

# Local car washes to help reduce water pollution

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Storm drains lead directly to creeks. When cars are washed in the driveway, the wastewater flows untreated into local waterways. Boulder County's Keep it Clean Partnership (KICP) is encouraging residents to use alternatives to washing their cars at home by partnering with car washes in the community.

In 2009, KICP visited with several car wash owners in Boulder County and Erie to gauge interest in helping to increase awareness about keeping our waterways clean. The visits included discussing local stormwater regulations and Best Management Practices (BMP), such as regular maintenance of carwash sand traps, proper pressure washing techniques around the outside of the facility, and regular maintenance of trash containers for customers. Car wash owners were also asked if they would be willing to hang a sign (see image) thanking customers for washing their cars at a car wash.

In 2010, all self-service car wash owners in Boulder County and Erie will have the opportunity to help share this message with the community. KICP will be contacting owners to ask if a sign may be posted at self-service facilities that are currently in compliance with stormwater regulations. A list of car washes that support the initiative and are posting the sign will be distributed at local public events.



The Keep it Clean Partnership is a partnership of Colorado communities in the Boulder and St. Vrain watersheds, and includes Boulder County; the cities of Boulder, Longmont, and Louisville; and the towns of Erie and Superior. KICP partners with the Partners for A Clean Environment (PACE) Program to perform outreach and education with the commercial sector. ([www.PACEPartners.com](http://www.PACEPartners.com))

All Rocky Mountain Car Wash Association Members who are interested in participating in this program please contact the PACE Program at 303.786.PACE (7223).