



FARMERS' MARKET & EVENT FAQ

WHAT ARE BEST PRACTICES TO PREVENT POLLUTION?

Set up your booth for success.

Bring spill kit supplies, train staff and clean up before you leave. Make sure to inspect your mobile unit frequently and fix any leaks immediately.

Train your staff in the best practices.

- ◆ Do not empty sanitizing buckets, wash water, or other wastewater onto the ground; make sure they are discarded in an approved wastewater disposal system.
- ◆ When transporting liquid wastes (water or oil) between different locations throughout the event, make sure they have lids on them to prevent spillage onto the ground.

Store all your supplies properly.

Store your supplies in covered areas and do not store over or next to a storm drain.

Do ask questions.

If you have questions ask for help from our Pollution Prevention Assistance program throughout the state. The Pollution Prevention Assistance program can help with concerns you may have regarding environmental impacts or concerns. Pollution prevention assistance - Washington State Department of Ecology (<https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Guidance-technical-assistance/Pollution-prevention-assistance>)

Know and follow the rules for your location.

Remember to always check with your local health district/department on acceptable practices and permitting requirements. Health District/Department food program staff can help with permitting requirements, operation set-ups and general food safety concerns.

WON'T THE FARMERS' MARKET TAKE CARE OF MY TRASH AND OTHER WASTE?

It is your responsibility to check with your specific event host on acceptable practices and permitting requirements. Often the Farmers' Market will have a system in place for trash, however, a regular trash pickup is not a good place to throw away liquid waste or oil.

I PASSED MY HEALTH INSPECTION, SO WHY DO I NEED TO IMPLEMENT POLLUTION PREVENTION?

Protecting the environment takes additional steps from protecting human health. Ensuring your trash and other waste does not impact the environment in your responsibility as a business owner and it is the law. Failure to protect the environment can result in fines.

WHY CAN'T I THROW MY MOP WATER OR SANITIZER WATER INTO THE STORM DRAIN, STREET OR GUTTER?

- ◆ Storm drains are generally found in streets and parking lots, and they connect to our rivers and creeks directly. Soaps, degreasers and cleaners harm wildlife and pollute rivers and creeks. This is why storm drain systems are only for collecting rainwater and not any kind of waste water.
- ◆ By using best management practices to keep your areas clean, making sure that grease, food waste, melted ice water, cooling equipment water and wash water are being properly disposed, you will be doing your part to protect our valuable water resources.

WHY CAN'T I JUST THROW MY USED GREASE AWAY IN THE DUMPSTER?

- ◆ No liquid waste should go into the dumpster/trash because it can flow or wash away with rainwater to the stormwater system.
- ◆ Used grease/oil should be properly disposed of or recycled when possible.
- ◆ To properly dispose of liquid waste, make it "dry" by mixing with an absorbent like kitty litter.

WHAT DO I DO IF I SPILL MY CONTAINER OF USED OIL OR GREASE THAT I WAS TAKING TO THE DUMP SITE PROVIDED BY THE EVENT?

- ◆ Make sure to clean up any spills immediately with your spill kit or absorbent such as kitty litter.
- ◆ If you have questions about where to get a spill kit, contact your local Pollution Prevention Specialist and they can work with you on where to get the spill kit. Most spill kit supplies are available at common retail locations like Grainger or Home Depot.