



Be water wise.

Car Washing

STORMWATER
DIVISION



Maintaining Hot Springs' Water Quality

The city's storm drain system conveys unfiltered stormwater runoff directly into Hot Springs' creeks, and ultimately into Lake Hamilton. Hazardous chemicals including soap, oils and brake dust can do great harm to aquatic life. Use of the storm drain system to discharge automobile car wash wastes is a violation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Water Act and city ordinance.

What individuals and commercial car wash operators can do to help

Most commercial car washes and car dealers are equipped with drains that convey wash water to a treatment facility or into the sanitary sewer system. If so equipped, keep car wash water directed to these drains.

Use a waterless car wash soap to clean cars when possible. The cost is affordable and will save on your water bill.

If water is used, block all area drains and drainage channels that could allow dirt or soap to enter into the storm sewer system.

Remove trash and debris and then sweep all ground surfaces prior to washing your vehicle. This will minimize the risk for hazardous material to mix with the wash water.

Once washing is complete, use a shop-vac to vacuum up the contaminated water and then dispose into a wastewater drain (sink or toilet).

**Together, we can keep
Arkansas creeks and rivers the
most beautiful in the country!**

Hot Springs Public Works

Stormwater Division

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