

WASH RIGHT

Washing our cars is a fun summer tradition that keeps our cars looking good.

What's the problem with washing at home?

When car wash water leaves your driveway and flows to the nearest storm drain, it carries soap suds, dirt, and chemicals directly to the creeks, lakes, and wetlands that we all swim, fish, and play in.

All soaps, even "eco-friendly" or biodegradable soaps, are toxic to fish and aquatic life.

WASH RIGHT.

Learn how on the reverse side.

How to **WASH RIGHT**

BEST

The best choice for clean water, healthy fish, and a clean car is to **use a commercial car wash.**

GOOD

If you have the space, **wash on your lawn or gravel area.**



Will soap harm my lawn or plants?

Nope! Tiny microbes and helpful bacteria in the soil safely break down the soap and grime, protecting your plants. Plus, the extra water is free irrigation for your lawn.

Will my car leave ruts in the lawn?

No. Temporarily parking a car on your lawn won't damage your lawn. Flattened grass springs back up in no time.

Pro tip: Use a rake to gently help the grass stand back up faster.

Will this damage my sprinklers or septic system?

Temporarily parking your car over these systems will not damage them. We don't recommend long term parking of a vehicle over sprinklers or septic systems. Use care to avoid sprinkler heads.

GOOD

If washing on the lawn isn't possible, use spare towels to **divert wash water toward soil or landscaping.**



Do the towels really work?

Definitely! The towels stay securely in place and do an incredible job diverting the majority of the water.

What do I do with the towels afterward?

Towels can easily be thrown in your washing machine, rinsed on the lawn, or washed in a utility sink, or you can spread them out in a sunny area to dry.

Pro tip: Designate 2-3 towels as your "Clean Water Car Wash Towels"

Allowing car wash soap to flow to the street and storm drain is also against the law (KMC 15.52.90) and could be subject to clean-up cost recovery charges and fines for repeat offenses.