

## **Procedure for Wastewater Management from UC Berkeley Building Washing and Maintenance Operations**

This procedure describes wastewater management for UC Berkeley building washing operations and is to be used in conjunction with all operations where building exterior surface cleaning generates wash-water. Wastewater from washing operations is prohibited from discharge to storm drains because it may contain chloramines, cleaning compounds, or materials dislodged from the building surfaces during cleaning (such as leaded paint). Wastewater may be disposed to landscaped areas or the sanitary sewer on the condition that contaminant concentrations will not harm the landscape or the sewage treatment facility's operations.

Offsite disposal through the Office of Environment, Health & Safety (EH&S) may be necessary if contaminants in the wash-water exceed sewer discharge contaminant limits. If cleaning compounds containing surfactants, detergents or other chemicals are used in the cleaning process and there are sludges or residues that need to be disposed of, contact EH&S, (510) 642-3073, for disposal guidance.

### **Building Washing Wastewater Management Procedures**

#### *Unpainted Buildings*

- Construct a containment system to eliminate wash-water discharge to the storm drain.
- Divert wash-water onto landscaping (preferable) or into the sanitary sewer.
- If high pressure water is used (e.g., hydro-blasting to remove spalled concrete) then settle out the solids using a containment tank, or filter out the solids using filter fabric or other solids removal method.

#### *Painted Buildings*

- Construct a containment system to eliminate wash-water from draining to the storm drain or the sanitary sewer system.
- Pour, pump or drain the wash-water into a containment tank.
- Use a filter system (e.g., cartridge filters) to remove suspended paint solids. Use settling methods to minimize the amount of solids entering the filter system. This will prevent filter saturation.
- Sample the filtered water before it is discharge to the sanitary sewer. Have the sample analyzed for the 13 priority pollutant metals (antimony, arsenic, beryllium, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, mercury, nickel, selenium, silver, thallium, zinc) and any other chemicals of concern that could be present to determine whether or not the water is suitable for sanitary sewer discharge. Send a copy of the analytical results to EH&S for disposal method determination.
- If the analytical results exceed the EBMUD discharge limits, consider options for using a finer pore size filter, or dispose of the water through EH&S. EH&S will arrange to ship the water to a properly permitted disposal facility.