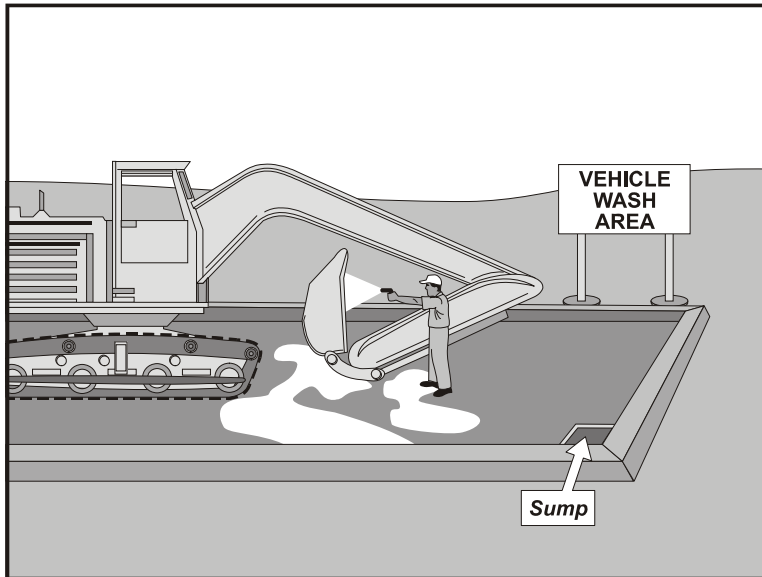

Vehicle and Equipment Cleaning

SM-11



Source: Caltrans Construction Site Best Management Practices Manual, 2003.

Description	Practices and procedures to reduce or prevent the discharge of pollutants from vehicle and equipment cleaning activities to storm drain.
Applications	Construction or maintenance activities involving cleaning of vehicles and equipment.
Installation and Implementation Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use off-site vehicle wash racks or commercial washing facilities when practical. Off-site cleaning facilities may be better equipped to properly handle and dispose of wash waters.• If on-site cleaning is necessary, designate bermed wash areas for cleaning activities. The wash area may be sloped to facilitate collection of wash water and evaporative drying.• Minimize water use to avoid the need for erosion and sediment controls for the wash area.• Use phosphate-free, biodegradable soaps.• Train employees on pollution prevention measures.• Steam cleaning shall not occur in uncontained areas. Significant pollutant concentrations may be generated from steam cleaning.
Limitations	Some soaps labeled phosphate-free and/or biodegradable have been shown to be toxic to fish before the soap degrades. Do not discharge wash water directly into streams.
Inspections and Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Train employees on implementation of revised procedures.• Inspect and maintain structural controls.