



# Mesco Ltd

## Good Practices

### **Concrete pouring and cutting**

If your day to day activities involve the handling of concrete and other cement based products, then your activity may affect the environment.

### **Concrete cutting and the washing of fines**

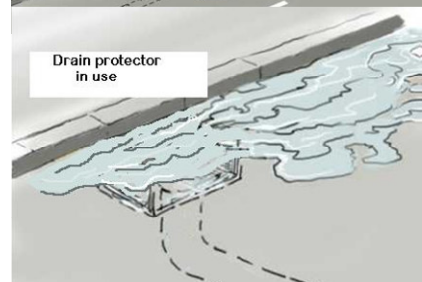
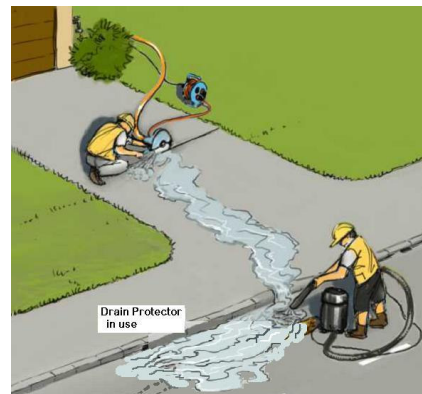
If cooling water is needed or washing needs to be carried out on site, ensure that there is no discharge to the environment.

- Divert runoff to a grassed or unsealed area where it can soak into the ground.
- Block a receiving drain and pump the waste water to an area where it can evaporate or soak into the ground.
- Wash the fines off freshly laid concrete to the side, not into the storm water drainage system.
- Never wash concrete products in areas where the wastes and associated wash water will drain to a storm water drain or stream.
- Clean up all spilt material immediately and dispose of wastes in a bin in such a manner that they won't leak out.

Ensure all workers and/or contractors are aware of these requirements.

### **Concrete trucks and equipment**

- Use a specifically designed wash area, which either discharges into the sewer or contains all waste water in a sealed pond or tank for re-use as concrete make-up water or for equipment washing.
- On any large construction sites requiring multiple deliveries, ensure there is a designated wash out area which allows water to soak into the ground and not run overland into the storm water system.



## Vehicle and equipment washing

Whenever a vehicle or piece of equipment is washed, the waste water contains contaminants that can harm our environment.

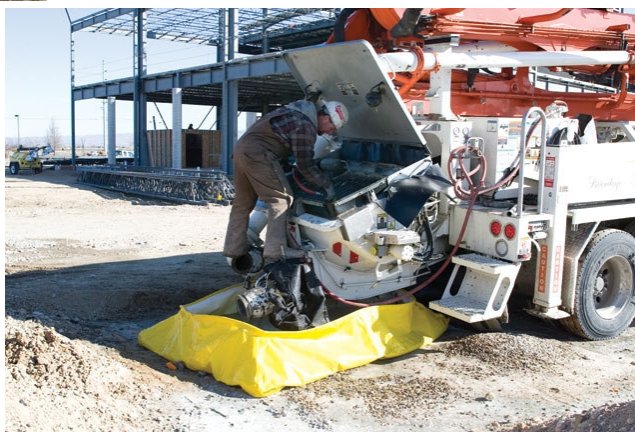
If you wash vehicles or equipment, you need to have at least one of the following to prevent pollution from your site:

- A properly designed and designated wash facility.
- A contract with a vehicle/equipment cleaning firm.

**A formal policy ensuring that all cleaning activities are carried out appropriately.**

### Tips to prevent pollution

- Use a dry wash method - anti-static brushes, wet rag/dry rag, bucket and rag - on vehicles, containers and equipment.
- Take vehicles, containers or equipment to a responsible commercial washing facility with a sewer connection or recirculating system.
- All commercial wash water containing cleaning and/or degreasing agents must be disposed of as a trade waste into the sewer, with the approval of the local council or via a commercial waste contractor.
- If you are a car dealer who wishes to keep display vehicles clean on your yard, then you may use just cold water, with no additives (ie detergents), to rinse off the settled film from vehicle panels and windows.



Rules obtained from Environment  
Canterbury (Ecan) website

[www.ecan.govt.nz](http://www.ecan.govt.nz)