



Carpet Cleaning Wastewater Information Handout

Carpet cleaning businesses must adhere to The City of Calgary Wastewater Bylaw 14M2012 and The City of Calgary Stormwater Bylaw 37M2005. Use these tips to comply with regulatory requirements, lower fees and protect your business, the community and the environment.

Manage contaminants in your wastewater

- Ensure the purchase of non-toxic detergents and cleaners
- Prior to cleaning, confirm equipment is in proper working order, free of leaks and damage

Use a pre-treatment method

- Filter screens shall be installed at any water release point to capture all solid materials.
- Dry vacuuming should occur prior to cleaning agent application and water cleaning
- Solids must be diverted to a solids waste stream unless the materials are considered hazardous, in which case they shall be sent to an appropriate treatment facility.
- Visit calgary.ca/hw or contact 311 for the hazardous materials disposal requirements.

How to dispose of your wastewater

- Drains connected to the Wastewater System (i.e. floor drains and sinks) may be used to dispose of wastewater if the following conditions of the Wastewater Bylaw (14M2012) are met:
 - Does not contain any substances listed in Schedule A Prohibited Substances;
 - Does not exceed any concentrations listed in Schedule B Restricted Substances and Schedule C Surcharge Substances
- If the wastewater exceeds City of Calgary Wastewater Bylaw limits, the wastewater can be disposed of at other waste treatment facilities where industrial wastewater is permitted.

Wastewater Bylaw 14M2012 Fines for Non-Compliance

18(1) Failing to dispose of wastewater from a premises into either the wastewater system or a private wastewater system

Specified Penalty \$1000

22(1)(a) Releasing, or allowing the release of wastewater that contains a prohibited substance into the wastewater system

Specified Penalty \$3000

22(1)(b) Releasing, or allowing the release of wastewater into the wastewater system that contains a substance that is over the concentration limit as described in Column 2 of Schedule "B" or Column 2 of Schedule "C"

Specified Penalty \$3000

43(6) Failing to comply with a Remedial Order

Specified Penalty \$1000

What to do if you have an accidental release

In the event of an unintentional release it is important to act quickly to prevent the material from entering the wastewater or stormwater system.

The Wastewater Bylaw section 35 under “Release Reporting” requires the person who released or allowed the release to notify:

- The City of Calgary by contacting 311 as well as the Industrial Monitoring Group at img@calgary.ca
- The owner of the premise where the release occurred.
- Any other person that may be affected by the release.

For any spills that could harm the environment you will also need to report the spill to Alberta Environment.

For more information please contact 311 or the Industrial Monitoring Group at img@calgary.ca