

A Clean Carpet and Upholstery  
March 31, 2021

### **RE: Discharge of Carpet Cleaning Waste Water to the City Storm Sewer System**

Madison General Ordinance (MGO) 7.46 *“Water Pollution Control”* prohibits the discharge of waste water to the ground, or the storm sewer system. Carpet cleaning wastewater must be directed to an inside drain that is connected to the sanitary sewer for proper disposal. Screening the waste water at the time of disposal in order to capture carpet fibers, pet hair and grit is advisable. This captured debris can then be disposed of in the trash. Additionally, clean water discharges to the street, gutter or any storm water conveyance are prohibited under MGO 7.47

Any business found in violation of MGO 7.46 or MGO 7.47 will be immediately referred to the City Attorney’s Office for prosecution or ticketed. Failure to comply may result in a fine of not less than fifty dollars (\$50) or more than two thousand dollars (\$2000) per offense. Clean-up costs may also be incurred.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Rick Wenta: 608-225-2396 of the Environmental Protection Unit, Public Health and Madison and Dane County.