

City of
Bellevue



Utilities Department

Post Office Box 90011 • Bellevue, Washington • 98009-9011

May 25, 2016

Re: Discontinuation of Fundraising Car Wash Kit Program.

Dear Fundraiser,

The City of Bellevue is no longer providing Fundraising Car Wash Kits.

Please find an alternative fundraiser instead of car washing to protect our local streams, lakes, and wetlands from harmful pollution. Visit the following link for more information regarding the impacts of car wash waste water and a list of alternative, low-cost, eco-friendly fundraisers for your consideration:

http://www.bellevuewa.gov/pdf/Utilities/Fundraising_Flyer_2014_Final.pdf.

The City of Bellevue has the responsibility under the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II Permit to ensure that discharges from the City-maintained storm and surface water system do not negatively impact local waterways and habitat. Under the NPDES Permit, the City must “reduce the discharge of pollutants from [its Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)] to the maximum extent practicable, meet state AKART [known, available, and reasonable treatment] requirements, and protect water quality.”

Stormwater is not treated. Do not allow anything other than rain to enter storm drains. Refer to Bellevue Code 24.06.125 <http://www.codepublishing.com/WA/Bellevue/html/Bellevue24/Bellevue2406.html#24.06.125>.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping keep Bellevue’s waterways healthy. Please contact Stream Team if you have any questions at streamteam@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-5200.

Sincerely,

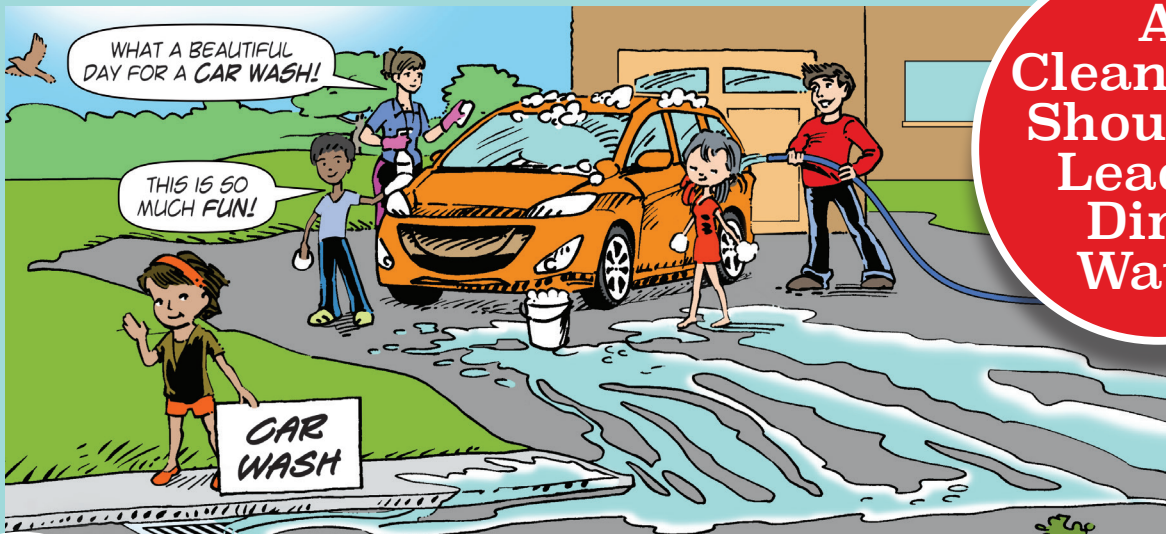
Laurie Devereaux
Bellevue Stream Team Program Administrator

Enclosures:

1. Fundraising Car Wash Alternatives
2. Information about car washing and stormwater pollution

cc: Don McQuilliams, Water Quality Supervisor

A Clean Ride Shouldn't Lead to Dirty Water



Even biodegradable soap can pollute our water.

Dirty car wash water contaminates our waterways with petroleum hydrocarbons, heavy metals, phosphorus, nitrogen, and sediments.

Soaps dissolve the protective mucous layer on fish and natural oils in the gills, making fish more susceptible to diseases.

PHOSPHORUS
SURFACTANTS
FINE SEDIMENTS
PETROLEUM PRODUCTS
NITROGEN
SOAP

Use a commercial car wash!
Commercial car washes send dirty water to the sewer for treatment.

WASH CARS NOT FISH!!

USE A COMMERCIAL CAR WASH!

SELL CAR WASH TICKETS INSTEAD!

STOP FUNDRAISING CAR WASHES!



Questions? Contact Stream Team at 425-452-5200 / streamteam@bellevuewa.gov

Low-Cost Eco-Friendly Fundraisers

Everything that flows down a storm drain in Bellevue goes directly to streams, lakes, and wetlands. Soap, even biodegradable soap, makes it difficult for fish to breathe and kills helpful stream bugs. Dirty car wash water also carries oil, grease and fine sediment that clogs the spaces between rocks where salmon incubate their eggs.



Try a **GREEN** fundraiser *instead of a car wash* and shrink your eco-footprint!



Research shows that local organizations are raising equal or greater revenue when choosing eco-friendly fundraisers over fundraiser car wash events.

Hold a clothing drive: The Eastside Football Club collected used clothing then sold it to a redistributor by weight. Their team collected unwanted articles of clothing from friends, family, and other sources. This option is available through www.clothes-for-the-cause-fundraising.com and other companies.

Commercial Car Wash Tickets: Tillicum Middle School sold commercial car wash tickets as a great way to earn money. Local streams were protected because commercial car washes capture and treat their used wash water. Tickets can be purchased at a discounted rate from either Brown Bear www.brownbear.com/ charity or the Puget Sound Car Wash Association www.charitycarwash.org.



Sell eco-friendly products such as reusable shopping bags or water bottles to raise money and support the environment. Many organizations allow your donors to go online to order products such as reusable water bottles with your charity's name on them, so you won't have to purchase any products in advance in order to raise funds. (Sample sites include www.greenraising.com and www.kotisdesign.com.)

Hold a Walk-a-Thon on a school track or a **Read-a-Thon:** Ask people to pledge a certain dollar amount for each lap students walk or book they read for their cause!

Partner with a local business to receive a portion of their profits for a day or team up with your local **Applebee's Restaurant to hold a Flapjack Fundraiser** and sell tickets for a morning breakfast event and earn money for your charity. www.appleamerican.com

Partner with Terracycle: Terracycle pays schools for collected empty juice packs and wrappers which they will then turn into bags, pencil boxes, and other items to reduce the waste going to the landfill. <http://terracycle.net>



Hold a magazine drive: Tyee Middle School ran an annual school-wide magazine drive to raise funds to support various school programs. Schools can work with organizations such as www.aphearst.com or www.gafundraising.com.

Sample Fundraising Results

Average amount raised by traditional single-day car wash event: \$675

Average amount raised by charity groups participating in:

- Commercial car wash ticket sales: \$1,431
- Magazine drives: \$12,000
- Clothing drives: \$2,500

Hold a school auction, consider including experiences with teachers or senior staff.

Hold a Garage Sale: One family's trash could be another family's treasure! Earn money and give unwanted items a second home while keeping them out of the landfill.



Sell local coupon books: Try selling the popular Chinook Book with coupons and discounts for local businesses. <http://chinookbook.net>

Collect e-waste for recycling. There is no cost to participate and unlimited fundraising profit for collecting items such as empty ink cartridges, used cell phones, laptops, and iPods for recycling. (Sample partners include www.cartridgesforkids.com, www.fundingfactory.com, and www.earthtonesolutions.com)

YOU DON'T NEED A CAPE TO DO THE RIGHT THING



**Use a commercial
car wash to protect our
environment.**



**Commercial car washes send
their dirty water to the
sewer for treatment.**



**Nothing but rain
should ever go down a
storm drain.**

**Runoff flowing into storm
drains goes directly into local
streams, lakes, and wetlands
without treatment.**

- Dirty car wash water contaminates our waterways with petroleum hydrocarbons, heavy metals, phosphorous, nitrogen, and sediments.
- Soaps dissolve the protective mucous layer on fish and natural oils in the gills, making fish more susceptible to diseases.
- Even biodegradable soap pollutes water. It requires the microorganisms in soil to break down properly.

