

# Commercial Carpet/Floor or Furniture Cleaning Businesses

It's extremely important for all of us to keep Tulsa's environment healthy by ensuring water that flows into our storm drains is clean. Allowing substances such as soaps, detergents, stain removers and other chemicals to flow into storm drains will pollute local streams and impact humans as well as the aquatic life that lives in the streams.

Commercial Carpet/Floor or Furniture Cleaning Businesses are subject to the requirements of the Oklahoma Pollution Discharge Elimination System issued by the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ). The City of Tulsa's Pollution ordinance (Title 11-A, Chapter 5) also prohibits the discharge of wastewater to the storm sewer unless the discharge is covered by an ODEQ issued permit. Violation of this ordinance could result in a fine of up to \$1000 per day.

### Discharges to the Storm Sewer System are not Allowed.

The waste water generated from cleaning carpets, floors and furniture must be discharged into Tulsa's sanitary sewer system for treatment at a waste water treatment plant.

#### Do's:

- The waste water must be collected/contained.
- Discharge waste water to sink, toilet, or other drain connected to the sanitary sewer system.
- Vacuum before cleaning to remove particulate and debris that may clog pipes when discharged. Before disposing of wastewater, further filter it to remove carpet fibers and other solids in order to prevent pipe clogs.
- Train your employees on appropriate carpet cleaning BMPs, as well as spill prevention and clean-up procedures.

#### Don'ts

- Do not dump wash water or any chemicals into the storm sewer system.
- Process waste water should never be allowed to flow onto driveways, the street, or lawns.
- Do not dump into any City of Tulsa manholes.

### Process Waste Water Should Never Go into the Storm Sewer System.

More information regarding this and other stormwater quality information can be obtained at: <https://www.cityoftulsa.org/environmental-programs/stormwater-quality.aspx>

# STORMWATER BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPS)

## Guidelines for Compliance with the City of Tulsa Code

All discharges to a City of Tulsa sewer system, must comply with the applicable requirements set forth in the City of Tulsa's code of revised ordinances. The specific ordinances pertaining to discharges to the storm and sanitary sewers are listed in the following table:

Sewer System	Ordinance	Internet Address
Storm	Title 11-A, Chapter 5	<a href="http://www.cityoftulsa.org/our-city/city-charter--ordinances.aspx">http://www.cityoftulsa.org/our-city/city-charter--ordinances.aspx</a>
Sanitary	Title 11-C, Chapter 12	<a href="http://www.cityoftulsa.org/our-city/city-charter--ordinances.aspx">http://www.cityoftulsa.org/our-city/city-charter--ordinances.aspx</a>

Contact the Stormwater and Land Management section at (918) 591-4325 if you believe (or are unsure if) your discharge will be subject to these additional regulations.

**Please be advised that federal law requires the City of Tulsa to stringently enforce both of these sewer usage ordinances. Persons violating either ordinance may be subject to enforcement actions.**

**BMPs are an important tool in helping the City of Tulsa remain a vibrant and healthy place to live and work. They also help the city maintain compliance with its Stormwater Quality Permit.**



**Streets & Stormwater Department**  
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(918) 591-4325 | [www.cityoftulsa.org/sos](http://www.cityoftulsa.org/sos)

