

# Carpet Cleaner & Janitorial Services Waste Management Guide



Carpet cleaner & janitorial wastes are potentially harmful to the environment and require special storage and disposal.

## Best Management Practices

To reduce the amount of contaminants from entering the storm drain system and the environment, the following policies should be practised:

- Use products that are environmentally friendly or less, hazardous than the products you currently use, and always follow the manufacturer's directions.
- Read the instructions for recommended disposal. Old cleaning, sanitising, and deodorising chemicals may require special disposal. To dispose of unused cleaning products refer to the Regional Waste Reduction office's *Commercial Recycling Directory* or call the B.C. Recycling & Pollution Prevention Hotline at 1-800-667-4321.
- Washwater may not be placed, poured or allowed to enter any drains connected to the storm drain system. Washwater that is acceptable for disposal to the sewer system must be poured or placed in a fixture connected to the sanitary sewer system.
- Mobile carpet cleaners should dispose of their liquid wastes into a sanitary fixture connected to the sanitary sewer system either at the clients' premises or trucked to an approved disposal facility.
- Cleaning, sanitising and deodorising chemicals must be stored in a secure area where spills will be contained and will not enter the sewer system.

## Spills

Spills of concentrated cleaning solutions and solvents must be cleaned up immediately. Spills should be contained or curbed to prevent the spill from entering the sewer system. Some of the chemicals used are flammable, toxic, corrosive, or have other hazardous properties. Do not attempt to clean up spills of concentrated chemicals that are hazardous or have flammable, toxic, or corrosive fumes. Call the Fire Department immediately at 911.

## Enforcement

Section 2.1 of the Sanitary Sewer/Storm Drain Regulation By-Law No. 6618 specifies certain prohibited wastes. Section 2.2 specifies certain restricted wastes. Violators are subject to fines of up to \$2,000.00 per offence.

Business owner and operators are legally responsible to ensure that they are in compliance with the BC Special Waste Regulations. For further information, contact the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks at 1-250-490-8200.