

Tips on Properly Handling Waste Water when Pressure Washing

- Start with dry methods to pre-clean, such as treating small oil spots with an absorbent and sweeping up trash/debris/dirt or a used absorbent before washing with water.
- Use the least amount of water in pressure washing to reduce the quantity of waste water produced.
- Ask if the customer is on a sewer or septic before dumping any waste water. If on a septic system, collect the water and take it to a proper sewage disposal site.
- If on a public sewer, find a sewer connection at the location to dispose of waste water (or take it to an approved sewer disposal location). Never dump waste water on the street, or down storm drains, ditches or other drainage pathways.
- Avoid hazardous cleaning products (such as those containing bleach, hydrofluoric acid, muriatic acid, sodium hydroxide, etc.).
- If you use cold, low-pressure water only to wash a building, you may discharge to the ground. If the water contains oils, soaps, or detergents, collect the wash water from buildings and dispose of it in a sewer system. Wastewater from washing buildings with lead-based paint may exceed local discharge limits. Contact your local sewer utility for approval in such cases.

Tips on Preventing or Handling a Waste Water Spill when Pressure Washing

- Promptly clean up any waste water that spills or leaks. If waste water reaches a storm drain system, contact your local city or county.
- Keep a spill kit on hand to deal with unexpected spills. Train your employees to use the spill kit materials and keep records of the training your employees receive.

**Have questions about the proper disposal of waste water?
Contact the city or county where your job is located.**