



**City of Hahira**  
**Public Works Department**  
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**FOOD / RESTAURANT INDUSTRY STORMWATER TIPS**

**WHAT IS STORMWATER RUNOFF?**

Stormwater runoff occurs when precipitation from rain flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like driveways, parking lots, roofs, sidewalks, and streets prevent stormwater from naturally soaking into the ground.

**WHY IS STORMWATER RUNOFF A PROBLEM?**

Regardless of your restaurant size, pollutants can be discharged into the City's stormwater system if not handled properly. Pollutants can come from a leaking garbage dumpster, the rinsing of food containers, grease containers, and trash cans outside, and/or while pressure washing the parking lot. Individually, these discharges can be small, but as a group, they can result in significant water quality problems for the City and on downstream.

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

Here are a few tips for good operating practices within the Food / Restaurant Industry:

<b>Tip</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Bad</b>
Cleaning Floor Mats and other Restaurant Equipment	<b>Do</b> clean floor mats, filters, and garbage cans in a separate wash area or a properly drained outside area.	<b>Do Not</b> wash them in a food prep or food storage area. <b>Do Not</b> wash them in a parking lot, alley, sidewalk, or street.
Dry Cleaning Methods	<b>Do</b> use dry cleanup methods, such as sweeping, to keep parking lots and outdoor areas clean. If a liquid spill occurs, use an absorbent material such as kitty litter. Once absorbed, sweep it up, bag it, and dispose of it in the dumpster.	<b>Do Not</b> hose down the parking lot, outdoor eating areas, or spills.
Keep Dumpster Area Clean	<b>Do</b> keep dumpster area clean and lid closed.	<b>Do Not</b> overfill dumpster or fill with liquid. <b>Do Not</b> rinse the dumpster or dumpster area, unless it drains to a floor drain that is clean and connected to the sanitary sewer system.
Recycle Grease & Oil	<b>Do</b> pour waste grease and oil into easy to manage portable containers with lids, then transfer to appropriate drums or barrels for recycling.	<b>Do Not</b> pour grease or oil into sinks, floor drains, storm drains, or onto parking lots or streets.
Wash Water Disposal	<b>Do</b> pour wash water, such as mopping water, into a janitorial or mop sink.	<b>Do Not</b> pour it out onto a parking lot, alley, sidewalk or street.

Contact Hahira Public Works Department for more information.