



## Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County

### Carpet Cleaning Wastewater Fact Sheet

This fact sheet is prepared to help the public and business owners understand the regulatory requirements for disposal of commercial and residential carpet cleaning wastewater. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) has determined that some carpet cleaning activities result in insignificant environmental impacts and are, therefore, not required to apply for an industrial waste permit. These activities call for certain best management requirements. For facilities which cannot meet all of the following best management requirements, an industrial wastewater permit is required, pursuant to Chapter 62-660, Florida Administrative Code.

Wastewater discharges from carpet cleaning operations may be disposed as follows:

1. At the City of Tampa's Howard F. Curren wastewater treatment facility with the consent of the facility.
2. Into the sanitary sewer line (via toilet, sink, bath tub) or the on-site disposal system serving the property being cleaned with the property owner's consent, or
3. Land disposal in a grassy or vegetated area at the *customer's property* with the **property owner's consent** provided the following is also met:
  - a. The discharge of wastewater is limited to 150 gallons per discharge location per week,
  - b. Prior to disposal, carpet cleaning wastewater is filtered to remove grit and lint.
  - c. The pH of carpet cleaning wastewater ranges from 5.5 to 9.
  - d. The wastewater disposal site shall not be nearer than 100 feet to a public drinking water well or 75 feet to a private drinking water well.
  - e. The wastewater disposal site shall not be nearer than 75 feet to surface water.
  - f. Carpet cleaning wastewater shall not cause off-site runoff or create nuisance conditions.
  - g. For commercial operations, records are maintained indicating the date and location of disposal.

There shall be no dumping of wastewater into stormwater systems or on public lands/right of ways.

To dispose of the wastewater onto the ground at the commercial business operations site or other disposal site requires submittal of a permit application to the EPC and subsequent approval.

Please contact EPC at (813) 627-2600 if you have any questions.