



Stormwater drain markers remind us that we are all connected to our surrounding environment.



Carpet Cleaning & Janitorial

Protect Our Aquatic Environment by Preventing Stormwater Contamination

Spill Prevention

Spills of solutions and chemicals used in carpet cleaning and janitorial operations must be contained to prevent them from entering the stormwater drainage system. Some of the chemicals used are corrosive, toxic or have other hazardous properties which can be harmful to the environment. Always read the labels and follow the instructions

In the event of an accidental spill to the environment immediately contact the **Provincial Emergency Program (PEP)** at **1.800.663.3456**. In the event that the chemical is flammable, toxic, corrosive or has other hazardous properties call the **Surrey Fire Department** immediately at **911**.

Any person responsible for stormwater drainage system contamination may be held liable under the following environmental legislation:

- Federal Fisheries Act
- BC Hazardous Waste Regulation
- BC Environmental Management Act
- Surrey By-law No. 16610

For more information

RCBC Recycle Hotline
604.732.9253

Product Care Association
604.592.2972
www.productcare.org

City of Surrey
Plumbing Section
604.591.4245

City of Surrey
Environment & Drainage Section
604.591.4321

Metro Vancouver, Source Control
604.436.6777

Surrey Fire Department
604.543.6760

If you witness a spill or chemicals being washed into a stormwater drain, please contact the City of Surrey's Engineering Department at **604.590.7226**, after 4:30pm at **604.591.4431**.





Carpet Cleaning & Janitorial

Carpet cleaning and janitorial operations use a number of products and solutions to clean, sanitize and deodorize various components of buildings. Many of these solutions and products can be toxic, corrosive or flammable.

Wastewater from carpet cleaning and janitorial operations can contain sediments, harmful chemicals and other contaminants. If the wastewater is poured or placed in stormwater drainages, parking lot drains or ditches, it can enter the stormwater drainage system.

In Surrey the stormwater drainage system discharges, untreated, into local creeks and streams where contaminants can be toxic to fish or can harm our environment. There are over 1500 km of open creeks and streams in Surrey. These creeks form an important network of watercourses which provide natural habitat for salmon, trout, and other aquatic life.

Best Management Practices

To prevent contaminants from entering the stormwater drainage system, and ultimately our creeks and streams, please observe the following practices:

- Use products that are environmentally friendly or less hazardous than the products that could be used, and always follow the manufacturer's directions.
- Clean without soaps or solutions whenever possible.
- Wash water can not be poured or allowed to enter any stormwater drain. Empty all wash water into a sink or other fixture connected to the sanitary sewer system.
- Mobile carpet cleaners must dispose of their liquid wastes into a fixture connected to the sanitary sewer system either at the clients' premises or an approved disposal facility. If wastewater collection is impractical, it may be directed away from stormwater drains towards landscaped or graded areas.
- Filter wash water before discharging to the sanitary sewer to avoid clogging pipes. Dispose of filtered material in the garbage.
- Cleaning, sanitizing, deodorizing chemicals, solvents, acids and caustics must be stored in a secure area where spills will be contained and will not enter the stormwater drainage or sanitary sewer systems.
- Old cleaning, sanitizing and deodorizing chemicals may require special disposal. Follow the manufacturer's directions for disposal of cleaning products or contact the RCBC Recycling Hotline.
- Ensure all employees are aware of their important role in preventing stormwater contamination.

