

## Commercial Vehicle Wash Equipment Evaluation Program

- City Code Chapter 6-4 adopted by Austin City Council  
- August 2012
- Efficiency standards set by Administrative Rule R161-13.16  
- July 2013
- Initial notices mailed 6 months before inspection is due  
- July 2013
- Inspections due by zip code zone (6 zones in total)  
- Beginning January 2014



# Public engagement on code update & efficiency standards

## City Code Chapter 6 – 4 (*Water Conservation*)

- Four separate public meetings/ workshop
- Five stakeholder group meetings, *including with Southwest Car Wash Association, Auto Dealerships, Rentals Companies*
- Three presentations before various Boards and Commissions

## Administrative Rule R161-13.16 (*Commercial vehicle wash equipment efficiency program*)

- Public meeting/ workshop
- Stakeholder meetings, *including with Southwest Car Wash Association, Auto Dealerships, Rentals Companies*
- Presentations before various Boards and Commissions

## What is a Commercial Vehicle Wash Facility?

*Any commercial property which washes vehicles as any part of their business practice*

Some examples include:

- Commercial car washes
- Auto dealerships
- Car rental
- Businesses with a vehicle fleet
- Body repair shops





# Car wash equipment efficiency requirements


1. No water leaks are present in the vehicle washing equipment;
2. In-bay, hand-held spray wash equipment, including a spray wand or foaming brush, does not use more than 3.5 gallons of water a minute and has a trigger shutoff and protective weep;
3. Portable pressure wash equipment must have a spray nozzle with a positive shut off and protective weep mechanism and shall not use more than the following:
  - I. 3.5 gallons of water a minute for passenger vehicles including automobiles, delivery vans and buses; or
  - II. 10.0 gallons of water a minute for commercial equipment vehicles such as front-end loaders, dump trucks, earth movers or other similar equipment
4. A conveyor or drive through friction system does not use more than 35 gallons for each vehicle.
5. A conveyor or drive through touchless system does not use more than 35 gallons for each vehicle.
6. An in-bay automatic system does not use more than 75 gallons/vehicle for buses and other similar large vehicles.
7. An in bay rollover automatic system does not use more than 45 gallons for each vehicle.
8. Each chamois wringer has a positive shutoff valve.
9. A system using reverse osmosis rinse water must reclaim, and reuse reject water.

## Commercial Car Wash Program requirements

- Inspection must be performed by a plumber, licensed by the State of Texas – *this means any plumber you choose*
- Submit either passing inspection form or compliance plan no more than 90 days prior to due date
- An up-to-date passing inspection form must be on file with Austin Water Conservation in order to operate a Commercial Vehicle Wash Facility
- The passing inspection form must be updated annually with Austin Water, a new inspection must occur each year
- If a property is not able pass an inspection prior t their due date, they must submit a compliance plan detailing what equipment will be deactivated until a passing inspection is received by Austin Water
- Property due dates are determined by zip code and not subject to change without at least 6 months notice

# Types of compliance

- Submit a passing inspection form
- Submit a partially passing inspection form with compliance plan detailing which portions of equipment will be deactivated
- Submit a compliance plan affirming that all equipment will be deactivated until a passing inspection can be submitted
- Submit a Does Not Apply form, certifying either the property does not have Austin water or wash vehicles

 **City of Austin**  
Water Conservation Division  
625 E. 10<sup>th</sup> St. Ste 600 Austin, TX 78701  
Telephone: 512/974-2199 Fax: 512/974-6548

Reference # \_\_\_\_\_

**Water Use Compliance**  
Telephone: 512/974-2199 Fax: 512/974-6548

**§6-4-10 Vehicle Wash Equipment Assessment Form:**

*\*\*Inspection must be performed by a plumber licensed by the State of Texas\*\**

Name of Facility: \_\_\_\_\_ Water Meter: # \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: # \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: # \_\_\_\_\_

**Rule #: R161-13.16**

Pass Fail N/A (a) No leaks are present in wash equipment.

Pass Fail N/A (b) In-bay, hand-held spray wash equipment, including a spray wand or foaming brush, does not use more than 3.5 gallons of water a minute and has a trigger shutoff and protective weep.

Pass Fail N/A (c) Portable pressure wash equipment must have a spray nozzle with a positive shut off and protective weep mechanism and shall not use more than the following:

- 3.5 gallons of water a minute for passenger vehicles including automobiles, delivery vans and buses; or
- 10.0 gallons of water a minute for commercial equipment vehicles such as front-end loaders, dump trucks, earth movers or other similar equipment

Pass Fail N/A (d) A conveyor or drive through friction system does not use more than 35 gallons for each vehicle.

Pass Fail N/A (e) A conveyor or drive through touchless system does not use more than 35 gallons for each vehicle.


Pass Fail N/A (f) An in bay rollover automatic system does not use more than 75 gallons per vehicle for buses and other similar large vehicles.

Pass Fail N/A (g) Each chamois wringer has a positive shutoff valve.

Pass Fail N/A (h) A system using reverse osmosis rinse water must reclaim, and reuse, reject water.

Please fill out the worksheet on the back of this page with the results of the testing performed. The audit form will not be accepted without a completed worksheet.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

 **Austin WATER**  
Clearly Reliable

Request ID # \_\_\_\_\_  
(AWU Use Only)

**Compliance Plan**  
For Austin Water Commercial Vehicle Wash Equipment Assessment

This form is for properties that are unable to successfully complete the Vehicle Wash Equipment Assessment by the required due date, wish to postpone equipment repairs for future budget cycles, or wish not to operate sections of the vehicle wash system. A Compliance Plan serves as an alternate method of complying with City Code 6-4-10(A). This Compliance Plan conserve to notify Austin Water of a property's intent to turn off their non-compliant vehicle wash system, turn off certain portions of the non-compliant vehicle wash equipment, and / or specify a time line for system upgrades. **The actions detailed in this Compliance Form shall stay in effect until updated by a new Compliance Form or until a successful Vehicle Wash Equipment Assessment of the entire vehicle wash system has been submitted to Austin Water.**

Operation of any vehicle wash equipment station requires submittal of an Vehicle Wash Equipment Assessment Form completed by plumber licensed by the State of Texas.

In order to turn a piece of vehicle wash equipment back on a new Vehicle Wash Equipment Assessment must first be submitted to Austin Water along with an updated Vehicle Wash Equipment Assessment Form completed by a plumber licensed by the State of Texas certifying that the vehicle wash equipment is in compliance with City of Austin Code 6-4.

Attached to this form should be:

- A map of the property (see instructions below)
- Vehicle Wash Equipment Assessment Form completed by a plumber licensed by the State of Texas (unless all vehicle wash equipment is turned off)

Property Address: Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Name identified on Utility Service Account: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

City of Austin Utility Service Account # (s): \_\_\_\_\_

Meter(s) #: \_\_\_\_\_

1

Reference Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**This Does Not Apply to My Property**

If you feel that you have received this letter in error and the Commercial Vehicle Wash Equipment Evaluation program does not apply to your property please select the reason why from the below options and return this page to Austin Water for review:

Vehicle wash equipment does not use potable water  
 Vehicle wash equipment was removed  
 Property does not wash vehicles  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please return form to:  
AWU Water Conservation  
P.O. Box 1088  
Austin, TX 78767  
or FAX to (512) 974-3504  
or Email to : [FacEvalSubmit@austintexas.gov](mailto:FacEvalSubmit@austintexas.gov)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### Zone 1

Facilities located in the following zip codes will be required to submit all forms by **January 31**

78617	78652	78702	78725
78735	78745	78747	78751

### Zone 2

Facilities located in the following zip codes will be required to submit all forms by **February 28**

78613	78653	78704	78705
78723	78727	78732	78754

### Zone 3

Facilities located in the following zip codes will be required to submit all forms by **March 31**

78736	78739	78741	78742
78748	78752	78756	78758

### Zone 4

Facilities located in the following zip codes will be required to submit all forms by **April 30**

78681	78701	78703	78719
78721	78726	78737	78753

### Zone 5

Facilities located in the following zip codes will be required to submit all forms by **November 30**

78660	78710	78712	78729
78730	78731	78744	78750

### Zone 6

Facilities located in the following zip codes will be required to submit all forms by **December 31**

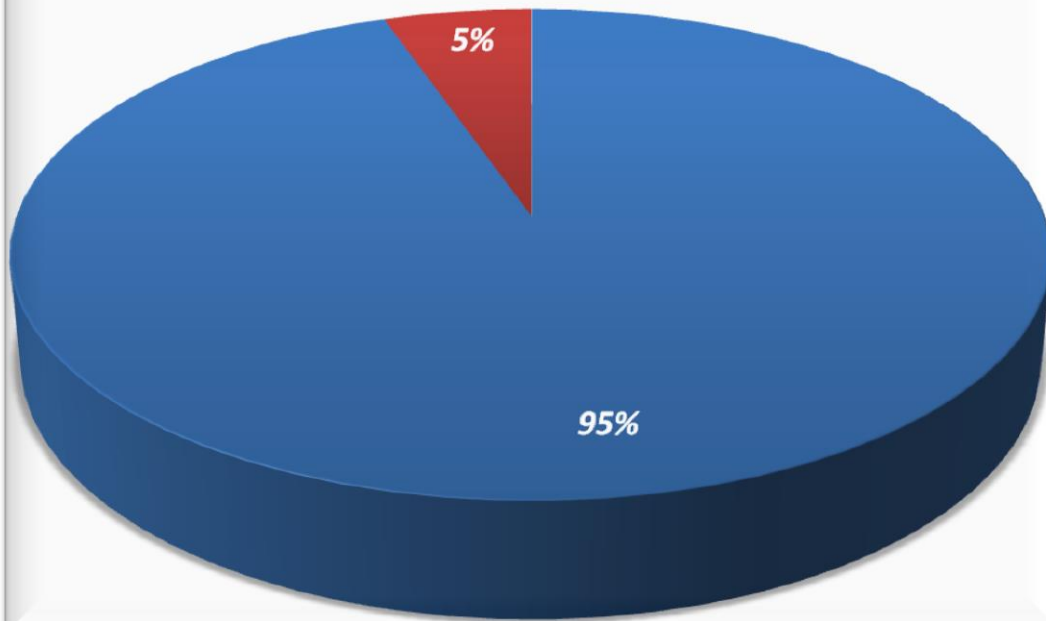
78717	78722	78724	78728
78746	78749	78757	78759



# Successful compliance with efficiency standards & inspection program

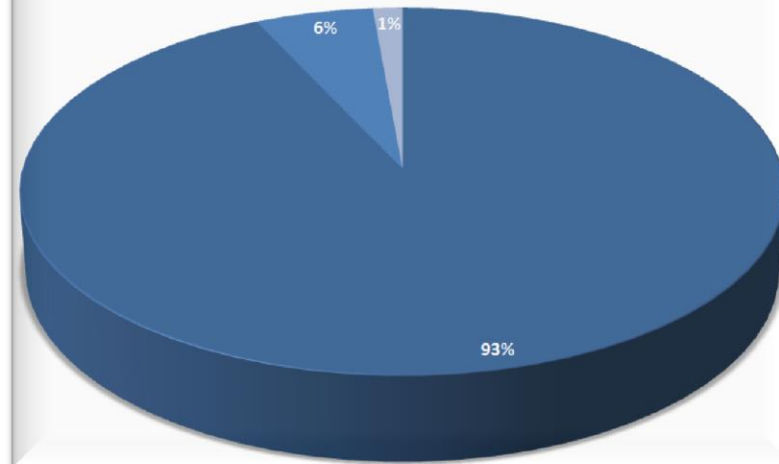
## Current FY 14 Car Wash Breakdown

■ Total Compliant Properties   ■ Total Non-Compliant Properties



## Compliant Categories

■ Passing Inspections   ■ Systems Deactivated   ■ Partial Deactivation

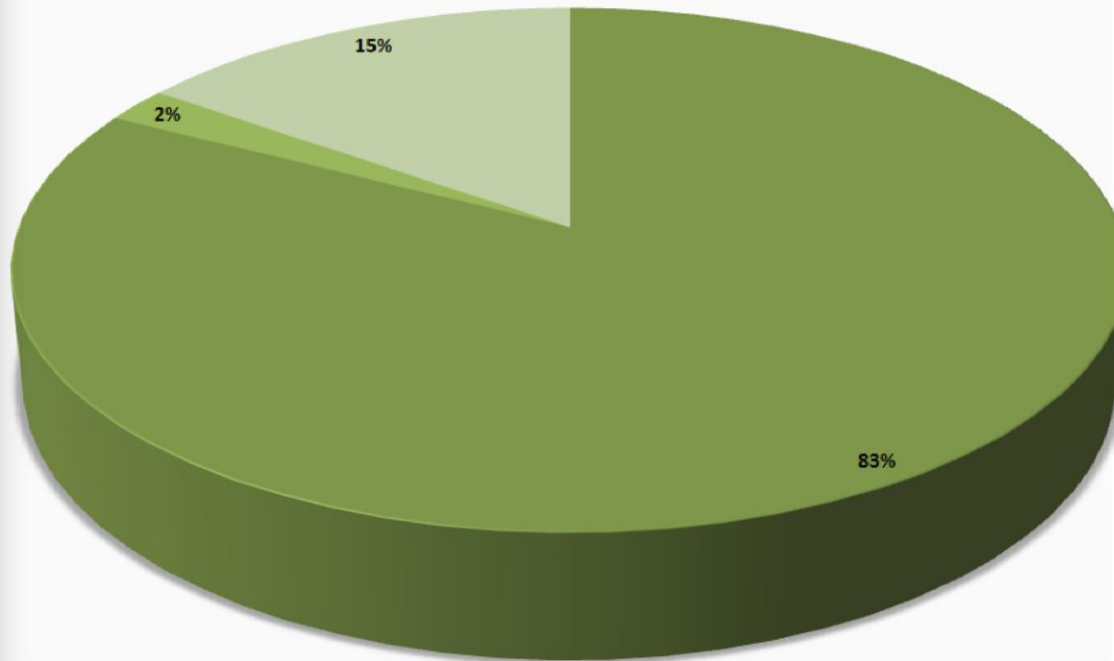




## Penalties for noncompliance

### Fines Assessed Summary

- Properties Fined for Late Submittal- Passing Inspection
- Properties Fined for Failed Inspection
- Properties Fined for No Response



- Failure to submit inspection by deadline- \$200
- \$25/ day accrual until Austin Water receives passing inspection or approved compliance plan

# Commercial Facility Irrigation Assessments Required

## Code Reference: Facilities Regulated: 6-4-10(A)

Effective January 1, 2013, the owner of a **commercial, multi-family residential or City municipal facility** situated **on property equal to or greater than 1.0 acre in size shall obtain an evaluation of any permanently installed irrigation system conducted at a frequency prescribed by rules** adopted pursuant to this chapter.

# Irrigation Assessment Program Requirements

- Must be performed by a AWU Authorized Irrigation Inspector
  - Property will contact an Authorized inspector
- Are required every 2 years
- Irrigation systems may fail entirely or by zone
- Individual zones may fail requiring a compliance plan – these zones will not be allowed to operate until a compliance plan has been approved
- If the entire irrigation system fails it will not be allowed to operate until a compliance plan has been approved

# Irrigation Assessment Zones

## Zone 1

Facilities located in the following zip codes will be required to submit all forms by January 31

78653	78702	78728	78731
78747	78757	78758	78737

## Zone 2

Facilities located in the following zip codes will be required to submit all forms by March 31

78617	78681	78722	78723
78729	78739	78744	78749

Notifications sent 6 months before  
Due date

Reminder sent 2 months before due  
date

## Zone 3

Facilities located in the following zip codes will be required to submit all forms by May 31

78613	78703	78710	78719
78725	78741	78752	78753

## Zone 4

Facilities located in the following zip codes will be required to submit all forms by July 31

78660	78712	78705	78727
78730	78746	78748	78751

## Zone 5

Facilities located in the following zip codes will be required to submit all forms by September 30

78724	78726	78732	78735
78736	78742	78745	78759

## Zone 6

Facilities located in the following zip codes will be required to submit all forms by November 30

78652	78701	78704	78717
78721	78750	78754	78756



## Types of compliance

- **No irrigation system on property**
  - Submit “Does not Apply” form
- **Irrigation system has been abandoned**
  - Submit “Compliance Plan” indicating the system is off and will remain off
- **Property passes Irrigation Assessment**
  - Submit “Irrigation Assessment” form and **PASSING** “Irrigation Report” (provided by Inspector)
- **System partially passes Assessment**
  - Submit “Irrigation Assessment”
  - Submit **FAILING** “Irrigation Report” (provided by Inspector)
  - Submit a map showing zones indicating which stations or areas will be operating

# Inspection

## Divided into two Categories

### Critical

- A zone or the entire system will fail

### Non – Critical

- Provided as an efficiency reference and for guidance only

Items which, if present, will result the property failing the irrigation inspection and prohibit operation of the irrigation system.

Critical problems include:

1. **Leak** – a break or other water containment failure in the irrigation main line or lateral line. A mainline leak will fail the entire irrigation system. A lateral line leak will fail the associated zone.
2. **Broken head** – a missing, cracked, or punctured sprinkler head, sprinkler body, swing joint, or drip line often, but not always, resulting in significant loss of water.
3. **Spray landing in street or parking lot** – a misaligned or inappropriately sized sprinkler head resulting in a spray pattern shooting outside of the landscaped area and falling onto a street or a parking lot.
4. **Runoff / ponding** – in a street or parking lot, water originating from the irrigation system traveling a distance of 50 feet or more, or creating a puddle with a depth measuring  $\frac{1}{4}$ " or more.
5. **High pressure / misting** – a sprinkler head operating above its recommended pressure limit resulting in excessive atomization of the spray pattern often resulting in the presence of a mist or fog effect. When conducting an inspection: If misting is present during a visual inspection, measure the dynamic outlet pressure of the sprinkler head. Pressure ceilings for different emitter types are below. Pressure measurements above these ceilings result in failure of that irrigation station. Pressure ceilings are:
  - Spray nozzles : < 40 psi
  - MP or multi-stream rotators: < 50 psi
  - Rotors: < 60psi

Items which, if present, serve solely to inform the owner of potential efficiency improvements.

## Non-Critical problems include:

- **Not Hydro-zoned** – irrigation stations are not segregated into zones based upon plant material water requirements or sun exposure.
- **Clogged nozzle** – uniformity of spray pattern is impaired or prevented due to build-up of debris.
- **Obstructed head** – Spray pattern is interrupted by an object such as vegetation or other physical object.
- **Low pressure** – water pressure at sprinkler head is not adequate to maintain full throw of spray.
- **Low head** – a sprinkler head that has sunk into the ground or does not rise high enough to spray over the vegetation.
- **Poor coverage** – sprinkler spray pattern does not supply water evenly over the entire landscape.
- **Stuck head** – sprinkler head either does not pop-up, rotate, or fails to go down after operation.
- **Tilted head** – sprinkler head is not vertically aligned at ninety degrees from grade.
- **Valve problem** – valve or solenoid is not seating properly allowing water to flow through valve.
- **Mixed sprinkler components** – use of multiple sprinkler technologies (sprays with rotors) in a single irrigation station.



# Pipe + Leak = FAIL









# Broken/ Missing Nozzles/Emitters = FAIL









# High Pressure / Misting

- If misting or fogging is occurring or suspected:
    - Dynamic pressure reading at the head will be required using a spray head gauge or pitot tube
    - The head pressure will be noted on inspection form
    - Head must operate at or below tolerance limits
      - Spray heads < 40 psi
      - MSMT < 50 psi
      - Stream Rotors < 60 psi
- Station pass or fail item**



# High Operating Pressure = FAIL



# Reporting

Must be submitted by Customer AND AWU Authorized Inspector

- [FacEvalSubmit@AustinTexas.gov](mailto:FacEvalSubmit@AustinTexas.gov) (best)
- Fax to 512-974-3504
- Mail to: PO BOX 1088, Austin TX 78767



# Properties so far

- 1153 due as of 7/31/2014
  - 549 Passing inspections
  - 455 Does not Apply
  - 101 Systems disabled
  - 48 not compliant
- Fines issued to 159 properties