

PROPER DISPOSAL OF WASTEWATER

Tips For Hood & Roof Equipment Cleaning

The Clean Water Program's friendly and knowledgeable staff support companies like yours in preventing water pollution. The fact that you're reading this fact sheet means you have already decided to take steps to do the right thing when cleaning your business. Thank you for keeping our water safe and healthy.

First Step: Good Maintenance

- Know the pollution sources from equipment that your facility must manage. Equipment such as:
 - ✓ Galvanized metal roofs – toxic levels of zinc.
 - ✓ Certain roof paints/coatings – copper & lead.
 - ✓ Cooling towers – copper, zinc, chromium & tributyltin.
 - ✓ Exhaust deposits from restaurants – grease & grime.
 - ✓ Exhaust deposits from electroplating and metal finishing processes (acid plating bath vents and copper chloride or ammonia etchers) – copper & nickel.
- Regularly check the state of exhaust hoods/vents, filters, pipes, ducts, and roof fans. If chemical vapors escape to the roof, consider using chiller coils to promote contained condensation.
- Install vent covers and drip pans to collect oil/chemical condensate from hood & rooftop equipment. Clean frequently.
- Maintain all equipment per manufacturer's specifications, replacing systems as needed (e.g. cooling tower or other system) to reduce harmful chemical usage.
- Keep cleaning records. Never discharge waste into storm drains.

Hood/Ventilation Equipment Cleaning:

- Dry-wipe or scrape buildup off all surfaces before washing.
- Contain, collect and dispose of any wash waters properly.
 - ✓ Non-hazardous chemicals, condensate or wash water – Discharge into drain connected directly to sanitary sewer. Do NOT drain greasy chemical solutions into sink with grease trap, or grease will escape trap and clog the system.
 - ✓ Greasy filter bath solution – Appropriate off-site disposal.
 - ✓ Wastewater from steam-cleaning greasy equipment without chemicals – Discharge into sink with grease trap.
- For restaurants, pump grease interceptor after hood discharge.



Protecting Alameda County
Creeks, Wetlands & the Bay
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Keep wash waters OUT of the storm drains. Keep hazardous chemicals, fats, oils and grease OUT of storm drains and sanitary sewers.



Draining wash water from cleaning activities into the gutters or storm drains will damage sensitive habitats and kill wildlife. Water flowing into storm drains travels directly to local creeks and then to San Francisco Bay. It does not go to a wastewater treatment plant.

Learn more about preventing water pollution and the Clean Water Program at www.cleanwaterprogram.org.



Roof Equipment Cleaning:

- First, consider using dry cleaning methods. Sweep or vacuum to pick up exhaust deposits on roof equipment. For greasy spills, use absorbents such as rags or cat litter, then sweep up and dispose of used absorbents in the trash.
- If using wet cleaning methods, block roof drains, protect storm drains as needed, use minimal water, and collect all wash water. Pump/vacuum-up and dispose of water into the sanitary sewer.
- Avoid or limit use of harmful cleaning solutions.
- Use a mobile surface cleaner company certified by the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA), or a cleaning company that will collect all wash water for proper disposal. Search for BASMAA-recognized surface cleaners at www.basmaa.org/Search-for-Cleaners.

How to collect wash water: Use gravel bag berms, wattles or mats to contain the wash area so water does not drain down roof drains, streets & gutters. Use a wet-vac or small pump and hose to direct water to a sanitary sewer discharge point or to a tank.

Possible sanitary sewer discharge points:

- Interior sinks, janitor/mop drain closets, or plumbing cleanouts
Contact your local wastewater agency before discharging.
- If wastewater likely has harmful chemicals or high levels of metals (e.g. cooling tower blowdown or discharge, wash water from electroplating or other industrial facilities), it should be tested before discharging to the sanitary sewer.

Be a BASMAA Recognized Mobile Cleaner

Take the online “mobile surface cleaning” training from the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association. This program will train you on how to clean different surfaces in an environmentally acceptable way and publish your name as a trained cleaner. To learn more, visit www.basmaa.org/training.

KEY DEFINITIONS

The **Storm Drain System** was built to collect and transport rain to prevent flooding in urban areas. Anything that flows or is discharged into the storm drain system goes directly into local creeks or San Francisco Bay without any treatment.

The **Sanitary Sewer System** collects and transports sanitary wastes from interior building plumbing systems to the wastewater treatment plant where the wastewater is treated.



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Simple changes to your operations and maintenance can help you comply with local regulations. The Clean Water Program makes it easy.

Learn more about preventing water pollution and the Clean Water Program at www.cleanwaterprogram.org.

For More Help

For advice and approval on wastewater disposal to the sanitary sewer system, contact:

Cities of Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland or Piedmont

East Bay Municipal
Utility District (EBMUD)..... (510) 287-1651

Castro Valley

Castro Valley Sanitary District.. (510)537-0757

City of Dublin

Dublin-San Ramon
Services District..... (925) 828-0515

Cities of Fremont, Newark or Union City

Union Sanitary District..... (510) 477-7500

City of Hayward

City of Hayward (510) 881-7900

City of Livermore

City of Livermore (925) 960-8100

City of Pleasanton

City of Livermore (925) 931-5500

Cities of San Lorenzo, unincorporated portions of San Leandro and Hayward

Oro Loma Sanitary District (510) 481-6971

City of San Leandro

City of San Leandro..... (510) 577-3401

Local Stormwater Agencies

For advice on avoiding disposal to the storm drain system, contact:

Alameda..... (510) 747-7930

Albany (510) 528-5770

Berkeley..... (510) 981-6442

Dublin (925) 833-6630

Emeryville (510) 596-3728

Fremont (510) 494-4570

Hayward (510) 881-7900

Livermore (925) 960-8100

Newark (510) 578-4286

Oakland (510) 238-6544

Piedmont..... (510) 420-3050

Pleasanton (925) 931-5500

San Leandro..... (510) 577-3401

Unincorporated Alameda

County..... (510) 567-6700

Union City..... (510) 675-5308

Clean Water Program..... (510) 670-6548