

When you work with water it's your job to dispose of it properly.

Wastewater management is one of Omaha's most important environmental issues. The City of Omaha has set strict standards for pressure washing professionals regarding the capture and containment of water used at a job site. This makes it essential that you have the right equipment and processes to recover and dispose of wastewater.

Pressure washing professionals should know that there are city, state and federal laws pertaining to the proper disposal of wastewater and prevention of water pollution. If you allow solid or chemical waste to flow freely by neglecting to use proper wash water recovery practices and equipment, you will be held legally responsible.

Remember – it's your responsibility to properly recover and dispose of wastewater on the job site.

It is illegal to allow anything other than **stormwater** to be discharged **down a storm drain**.

Wash water should never be discharged to a street gutter, parking lot, or storm drain. If disposed of improperly, materials such as solvents, dirt, and soapy water can degrade water quality and creek habitats.

Through the use of water recovery systems and practices, we can prevent pollution and keep our water safe while still enjoying all the benefits that come from using pressure-washing equipment.



The City of Omaha Stormwater Program is a comprehensive program comprised of various elements and activities designed to reduce stormwater pollution and eliminate prohibited non-stormwater discharges.



Environmental Quality Control

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www.OmahaStormwater.org

Take Some **Pressure** Off Our Environment

**It's Your Job To Properly
Dispose Of Wastewater**



Remember to capture, contain, reuse and even extract water from a job site.

Water recovery and recycle systems have become a requirement for the industry. From factories and warehouses, equipment supply, restaurants, rental or repair shops, farms, processing plants, etc. — to homeowners who think they are simply cleaning the garage floor — the discharge of wastewater mixed with oil, grease, or other contaminants into the environment is a problem. It is illegal in Omaha to simply discharge such wastewater into storm drains.

Wastewater systems are fast, easy and efficient.

A wastewater recovery system is designed to work with pressure water systems to contain discharged water (both fluid and its associated solids) and make it available for reuse. These are often referred to as "closed systems." Closed water recovery systems begin with containment, using tubes or hoses that hug the ground to trap the dirty water. The water is sucked into a containment unit, processed, and released into a water tank, which holds the water until it is reused. Closed water recovery systems can operate quite efficiently, processing twenty or more gallons per minute.

Remember — Even if treated, cleaned or filtered, wastewater cannot be discharged to a storm drain. This is a violation of municipal code and is strictly enforced.

Some of the major users of pressure washing equipment include:

Lawn Care Services, Painters, Car Washes and Mobile Car Washers, Plumbers, Remodeling and Restoration Services, Window Cleaners, Deck Cleaners and Painters, Restaurants, Construction Companies, Health Clubs, Pork Producers, Dairy Factories, Commercial Kitchens & Bakeries, Pressure Washing Contractors and all other commercial and industrial companies that require fast and easy cleaning solutions.



Keeping our Water Clean. It's as simple as **Recover,** **Recycle and Reuse.**

Recovering and treating wastewater before it is discharged into the environment is required by law and vitally important to our environment. A full water recycle system involves three basic steps: recover, recycle and reuse. Pre-treating contaminated water and not allowing it into storm drains is required of all businesses and industries. Self-contained units that work in conjunction with pressure washers are essential for all pressure washing jobs. These units are reported to recover up to 98% of water used during a job with no run-off and subsequent damage to the environment.

Water containment systems are used to capture fluid waste and solids contained within the fluid waste to keep it from entering the water table, city sewer systems or other easily polluted areas. In some cases, a water recovery system can be as simple as a flexible tube placed around a work area, combined with a vacuum system to extract the water and solid debris within the water. This is most effective for spills, on-off car wash fundraising events and other smaller applications. It is your responsibility to know when additional equipment is needed to remove impurities and make the water safe for reuse.