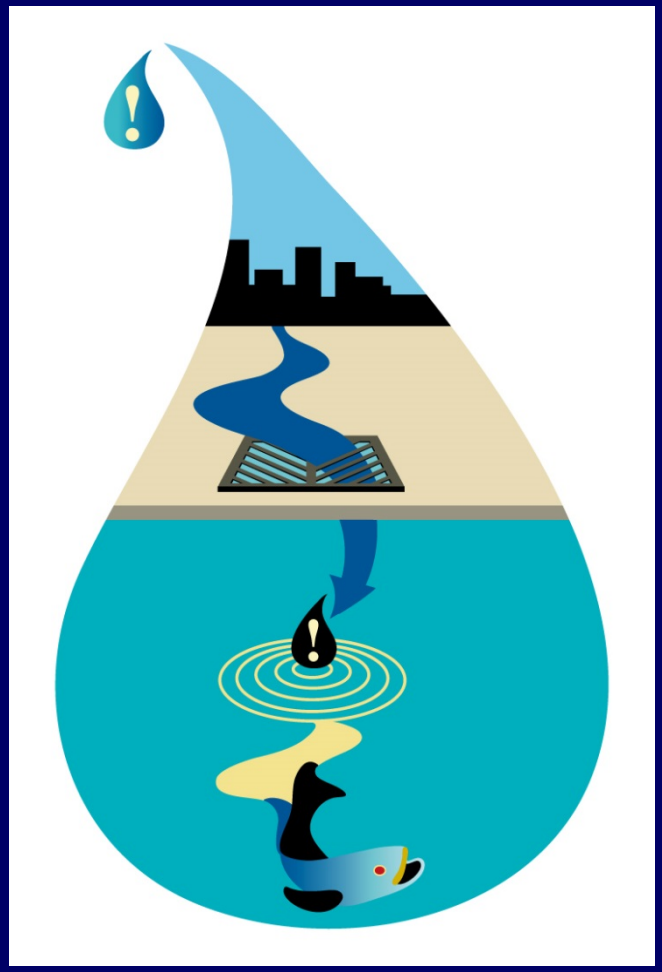
CITY OF BELLINGHAM WASHINGTON

REsources for Sustainable Communities

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY State of Washington



Stormwater Pollution Prevention For Mobile Cleaning Businesses

What is stormwater pollution?

What's so important about stormwater?

#1 source of water pollution in urban areas of Western Washington

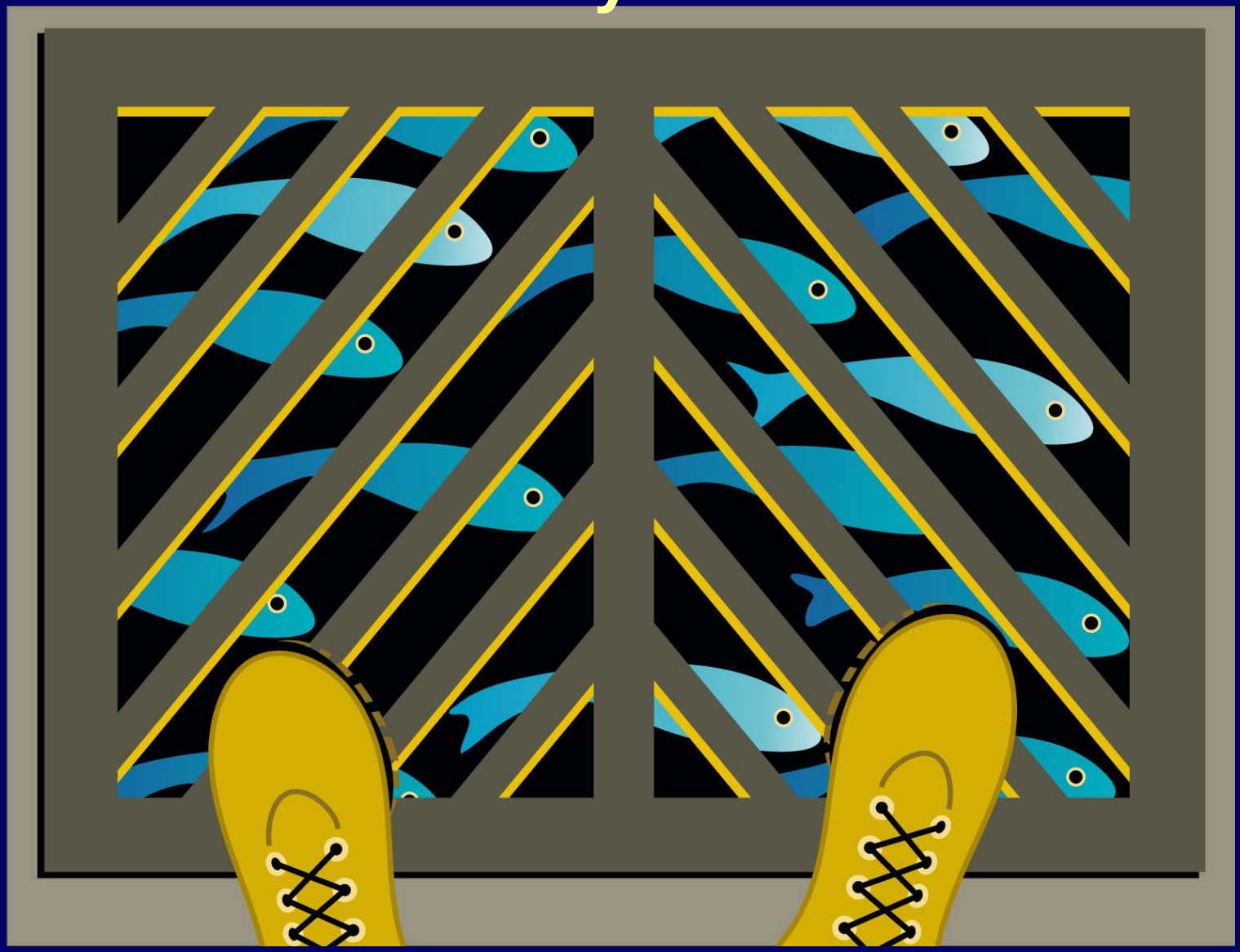
Why is stormwater a problem?

- **75% of toxic chemicals entering Puget Sound come from roads, driveways, rooftops, yards and other developed land**

Source: Department of Ecology

Where does water go when it leaves your worksite?

Stormwater goes directly into streams without any treatment



How do mobile business practices affect stormwater?

- Outdoor processes exposed to rain
- Impervious surfaces
- Industrial processes
- Sensitive species
- It all ends up in Puget Sound

What's the problem?

Cleaning products, soap, dyes, enzymes, bleaches, solvents, paint chips, pet hair, carpet fibers, dirt, silt, grease.

Why these things are harmful:

- Some pollutants are deadly to fish and aquatic life
- Even biodegradable soap harms fish
- Metals are toxic to fish
- Oil, fuel, grease, pH, temperature
- Fine sediment particles are pollutants

What’s the Solution?

Best management practices can be simple!

Best Management Practices:

Prevent spills and leaks. Keep all cleaners and chemicals in closed, covered, labeled containers.

Best Management Practices:

Spill Kits

Best Management Practices:

Clean up spills and drips!

Best Management Practices:

Clean up leaks.

Report spills – it's the law:

You must the call the **TWO (2)** following 24-hour numbers:

1) **National Response Center: 1-800-424-8802**

2) **Washington Emergency Management Division:** *(including Emergency Release Notification)* **1-800-258-5990** -OR- **1-800-OILS-911**

Local help can be found at:

Bellingham Stormwater Hotline 778-7979 or online at cob.org, search "stormwater"

Best Management Practices:

Garbage, etc.

What's the solution?

Maintain equipment to prevent leaks.

Best Management Practices:

Block storm drains before starting any outdoor work that might impact stormwater.

Best Management Practices:

Check storm drains

Best Management Practices:

Check catch basins under storm drains.

What's the solution?

Filter debris from wash water:

What's the solution?

Route wash water to sewer drains, like sinks and toilets.

What's the solution?

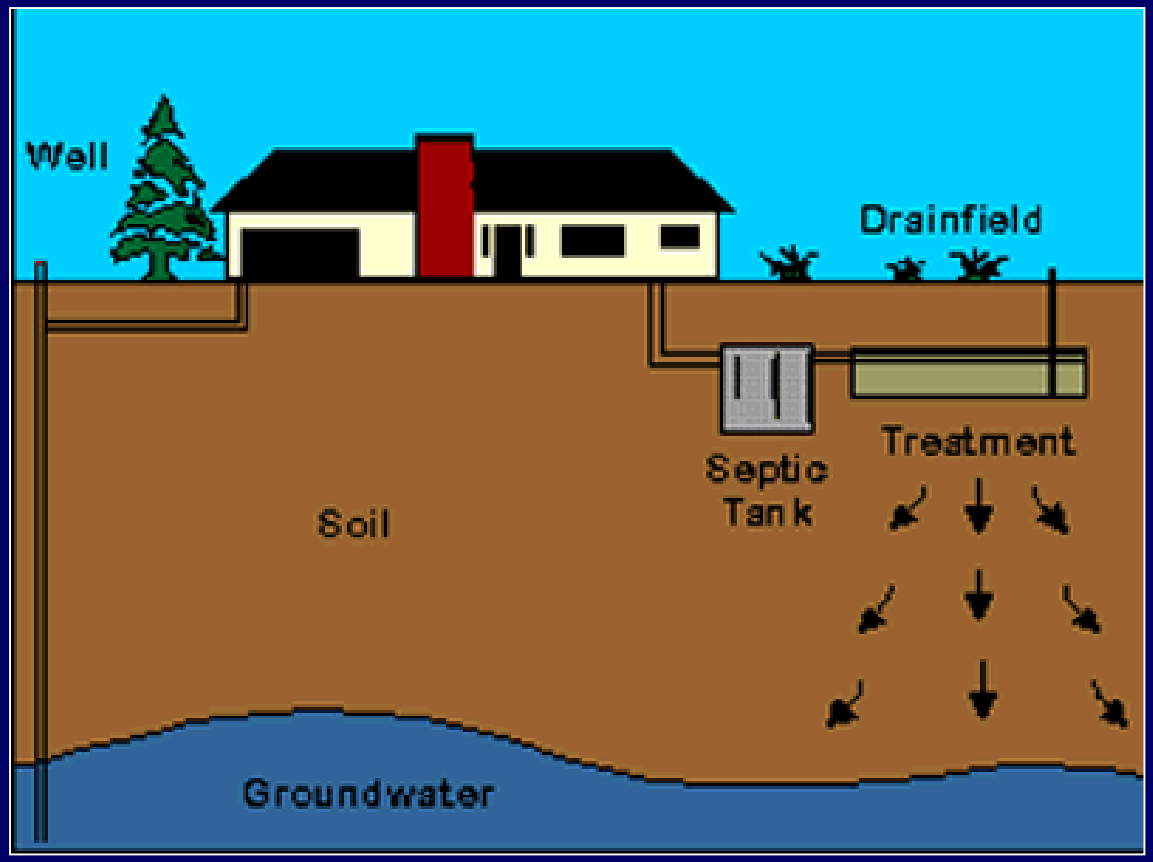
Routing wash water to vegetated areas is ok when…

What's the solution?

Use a third party hauling business.

What's the solution?

If you're in a rural area with a septic tank:



What's the solution?

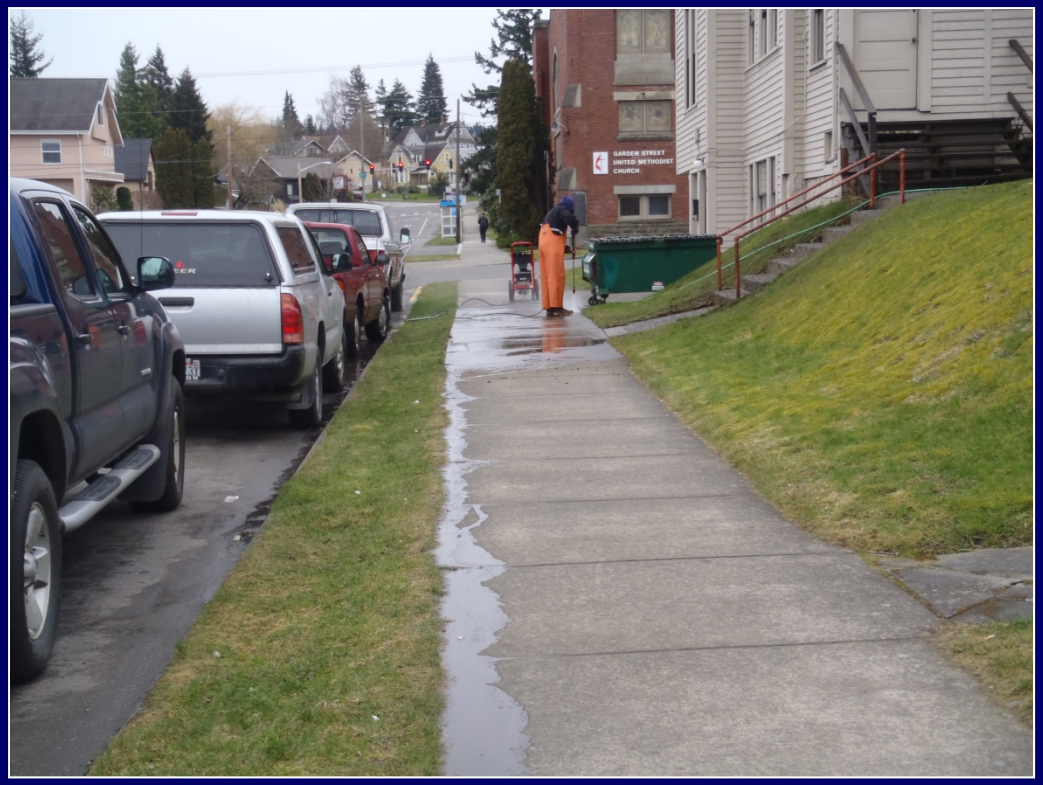
Dispose of wash water to an approved sewer system.

What's the solution?

Anything ignitable, reactive, corrosive, or toxic must be disposed of as hazardous waste.

Best Management Practices:

Get to know the drainage on your site.



Best Management Practices:

Keep a clean site.

Best Management Practices:

Sweep!

Best Management Practices:

Parking lot maintenance

Best Management Practices:

Containers

Best Management Practices:

Indoor and outdoor storage

Best Management Practices:

Roof drains

Additional Resources:

- Department of Ecology's Hazardous Waste Services Directory
- Department of Ecology's Spills Report Hotline
- Bellingham Stormwater Hotline: 778-7979
- Lee First, Pollution Prevention Specialist, RE Sources for Sustainable Communities (360) 733 8307
- Washington Stormwater Center: www.wastormwatercenter.org/
- This presentation was created through a collaboration between the following organizations:

RESources for Sustainable Communities

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www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/index.html

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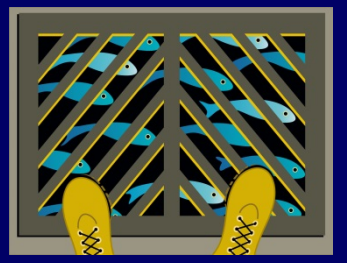
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