

Dear Mobile Operator,

The City of North Las Vegas applauds your efforts to be gainfully self employed. We know that small business is the heart of America. We also realize that it is important for our vibrant economy to continue to flourish. We appreciate all that you are doing and the fact that you hire local people and put them to work. We want to help you comply with the Federal Clean Water Act and remain in business. We would rather work with you than against you, since you are part of everything that is good about America. Entrepreneurship has helped our valley stay strong through this recent recession. It is independent business people like your self that makes our country so great.

The wash water that comes off of the things you wash, if not captured, enters the storm drain and that drains directly into Lake Mead. It enters Lake Mead at a point upstream from where we get our fresh water supply for the city. Any pollution or contaminants coming from your operation that enters the storm drain ends up in the lake and then flows to a point where the local area gets it's water. Our drinking water, your drinking water too. This is why The City of North Las Vegas has laws to protect our water supply. It is also mandated by the Federal Clean Water Act, as well as our NPDES Permit that we enforce these laws. Our city is required to enforce these laws just as you are required to follow them. We are therefore required to write tickets and levy heavy fines on repeat offenders. We hate to do this because we love small business, but as code enforcement goes we must enforce the laws of the United States of America, The State of Nevada, Local County Laws and our own City Codes. We have therefore come up with this plan to help you keep our water supply clean. It is up to all of us and we all in turn will have clean water to drink without coming down with any horrible diseases. Much of the wash water coming off of things you clean can contain heavy metals, petroleum distillates, arsenic, asbestos, benzene and other toxic chemicals. You will find on the back of this hand out a list of ways you can comply with the laws without too much additional cost to your operations. Also on the reverse side is a list of places you can buy some of the necessary equipment to help you comply. Many solutions require as little as \$500.00 and a little ingenuity. Our major requirement is that it prevents untreated wash water from entering the storm drain, water table or Lake Mead (source of the Valley's drinking water). Please keep your operations environmentally sound. This way you will not end up in court, fined, out of business or jailed. Be part of the solution. We need your help.

If you see another mobile operator out there not complying with the law, please be friendly and explain to them what you have learned from this hand out. If we all work together we can eliminate the hardship of fines and court, which is a waste of everyone's time. It is especially wasteful considering you will have to comply later after you pay the fine anyway or stop business all together. If you have any questions call: **Thomas Rura at (702)-633-1261** with the City of North Las Vegas Public Works-Resources & Environmental Division. Thomas and the other code enforcement officers do not want this to be an adversarial relationship. We will not bite your head off. We will help you stay in business as long as you are willing to make the effort and fix any problems. We are focused on water resources and we need your help. We, of course, will cite anyone who is not in compliance, but our mission is to stop the problem of pollution of Lake Mead (our drinking water supply) not to stop your business. Help us help you, your family and everyone you know to clean and safe drinking water.

Do not be surprised if your current and potential customers ask you about environmental issues. By being on the leading edge of these issues it will help your business grow and prosper. By being in compliance with these laws you will set yourself apart from the other companies who do not obey these laws. Eventually, there will only be those companies who have positioned themselves with environmentally friendly operations that comply with these mandates. The question you should ask yourself is: "Am I going to be one of those companies or will I be out of business?" The ball is totally in your court. Call us, we are here to help. It is up to all of us to do our part.

Best Management Practices (BMPs):

Rule of thumb: Do not let wash water run-off enter a storm drain.

It is important when wash water is pooling or running towards a storm drain or even if it has the potential to run to a storm drain to contain the flow. The easiest way is to block off the storm drain. Then remove the excess wash water from the property and dump it into a clean-out or sewer hook-up.

You can buy storm drain blockers, vacu-booms, mats, etc. from:

Clifford and Associates, Cliff Young at 1-480-937-8185 (Any size storm Drain Blocks at reasonable cost, customized to fit). Cost \$300 and under. Cliff will be glad to answer any questions about run-off.

The New Pig Catalog. To get a catalog call 1-800-4 NEW-PIG. (many to choose from).

Clean-Mart at 3600 West Sahara Blvd. 702-870-3900 Ask for Al. (A variety of possible solutions).

Delco Cleaning Systems. www.DCS1.com (Vacu-booms starting at \$800.00). Largest Internet Site for Mobile Washing. Also a bulletin board where you can ask questions of other mobile operators.

AAA Pressure Washing. 1-480-517-1925 www.AAAPWS.com (Vacu-booms and vacu-burms, vacuums and drain blocks). Reseller of all major brands of environmental equipment.

Latimat. Mats for washing trucks and heavy equipment. www.latimat.com (based in Canada). Holds the patent for wash mats and originator of the concept.

After you collect the water by way of a burn, storm drain block or vacu-boom system, you need to vacuum it up into a storage tank or pump it into a clean-out or sewer drain. If you need to move fast you can put a plastic 55 gallon drum on your truck or trailer and pump the waste water into that. When it is full, take the water to a location, which has a city sewer hook up. You can get a permit to dump it at the City's Sewer Treatment Plant. You can also make a deal to dump it at a truck wash or truck wash bay in trade for services. You might even trade an owner of a coin-op car wash for pressure washing of his facility so you can dump the water there where it will be treated correctly. Be creative and have a letter from who ever takes your water and be ready to show it to a code enforcement officer if asked. If you have any questions about this we have an industry volunteer who can help you with additional information. Call: **Lance Winslow at 1-888-WASH-GUY**. Lance has been in the washing business for over 25 years in California and can help you find an inexpensive solution. He will be happy to answer questions at no charge. These BMPs will keep you in business while still complying with the Federal Clean Water Act. Most vendors and suppliers will also be happy to answer questions you may have.

There are two types of vacuums you can use. One is made by Steel Eagle and is about \$400 and can be purchased from the above sources. The other is a Shop Vac, which can be purchased at Wal*Mart for about \$80.00. These vacuums suck the water up and when the vacuum is full they pump the water back out through a garden hose with a small electric submerged pump in side the vacuum. By placing the hose in your storage tank, you can effectively vacuum up any water, which does not evaporate, then pump into your storage tank. Then later on simply dump the tank into a clean-out or sewer hook-up. You can also suck the water back out of the tank and pump into the clean-out or sewer hook up. You can use a regular Shop Vac and dump the water into your waste water storage tank also. It is a little more cumbersome, but it may be a good temporary solution until you retrofit your rig. These are really simple BMPs, which will help you comply and they are relatively inexpensive. If you are going to wash trucks and heavy equipment on a permeable surface or many trucks in the same location you may need a mat to contain all the water so it does not seep into the ground water. This will prevent you from the high cost of clean-up if the ground is found to be contaminated later.

***The City does not endorse any of these companies, they are here merely for your education and due diligence. There maybe other very good vendors out there to help you. We recommend you do your homework in seeking out the best possible solutions to help America's fresh water supply. Thank you.**