

**WHEN YOU'RE WASHING YOUR CAR IN  
THE DRIVEWAY, REMEMBER YOU'RE  
NOT JUST WASHING YOUR CAR  
IN THE DRIVEWAY.**

*www.DelawareEstuary.org*



When you wash your car, all the soap, scum and oily grit runs along the curb and into storm drains and the Schuylkill and Delaware Rivers. This causes pollution which is unhealthy for people and fish. Please wash your car on grass or gravel instead of the street or your driveway. Or better yet, take it to a car wash where the water gets treated and recycled.

Thanks to the Washington State Department of Ecology, King County, and the cities of Bellevue, Seattle, and Tacoma.

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

- 💧 Wash your car on a grassy area if possible, so the ground can filter the water naturally. Use soap sparingly. Try to use non-phosphate detergents.
- 💧 Use a hose that is high pressure, low volume and has a pistol grip or trigger nozzle to save water. Wash one section of the car at a time and rinse it quickly.
- 💧 When you're done, empty your bucket of soapy water down the sink, not in the street.
- 💧 Best of all, take your car to a commercial car wash, especially if you plan to clean the engine or the bottom of the car. Most car washes reuse water several times before sending it for treatment at a sewage treatment plant.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION  
VISIT THESE WEB SITES:**

[www.delcocd.org](http://www.delcocd.org)  
[www.chesco.org](http://www.chesco.org)  
[www.pa.dep.us](http://www.pa.dep.us)

*Reprinted with permission from:*

