

BMP FU04 - Vehicle Washing Facility



Wash water from vehicle and equipment cleaning activities performed outdoors or in areas where wash water flows onto the ground can contribute to discharges of pollutants to stormwater conveyance systems and receiving waters. The CSUSM campus has a vehicle cleaning facility that is equipped with a water recycling system.

Pollution Prevention Guidelines:

- Parts are cleaned with biodegradable solutions (e.g. simple green). The wastewater generated from steam cleaning will be discharged into oil/water separator and/or the sanitary sewer system as appropriate.
- Vehicles shall be washed over porous surfaces such as lawns and gravel areas where feasible, so that these areas can infiltrate all the wash water and rinse water generated during the washing. Adequate precautions will be taken to prevent the entry of wash water and other contaminants into the stormwater conveyance system.
- The use of hose off or single-use engine degreasing chemicals is prohibited, unless captured and properly disposed.

Design Guidelines:

- Post signs stating that only vehicular/equipment washing is allowed in wash area and that discharges to the storm drain are prohibited.
- When practicable, use biodegradable, phosphate-free detergents for washing vehicles.

Inspection Guidelines:

- Inspect the washing facilities on an as needed basis.
- Check the pipelines, recycling system, and floor drains for any clogs, leaks or illegal dumping.

Training Guidelines:

- Train staff on proper maintenance measures and use of the facility wash area.
- Train staff on routine basis based on campus staff needs.