

**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.

**Remember:**

- ◆ Mobile cleaners should have the equipment, materials, and personnel to handle discharges that could flow into storm drain systems.
- ◆ Take preventative action to contain and clean-up illegal discharges.
- ◆ Report all discharges that cannot be contained to local authorities.
- ◆ Train personnel on stormwater BMPs and pollution prevention practices.
- ◆ Minimize amount of soaps and solvents and choose less toxic ones. Reuse and recycle when possible.

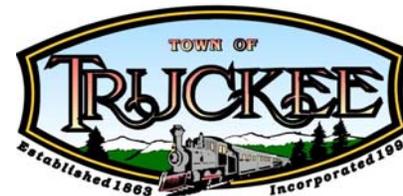
**Equipment for Containing and Collecting Waste Water:**

- ◆ Wet vacuums,
- ◆ Sump pumps
- ◆ Booms/berms and sand bags
- ◆ Portable containment areas
- ◆ Holding tanks
- ◆ Hoses
- ◆ Rubber/weighted storm drain covers
- ◆ Inflatable plumbers' plug
- ◆ Absorbants, and more.



**For more information...**

- Environmental Protection Agency  
WWW.EPA.GOV
- Placer County Stormwater Quality  
WWW.PLACER.CA.GOV
- Nevada County Environmental Health  
530-582-7884



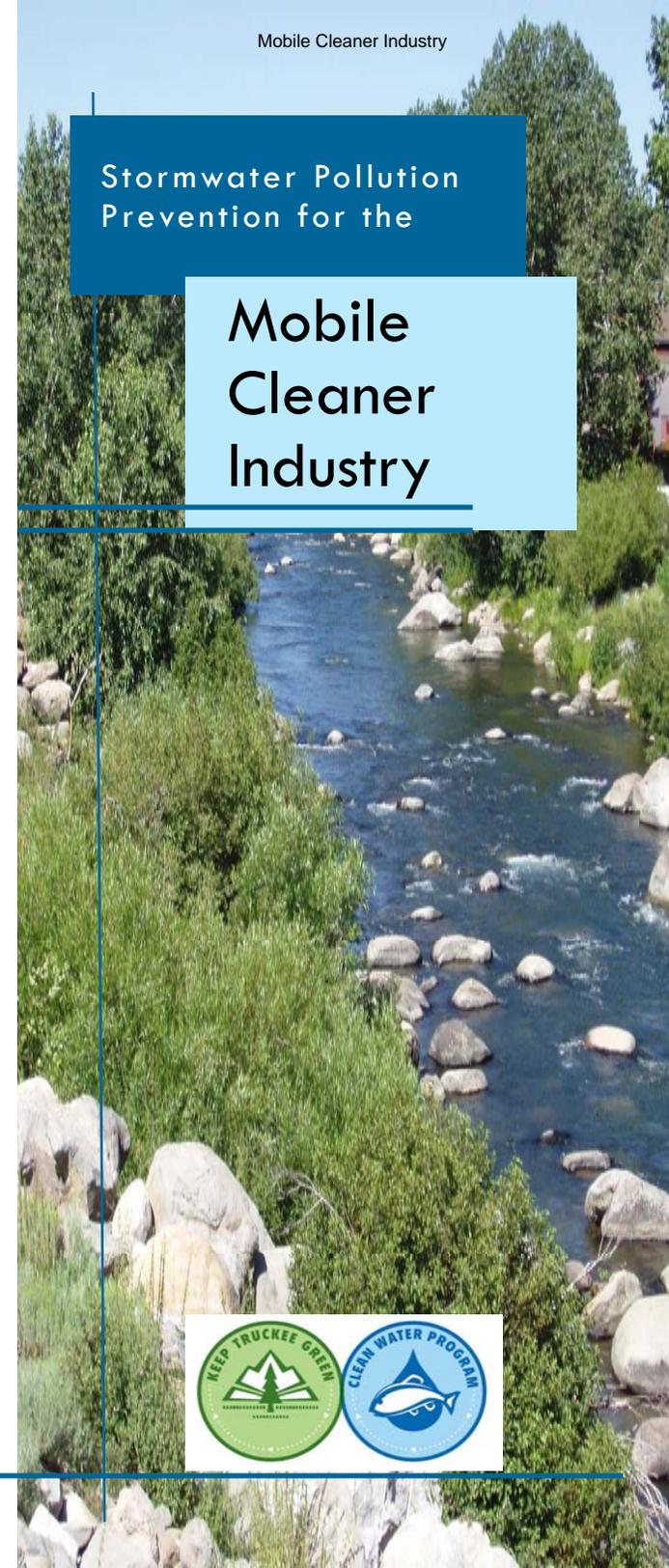
10183 Truckee Airport Road  
Truckee, CA 96161

**www.TownofTruckee.com**

**Report Illicit Discharges  
Hotline 530.582.7794**

Stormwater Pollution Prevention for the

**Mobile Cleaner Industry**



## Mobile Cleaning Activities Can Harm Rivers and Lakes

Did you know mobile cleaning activities can introduce oils, grease, dirt, detergents, acid solutions, solvents and metals to stormwater runoff that drains to lakes, rivers, and streams?

Equipment, carpet, and surface cleaning can generate runoff that flows along paved surfaces into the storm drain system. From there, it flows untreated to our creeks and rivers where it can harm fish and other aquatic life. Even 'biodegradable' cleaning agents may cause immediate damage to aquatic ecosystems. It is essential that your business take the necessary steps using the Best Management Practices described in this brochure, to prevent pollutants from entering the storm drainage system.

Federal and state regulations have been created to protect stormwater quality by requiring local jurisdictions to implement stormwater management programs. These programs include educational outreach to inform the public and businesses of the effects of their activities on stormwater quality. Local ordinances have been put into place to prohibit the disposal of dirty water into storm drain systems. Activities must be conducted in a manner that prevents pollutant discharges to the storm drain system.

## Best Management Practices

### Pressure Washing

- ◆ Minimize the amount of water used during pressure washing activities, thus reducing the volume of wastewater that will need to be treated.
- ◆ Avoid using cleaning products that contain hazardous substances (acids, sodium hydroxide, bleach, etc) and can turn wastewater into hazardous waste.
- ◆ Strong acids and bases should be neutralized after use.
- ◆ Wastewater with high pollutant concentrations must be completely collected and may not be left to evaporate.

### Surface Cleaning

- ◆ Sweep and collect debris from sidewalks, driveways, and parking areas before wet washing.
- ◆ Wash without soaps or solvents.
- ◆ Protect storm drain inlets with rubber mats and/or sandbags. Filter fabric in storm drain inlets to collect solids may be used in some cases.
- ◆ Water without harsh soaps and solvents can be directed to appropriate landscape areas.
- ◆ Use a pump or wet vacuum to move collected water to landscaped areas or a sanitary sewer.



*Remember- Clean Water Starts with You!*



### Carpet and Drapery Cleaners

- ◆ Washwater must be discharged to the sanitary sewer or landfill. Check with local wastewater authority for discharge requirements.
- ◆ Use a lint trap or filter when discharging to the sanitary sewer, dispose of the lint or fibers in the trash if it is not hazardous.
- ◆ Untreated washwater may kill plants. Do not use it for landscape irrigation unless it is first treated.
- ◆ Never discharge washwater to a street, gutter, parking lot, ditch, creek or storm drain. Either:
  - empty the used cleaning fluid tank into a utility sink or other indoor sewer connection at the service provider's home base, or
  - arrange with the customer to discharge into a toilet, clean out, or utility sink on their premises.
- ◆ Washwater collected and transported from the site to your place of business must be disposed of appropriately. Check with local wastewater authority for treatment requirements.