

Compost Guidelines for Stormwater Protection

Brief messages to be shared alongside updated composting guidelines to educate and support community members in protecting waterways while maintaining their compost bins.

Residents

Short

- When washing compost containers, dump wash water into indoor sink drains or directly onto landscaped areas. Never allow wash water to enter roads and storm drains.

Longer - Talking Points

- Nutrients and bacteria in food waste and chemicals from soap will harm water quality and aquatic life.
- If using a bin washing company, select a company that collects/reclaims the wash water.
- When washing compost containers, dump wash water into indoor sink drains or directly onto landscaped areas.
- If washing compost containers outdoors, never allow wash water to enter roads and storm drains. Use biodegradable or phosphate-free soap and dump wash water onto landscaped areas.
- For easy maintenance, use a small container to store compost indoors and transfer it to larger bins outdoors for pick up. You are allowed to use small CMA-approved compostable bags. Bags must be three gallons or smaller. [Check out A1 Organics' website for a list of accepted bags.](#)

Restaurants

Short

- Wash compost containers inside using sinks or floor drains. Never allow wash water to enter roads and storm drains.

Longer - Talking Points

- Wash compost containers inside using sinks or floor drains.
- If washing compost containers outdoors, never allow wash water to enter roads and storm drains. Use biodegradable or phosphate-free soap and dump wash water onto landscaped areas.
- Nutrients and bacteria in food waste and chemicals from soap will harm water quality and aquatic life.
- If using a bin washing company, select a company that collects/reclaims the wash water.
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compostable bags. Bags must be three gallons or smaller. [Check out A1 Organics' website for a list of accepted bags.](#)

Non-restaurant Businesses

Short

- Wash compost containers inside using sinks. Never allow wash water to enter roads and storm drains.

Longer - Talking Points

- Wash compost containers inside using sinks.
- If washing compost containers outdoors, never allow wash water to enter roads and storm drains. Dump wash water into indoor sink drains or directly onto landscaped areas. Use biodegradable or phosphate-free soap and dump wash water onto landscaped areas.
- Nutrients and bacteria in food waste and chemicals from soap will harm water quality and aquatic life.
- If using a bin washing company, select a company that collects/reclaims the wash water.
- For easy maintenance, use a small container to store compost indoors and transfer it to larger bins outdoors for pick up. You are allowed to use small CMA-approved compostable bags. Bags must be three gallons or smaller. [Check out A1 Organics' website for a list of accepted bags.](#)