



Use proper equipment for mobile pet services. Contact your local hardware or construction material stores for available tools and materials for mobile pet services including vacuum pumps, sand or gravel bags, etc.

City of Rancho Santa Margarita

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STORM WATER PROGRAM

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR MOBILE PET SERVICES



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Best Management Practices for Mobile Pet Services

This brochure provides information about using best management practices (BMPs) for the collection, treatment, and disposal of wash water generated from pet-related services.

Why should we be concerned with pet grooming waste water discharge?

Washing and grooming activities can pollute waterways if they are not properly managed. Wastewater containing soaps, chemicals (flea dip residues or equipment cleaning solutions), fur, sediment and other wastes can enter the river if discharged to them. Water quality may be affected - some wastes are toxic - others have a "nutrient load" that can upset the ecosystem by causing algal blooms.

Please note that it is unlawful for wash water or other non-storm water, generated by mobile pet services to enter storm drains. Mobile pet services that do not prevent waste water from entering the storm drain systems are subject to Administrative Citations and/or fines.

Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Mobile pet services must use the following BMPs to comply with the City's water quality requirements and water pollution prevention:

- Minimize water use. Unused water may be directed to landscape as long as it doesn't contain any pollutants or soaps.
- Remove any fur or sediment from the wastes to avoid clogged drains. Use a strainer in the drain and empty to the trash.
- Avoid spills and leaks by maintaining equipment/use equipment that is adequately sized for the job and keeping soaps and chemicals in closed containers and in secondary containment.
- Sweep wash area to remove debris.
- Wash area must be contained so that water does not drain down streets and gutters- use sand bag berms, wattles, or bermed mats.
- Protect downstream storm drain inlet so that wash water does not enter storm drain. Protection must be placed before starting the washing process and removed before you leave the site.
- Discharge wastes from equipment cleaning to a sink.

Options for wash water management

- **Preferred Option:** Zero discharge or closed-loop recycled water
- **Second Option:** Discharge into municipal sewer system including residential sewer cleanout, utility sink or toilet, etc. and precautions must be taken to prevent any heavy debris, hazardous materials or anything that can clog sink or toilet. Wash water may also be taken off site for proper disposal at your home or business.

If you would like further information about water quality pollution prevention, please contact the Public Works Department at (949) 635-1800 or visit our website at www.cityofrsm.org. Thank you for your effort in helping to improve the quality of our environment.