

UTAH COUNTY STORMWATER COALITION



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» **KEEPING**
YOUR 
AND
OUR WATER
CLEAN

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A BETTER WAY TO WASH YOUR CAR

Why Does It Matter?

Polluted water that enters your storm drain (the grate in the street curb that collects water runoff) **does not get treated**, and instead flows **directly** into local water bodies where it can **harm aquatic life and habitats**, **contaminate drinking water** supplies and **recreational waterways**, and **lessen aesthetic value**. Here are some **tips** to help keep things

CLEANER:

- ✓ **Use a commercial car wash** facility whenever possible. Their water is recycled or treated before discharged to the sanitary sewer system.
- ✓ If using a commercial facility is not possible, **wash the car on gravel, grass, or other areas able to absorb the wash water**.
- ✓ Use specialty cleaning solutions **springly**.
- ✓ Try to minimize water usage by **using nozzles and/or buckets**.
- ✓ **Turn off the hose** when not in use.
- ✓ Use a **low pressure hose**. A high pressure hose removes more pollutants.
- ✓ When cleaning the car interior, **properly disposed or recycle** any trash.
- ✓ Try using detergents and soaps that say **“biodegradable”** or **“phosphate free.”**

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