

Public Service Announcement - Car Washing (June 2005)

So, you've taken the kids up north and even visited your in-laws, but with all the construction you went through your car has seen better days. You have decided that this weekend washing the car and changing the oil is on top of the To Do List.

However, cleaning your car at home can have some serious impacts on the environment. If you do choose to wash the car at home, do so in an area where soapy water will not run into a street or storm drain. Use soap sparingly and pour your bucket of soapy water down the sink when you are done. Use paper towels to wipe brake dust off the wheels before washing. Another option is going to a commercial car wash that recycles the water or discharges it directly to the sewer for treatment.

If you change your oil at home, recycle the oil and dispose of all fluids properly. Don't pour any fluids into the storm drain, this could end up in our lakes and streams. This is how you can continue to make the environment a better place for your kids (and even your in-laws).

The Northeast Wisconsin Stormwater Consortium is a partnership of area communities working together to educate you on how we can make great strides in protecting and enjoying our environment.