

Car Washing – The Environmentally Friendly Way

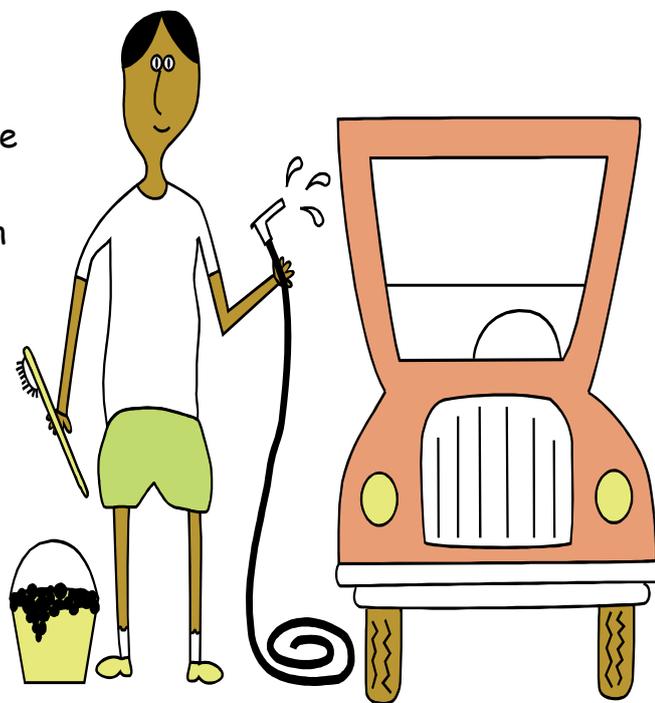
Cars that are washed on the driveway or other hard surfaces can pollute our rivers and wetlands. The soapy water that runs off from the car can go down our street drains.

This waste water contains detergents and dirt which contribute nutrients, such as phosphorus, to our waterways. Nutrients cause algal blooms which can devastate animal and plant species living in the waterways and prevent recreational use of the rivers.

It is easy to wash your car in an environmentally friendly way that will not only reduce algal blooms in our rivers and wetlands but save precious water as well.

Where to Wash Your Car

- Wash your car on the lawn where the water and nutrients from the detergent can be used by the lawn to grow.
- Ensure that the water does not run off the lawn and on to the street where it can go down our street drains and into rivers and wetlands.
- If you don't have a lawn at home, then find an alternative location such as at a friend's or neighbour's.
- Take your car to a commercial car wash, they treat waste water before disposing of it to sewer and many recycle and reuse the water.
- The 'do it yourself' car wash bays use less water and detergent than automatic car washes.



When You Wash Your Car

- Use a bucket and save our precious water. This also results in water and detergent not running off the lawn and into street drains.
- If using a hose switch it off when not rinsing or use a trigger hose.
- Use detergents sparingly and ensure they are phosphorus free.
- An even better option is to just use water, one of the many fibre technology cleaning cloths and some elbow grease.
- Dispose of waste water onto your garden or lawn.
- Don't wash your car!! (or consider washing your car only once a month).