



Manage Your Flow *on the Go*

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR MOBILE BUSINESSES. Mobile businesses are an important part of our community and, like all businesses, you must follow best management practices to ensure your processes and waste products don't harm the environment. Federal, State, and local regulations prohibit the discharge of pollutants (wastewater, sediment, debris, etc.) from mobile cleaning operations into the storm drain system; which includes streets, gutters, and catch basins. Check out the tips on the opposite side of this tip card, which correspond to the numbers on the front of the card, to ensure that you are conducting your business in a safe and legal manner.



CITY OF TORRANCE • Community Development Department
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You must obtain a **BUSINESS LICENSE** and any necessary **LOCAL PERMITS** from the City in which you are conducting work prior to beginning the work. When conducting business in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, please contact Los Angeles County Public Works Environmental Programs Division at 626.458.3517. In addition, you must contact The Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts Industrial Waste Unit at 562.908.4288 ext. 2900 for authorization before disposing of any wastewater into the sanitary sewer.

1 PROTECT storm drain inlets

- Avoid setting up work area near a storm drain inlet (area drain, yard drain, catch basin).
- Protect all onsite storm drain inlets using sand bags, rubber mats, containment pads, or temporary berms. *Note:* You must obtain permission from the City before blocking storm drain inlets **in the PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY**, such as catch basins in public streets.

2 Use DRY METHODS to clean all outdoor surfaces prior to washing

- Sweep, vacuum, or shovel sediment and trash or debris at the job site and dispose of properly into a trash container.

3 Have a plan in place for managing SPILLS and ensure all employees are properly trained in implementing the plan

- Ensure that all materials and equipment are safely secured in your vehicle during transport and ensure that nothing is leaking.
- Spills should never be washed into the street, gutter, storm drain or catch basin.
- Use absorbents such as mats or pads, granular absorbent, or sweeping compound to soak up spilled liquids. Saturated absorbent materials must be bagged and disposed of into a trash container. Absorbents used to clean up spilled automotive fluids may require disposal as hazardous waste.

- Ensure that there is a spill kit available at each job site which includes: absorbent material for soaking up spill, spill/liquid blocking dike or sock, or sandbags to contain the spill and direct material away from storm drain inlets, shovel, broom and dustpan, or mop and a bucket to collect solids for disposal into a garbage container.

4 When possible choose ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY MATERIALS

- When possible, choose soaps/detergents labeled as less toxic, phosphate-free—found at most retailers and online. Just remember that products labeled “biodegradable” and “non-toxic” can still harm aquatic life and wastewater containing these products should never be disposed of into the storm drain system.

5 COLLECT AND DISPOSE of all wastewater into the sanitary sewer at the job site or at a predetermined location off site

- Ensure that appropriate licenses, permits, and authorizations are in place prior to discharging any wastewater into the sanitary sewer. Appropriate disposal points include:
 - ⊙ Privately owned clarifier, sink, toilet, or sewer clean-out stub at the job site with owner’s permission.

- ⊙ Off-site transport of the wastewater to your fixed facility for sewer discharge via a commercial wastewater permitted connection.

- ⊙ Off-site transport of the wastewater to a third-party facility such as a car wash or other mobile washer’s fixed facility for sewer discharge via a commercial wastewater permitted connection.

- ⊙ Any other disposal points approved in writing by the City, the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts and/or the Los Angeles County Public Works Environmental Programs Division.

- All local and Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts discharge limits and requirements must be complied with.

- If necessary, have sandbags or other type of raised barrier (e.g., portable dikes or socks) on hand to direct wastewater to a temporary containment area where it can be collected and pumped into the sanitary sewer onsite or into a holding tank for discharge offsite. A “Vacu-Boom” or other type of wet/dry vacuum may also be used to collect the water.

- All solid materials must be removed and disposed of into a trash container prior to disposing wastewater into the sanitary sewer.