

Parking Area Management

Parking lots and garages require frequent maintenance including sweeping, litter removal, degreasing, resealing, repainting and pothole repair. Unfortunately many of these activities may be significant sources of pollutants that degrade water quality if precautions are not taken.

Oil, gas, antifreeze, metals and other vehicle-related materials end up on parking lots and driveways as a result of leaks, spills and vehicle wear. Other pollutants include accumulated grit and sediment from traffic, as well as winter sand, salt and deicing chemical applications.

TO PREVENT WATER POLLUTION

- Sweep or vacuum parking areas regularly.
- Pick up litter, especially near storm drains.
- Place a sufficient number of trash and recycling receptacles in convenient areas to discourage littering. Routinely service these receptacles.
- Avoid pressure washing parking surfaces. If pressure washing occurs, use water only and, when practical, direct wash water to vegetated areas. Install absorbent booms at storm drains and remove and dispose of accumulated sand, grit and litter in a trash receptacle.
- Avoid using toxic cleaners or solvents to clean parking areas or use them sparingly.
- Limit the amount of sand, salt and deicing chemicals used on parking areas in the winter. Sweep up and properly dispose of remaining sand, salt and deicing chemicals.
- Conduct surface repairs, resurfacing or resealing during dry weather.
- Label storm drains at your business to make employees and customers aware that storm drains flow to local streams and dumping is not permitted.
- Post signs in parking areas prohibiting vehicle maintenance and washing in parking lots.



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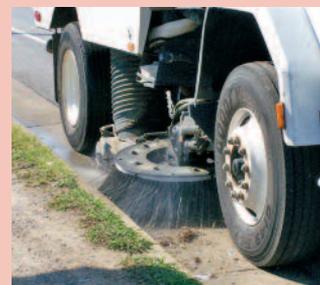
TROUBLED WATERS

Everything that goes into our storm drains eventually flows into our streams and rivers. Pollutants including heavy metals, pesticides and other toxic chemicals may build up in fish and shellfish.



DO YOU KNOW?

There are approximately 1,500 miles of storm drain pipes that carry stormwater to Fairfax's streams and to the Potomac River.



Avoid pressure washing parking surfaces.