CAR WASHING DO'S AND DONT'S

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY STORMWATER PROGRAM
WHERE WATER MEETS COMMUNITY



WHEN POSSIBLE, GO TO A PROFESSIONAL CARWASH

Water that travels through the street can pick up pollutants from our cars (oil, grease, and other chemicals) and carry them to our waterways without being treated. We can help protect the community and wildlife that live in it from contamination.

DO: Use eco-friendly cleaning products (non-toxic, phosphate-free, or biodegradable).

DO: Use as little soap as possible and wipe dust off wheels/tires before rinsing.

DO: Wash in a contained area, on the grass**, gravel, or another permeable surface that allows water to seep into the ground. Dispose of any leftover soapy water into the sanitary sewer (toilet or sink) or on the grass.

DO: Conserve water by using a high-pressure hose and turning off the water when not in use.

DON'T: Create excess water that flows into the streets.

DON'T: Wash your car where the leftover water could go into a nearby storm drain. Similarly, don't pour leftover soapywater into the storm drain.

DON'T: Throw away unwanted car cleaning products in the trash. Instead, locate your local Household Hazardous Waste facility: Call (800) OILY CAT or visit TooToxicToTrash.com.

**Check if local ordinances allow for cars to be parked on the lawn. Contact your city's Building and Code Department if you're unsure.