Checklist**

- Identify and approve work locations and conditions for pressure washers.
- Check use of pressure washers **ANNUALLY** to ensure proper procedures are being followed.
- Check runoff from outdoor use **AT RANDOM** several times per year to ensure that use will not cause a violation of the permit limits.
- Check spill kit **MONTHLY** and promptly restock after use.

**Tips and Tricks**

- ! Cleaning operation means removing deicers or dirt from equipment and vehicles using water only.
- ! Degreasing operation means using the pressure washer with water or solvents to remove grease, tar, oils, etc., from engines, vehicles and equipment.
- ! The preferred discharge location for pressure washer cleaning operations is to a floor drain that is connected to a sanitary sewer system.
- ! Soaps and detergents can cause emulsions and lead to failure of oil/water separators.

**If...Then**

- If solvents or degreasing wastes are spilled, contain the spill and clean up using a spill kit.
- If collected degreasing waste determination states the waste is hazardous, then collect the waste for proper management. **DO NOT** dispose of the waste in streams, storm drains, sanitary sewers, or sinkholes.

**Training:** 1 per Year

**Season:** Fall

**Relevant Environmental Programs**

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|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Air Quality      | <input checked="" type="radio"/> GWPP  |
| <input type="radio"/> 401/404/WQC      | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Waste |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> KPDES | <input type="radio"/> Pesticides       |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> MS4   | <input type="radio"/> SPCC             |



## **INFORMATION SOURCES**

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. *Environmental Awareness: A Road Master Training Course*. Undated. (Unit 5 p 25)

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. *Groundwater Protection Plan for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's Marshall County Maintenance Facility and Operations, District One (1), County Number 079, Lot Number 450*. Undated. Benton, Kentucky. (pages 32, 49)

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and Kentucky Transportation Center. 2005. *Environmental Handbook for Management of Highways and Transportation Facilities*. (Fact Sheet 3.10)

City of Bowling Green. 2006. *Environmental Handbook for City of Bowling Green Facilities Management*. (Fact Sheet 8.8)

## **NOTES**