Care should be taken to prevent wash water from power washing and cleaning operations from entering the storm sewer systems. Wash water has the potential to contain illicit and harmful substances that are damaging to the environment. The University's MS4 Permit only allows clean water discharges into the stormwater system and requires that the University implements Best Management Practices to prevent the discharge of pollutants from campus.

DO

- ✓ Inspect and dry clean parking structures before pressure washing.
- ✓ Clean any automotive spills or drips with dry absorbent methods.
- ✓ Set up containment tools (e.g., berms, tarps, drain covers, plugs, pumps) to block and divert wash water from entering storm drains.
- ✓ Prevent the discharge of pollutants to the stormwater system by managing runoff via one of the approved options below:
  - Option #1 - Discharge all wash water into the sanitary sewer system. Before discharge into a sanitary manhole, wash water must be filtered and tested to ensure a safe discharge. Environmental Quality Management (EQM) must be notified of any release at least 7 days in advance and testing and filtration documentation must be submitted and reviewed before discharge.
  - Option #2 - Collect wash water with subsequent transportation and discharge at a permitted sewer treatment plant.
- ✓ Clean up the site after pressure washing has been completed. No debris, equipment, runoff, or residue is to be left on or around the site.



Required Training: Prior to beginning work

Relevant UK Departments:

- Capital Project Management
- Facilities Construction Management

DON'T

- ✗ Don't allow any runoff into floor drains and trenches, unless confirmed that they are connected to the sanitary sewer system. Don't assume that floor drains and trenches are connected to the sanitary sewer system.
- ✗ Don't wash oil-stained areas without first dry-cleaning them using absorbent materials. Don't wash surfaces without first sweeping or removing loose debris.
- ✗ Don't release wash water, especially if it contains soap, acid, chemicals, grease, or oil, into storm sewers. These items can have negative and possibly detrimental effects on the aquatic ecosystem and the release is in violation of the University's MS4 Permit.
- ✗ Don't assume that biodegradable or eco-friendly soaps are safe for storm drain discharge. They still require collection and proper disposal.
- ✗ Don't freely pre-wash surfaces in preparation for pressure washing, all water used in the service must be contained and collected.

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- ➲ Immediately report and document any accidental release to EQM.
- ➲ Inspect pressure washing equipment regularly for leaks, especially hoses, connectors, and containment pumps.

ACTIVITY CHECKLIST

- ☐ Ensure storm drains are protected, and wash water is contained and collected.
- ☐ Ensure site is adequately picked up after operations.