

So Where Should Wash Water Go?

Onto landscaping or unpaved surface

Wash water from cleaning unpainted building exteriors, sidewalks, or plazas, if:

- Discharge does not contain hazardous waste

AND

- Discharge will not cause flooding or nuisance problems, or flow to a creek

AND

- You have the owner's permission

Down a sink, toilet, or cleanout — through the sewer to a wastewater treatment plant

Wash water from surface cleaning of painted building exteriors, sidewalks, plazas, parking areas, drive-throughs, food service facility dumpster/grease containment areas, etc., if:

- You have used dry cleanup methods before washing with or without soap

AND

- Discharge does not contain hazardous waste

AND

- (For parking lots, traffic areas, food service facility dumpster/grease containment areas) You or the property owner have checked the local wastewater treatment plant's requirements before discharging to the sewer

To the street or storm drain

Wash water from cleaning sidewalks, plazas, and building exteriors, if:

You have *successfully* used dry cleanup methods (described in the "tips" section of this folder to remove fresh oil stains, debris, and similar pollutants—before using water

AND

- Cleaning is done with water only—no soap or other cleaning chemicals

AND

- Water has not removed paint