

## There is a difference between your sink drain and the storm drain...

The Sanitary Sewer System, connected to your sinks, toilets, and floor drains, collects and treats wastewater prior to releasing it back into the environment.

The Storm Drainage System, found in streets, parking lots, and roadside ditches, drains directly to local waterways with no treatment.

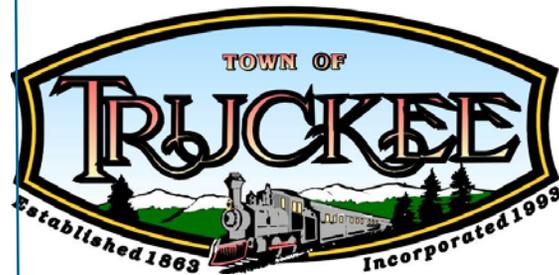
## Useful Equipment for a River-Friendly Carwash

- ◆ Wet/Dry Vacuum or Sump Pump
- ◆ Extension Cords
- ◆ Ground Fault Interrupter
- ◆ Hoses
- ◆ Spray nozel
- ◆ 2-3 buckets
- ◆ Storm Drain Mat 36"x36"
- ◆ Extra plastic tarp
- ◆ Non-toxic soaps
- ◆ Sand bags or similar
- ◆ Garbage bags
- ◆ Small cloths/rags
- ◆ Large cloths/rags



## For more information...

- Environmental Protection Agency  
WWW.EPA.GOV
- Placer County Stormwater Quality  
WWW.PLACER.CA.GOV
- Town of Truckee  
WWW.KEEPTRUCKEEGREEN.ORG



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[www.TownofTruckee.com](http://www.TownofTruckee.com)

**Report Illicit Discharges**  
**Hotline 530.582.7794**  
**CleanWater@TownofTruckee.com**

Stormwater Pollution  
Prevention for a

## River Friendly Car Wash Fundraiser



## Fundraiser Car Washes Can Harm Rivers and Lakes

Did you know Fundraiser carwashes can pollute our creeks and rivers because the soapy wastewater from a carwash—often carrying dirt, grease, detergents, heavy metals, and other pollutants—typically flows along a parking lot or other paved surface into the storm drain system. From there, it flows untreated to our creeks and rivers where it can harm fish and other aquatic life.

Fundraiser carwash activities are not prohibited. However, discharges of wastewater and/or other pollutants associated with fundraiser carwashes to the storm drain system are prohibited by state and local regulations .

Therefore, fundraiser carwash activities must be conducted in a manner that prevents pollutant discharges to the storm drain system. A River-Friendly Fundraiser Carwash keeps wastewater out of the storm drain system by diverting the wastewater to the sanitary sewer system or to a landscaped area where it will not pollute our creeks, rivers and waterways. It's that simple!

## How Do I Conduct a River Friendly Car Wash?

### Pick a location with proper waste water management features.

- ◆ Commercial Car Wash—Some commercial carwash facilities have vouchers or tickets that your group can sell. Car washes recycle water and discharge dirty water to the sanitary sewer.
- ◆ Businesses-Some businesses (such as gas stations) properly manage wastewater and will host River-Friendly Carwashes.

### For areas without waste water management features, follow these guidelines:

#### Before the Carwash

- ◆ Explain proper procedure to all participants.
- ◆ Sweep up dirt and trash around the site.
- ◆ Consider discharge of the wastewater:
  - Discharge water into landscaping, gravel, or area that can infiltrate all water without producing runoff, make sure the area does not create ponding and mosquito issues, and the property owner has given permission.
  - Contain, collect and dispose of wastewater. Use rubber mats and other devices over drain inlets to prevent discharge to storm drains. Use a sump pump to remove collected water and dispose of it in sanitary sewer or landscaping.

#### During the Carwash

- ◆ Use non-toxic, phosphate free, or biodegradable products.

- ◆ Use a bucket of soapy water to re-soap rags.
- ◆ Wring sponges and rags into buckets, not onto the ground.
- ◆ Use a spray nozzle with an automatic shut off to conserve water and minimize the amount of waste water to manage.
- ◆ Always empty buckets of waste water into the sanitary sewer system via sinks, toilets, or sewer clean-out, or onto landscaped areas where water can infiltrate.

#### After the Carwash

- ◆ Clean up any trash around the site when finished.

