

MEMORANDUM

To: Town of Spencer Staff and the General Public
From: Steven J. Tyler, P.E., Superintendent, Spencer Utilities & Facilities Office
Date: June 18, 2018
Re: **Spencer Restrictions and Regulations Regarding Car Wash Fundraisers**

The purpose of this memorandum is to outline Town of Spencer restrictions regarding **Car Wash Fundraisers**, and to address the harmful effects that these practices have on Spencer's water supply.

In most cases, a car wash fundraiser cannot be allowed due to the measures that must be taken to preserve the Town's water quality and supply. The Town of Spencer requires and enforces 2 separate Federal and State regulatory permits that directly affect car washing:

1. Our MassDEP Public Water Supply Permit requires that we prohibit outdoor water uses (including car washes) between the hours of 9 AM and 5 PM from May 1st to September 30th. Therefore, permission cannot be given to use the Town Water Supply system for an outdoor car washing during these dates and times. Violators are fined between \$50.00 and \$200.00 per offense.
2. Our US EPA NPDES MS4 Permit strictly prohibits any form of cleaning soaps or car wash run off from entering a stormwater catch basin anywhere in Spencer at any time. Violators are fined \$300.00 per offense.

The only solution that could allow a car wash fundraiser would be to:

1. Plan the car wash on an open grass field with no drainage to a catch basin, wetland, or stormwater system of any kind.
2. Use a water supply other than the Town's public water between the hours of 9 AM and 5 PM from May 1st until September 30th.

There are no exceptions allowed to these requirements, as it would pose a threat to our valuable water resources. Car wash run off and cleaning soaps are serious pollutants to fisheries and water quality and the excessive evaporation of water would be wasteful. We suggest another form of fundraising in order to preserve our water quality and supply.

Feel free to contact the Water Department directly if any further questions regarding the above comments, concerns or requirements.

Prepared by:

Steven J. Tyler, P.E., Superintendent
Town of Spencer - Utilities and Facilities Office
styler@spencerma.gov