

A-11 Cleaning or Washing of Tools and Equipment

This activity includes cleaning landscaping equipment such as lawn mowers and weed whackers; tools used at equipment repair shops; and, manufacturing equipment such as saws, grinders and screens.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are required by King County Code 9.12. If the BMPs included here are not enough to prevent contamination of stormwater, you will be required to take additional measures.

Required BMPs:

- Discharge tool and equipment wash water to the sanitary sewer or a holding tank for offsite disposal. Discharge of wash water to the storm drain system is not allowed without treatment and an Individual Wastewater Discharge permit from the Washington State Department of Ecology.
- Rinse lawnmowers with water only on a lawn or similar area where grass clippings will not get into the storm drain system or surface waters when it rains.
- Oily, soapy or otherwise dirty water is not allowed to discharge to any stormwater system or surface water.

Additional Information:

- Disposal Information Sheet
- Ecology's Vehicle and Equipment Washwater Discharges/Best Management Practices Manual (<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/summarypages/95056.html>)

You are encouraged to recycle your wash water with an enclosed loop system or use self-contained parts washers. Numerous products are commercially available that recycle and contain wash water and cleaning solvents.

For more information or assistance contact the King County Stormwater Services at 206-477-4811 and visit kingcounty.gov/stormwater.