



Car wash fundraisers are a common way for non-profit groups to raise funds.

Runoff from car wash fundraisers, however, can cause serious water quality problems in creeks if the soapy water runs off onto the streets and into storm drains. Anything that enters storm drains flows untreated to the nearest waterway.

The City of Carrollton is committed to the prevention of potential water pollution activities. Groups holding car wash fundraisers are not permitted to use soap, solvents, degreasers, or anything else that will cause water quality degradation if the wastewater ends up in our creeks and streams.

The City of Carrollton recognizes that these fundraisers can be beneficial to organizations not only from a fundraising standpoint, but also as a team building exercise. In order to provide charity organizations with a good alternative that still allows them to hold charity car wash fundraisers using soap, we recommend working with a commercial carwash! Commercial carwashes have sand traps that will capture soap and grit before it can enter the stormwater system.

Water that washes off vehicles in car wash facilities flows through grit traps then to the sanitary sewer where it can be treated. By working with these facilities, your fundraiser will not only be good for your organization, it will be good for the environment!

\*Wording Courtesy of The City of Plano.