

## Stormwater Pollution Prevention for Restaurants

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Many common restaurant practices can pollute our local waterways. Restaurant owners, managers, and staff should be aware of this and implement best management practices (BMP's) to prevent pollution.

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*The City of Auburn  
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## *Stormwater Pollution Prevention for Restaurants*



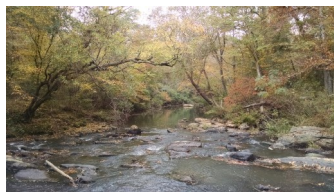
*“Protecting, Preserving, and Restoring  
our Local Water Resources”*

# *Stormwater Pollution Prevention for Restaurants*

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Many common restaurant practices can pollute our local waterways. Restaurant owners, managers, and staff should be aware of this and implement best management practices (BMP's) to prevent pollution.

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## **BMP's to Prevent Pollution**

### **Cleaning & Disposal**

- Wash floor mats, kitchen mats, filters, and garbage cans in a receptacle that drains to the sanitary sewer where wastewater is treated. DO NOT wash items in the parking lot, alley, sidewalk, or street. These areas drain to local waterways.

- Pour wash water into a sink that drains to the sanitary sewer and never pour it onto paved areas outside.

- Sweep up food particles, cigarette butts, and trash from outside areas before pressure washing.

- If you pressure wash outside seating areas or equipment with detergents, bleaches, or any type of soap, you must NOT allow any of this water to flow into a storm drain or gutter. This water must be trapped and vacuumed with a shop-vac, then poured into a proper receptacle that drains to the sanitary sewer.

- Ensure that only wash water goes into the sanitary sewer. Trash, food, and grease will cause sanitary sewer blockages and overflows.

- Use dry methods such as cat-litter absorbent for oil and other liquid spills, then sweep-up and dispose of in a garbage receptacle.

### **Grease Management**

- Clean grease traps regularly

- Collect bulk grease and oil in Hide & Tallow containers. Keep these containers clean to prevent odors and keep animal pests away.

## **BMP's to Prevent Pollution**

### **Dumpster and Loading Dock Areas**

- Keep dumpster lids closed to prevent rainwater from washing waste into the storm drain

- Keep dumpster areas clean and tidy

- Keep trash in tied-off plastic bags

- Do not wash out a dumpster unless the wash-water is contained and then disposed of in a receptacle that drains to the sanitary sewer.

- Have clean-up equipment readily accessible near the dumpster in case of a spill

## **Train Your Employees**

- Hold staff meetings to discuss the importance of pollution prevention and the importance of proper spill clean-up and disposal.

- Clearly label areas where mat washing is permitted.

- Clearly label areas where wash water may not be dumped.

- Post reminders that dumping anything into the storm drain is illegal.

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