

# Stormwater Management BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES



## Sidewalk and Walkway Power Washing

Unpainted concrete sidewalk/walkway power washing, using a high-pressure water system, generates wash water, which could contain contaminants (such as oils, dirt, greases, and grime). Power washing also removes debris that, if discharged, can clog storm drain inlets and grates and reduce or even prevent stormwater drainage to the storm conveyance system. Therefore, wash water from sidewalk/walkway power washing must be properly handled.

**Note: Before wash water enters storm conveyance system, the discharger must use appropriate Best Management Practices [BMPs] to reduce pollution associated with non-stormwater discharges, to the Maximum Extent Practicable [MEP]. The discharger is responsible for complying with HDOT, City, State, and Federal rules and regulations.**

### BMP Implementation

#### Recommended Washing Procedure:

- Sweep and/or clean the surface of any visible pollutants and dispose of the collected material in trash containers. Clean surface oil with rags or absorbents. If using granular material (e.g., cat litter), thoroughly sweep and properly dispose of before washing.
- After visible pollutants are removed, use water ONLY to clean the area (i.e., no soap, acids, or other additives). Generated wash water should be properly drained or disposed of (e.g., directed to landscape or permeable areas within the premises, filtered through geotextile filter at the drain inlet then discharged into the storm drain).
- If any visible pollutants remain in the residual wash water, collect all water and pump into the City's publicly owned treatment works [POTW] through a sanitary sewer on-site. Approval by the City is required.

#### Other Things To-Be-Considered:

- If there is no storm drain system nearby and discharge on a paved lot or street will create a nuisance or hazardous condition, the effluent may be disposed of at a POTW or industrial waste disposal facility.
- Discharge to a POTW requires approval by the City.
- If sidewalk/walkway is painted and power washing has the potential to remove the paint, please refer to the **Building Power Washing BMP** flyer.

*The State Department of Transportation, Harbors Division has developed the Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) in compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit.*

*The SWMP is administered by the Environmental Section under the Engineering Branch.*

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