



Please use the proper equipment to contain wash water. Contact your local hardware or construction material stores for available tools and materials for mobile carpet cleaners including storm train filters, spill kits, oil/water separators, etc.



## STORM WATER PROGRAM

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## BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR CARPET CLEANERS



### City of Rancho Santa Margarita

Phone: 949.635.1800  
Fax: 949.635.1667  
[www.cityofrsm.org](http://www.cityofrsm.org)



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22112 El Paseo  
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688

# Best Management Practices for Carpet Cleaners

This brochure provides information about using best management practices (BMPs) for the collection, treatment, and disposal of wash water generated from washing the carpeting of homes and businesses.

## Why should we be concerned with carpet waste water discharge?

Water from washing carpets at residential and commercial locations may contain a wide range of contaminants, including detergents, solvents, disinfectants, suspended solids, grit and carpet fibers. If a carpet cleaner discharges these contaminants to the ground surface or surface waters, they can degrade water quality and threaten aquatic life.

*Please note that it is unlawful to discharge contaminated water to a waterbody, e.g., a lake, stream, river or wetland, or to a storm drain or drainage swale leading to a waterbody. Carpet cleaners that do not prevent waste water from entering the storm drain systems are subject to Administrative Citations and/or fines.*

## Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Carpet cleaners must use the following BMPs to comply with the City's water quality requirements and water pollution prevention:

- Minimize water use.
- Use cleaning products as described on their labels and dispose of properly. Even biodegradable products impact our waterways.
- Store materials and equipment securely in the vehicle.
- Wash water must be disposed of to a sanitary sewer at an approved location.
- Maintain spill clean up kits in vehicles and ensure that spill kit is appropriate for material used in your activities.
- Clean work areas using dry methods.

## 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](http://www.cityofrsm.org). Thank you for your effort in helping to improve the quality of our environment.