



Fact Sheet

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania • Department of Environmental Protection

DROUGHT EMERGENCY RESTRICTIONS

Commercial Pressure Washing and Cleaning Businesses And Mobile Washing Operations

Chapter 119 Regulations under 35 Pa C.S. §§ 7101-7707 list all Non-essential Water Uses that are prohibited. Most, but not all, commercial pressure washing and cleaning business activities are exempt from these prohibitions. Commercial mobile pressure washing businesses must operate by using water at the minimum rate necessary for the specific job in each case. Some of these cases are described below:

1. As a general principle, all vertical surfaces can be pressure washed, taking care not to use excessive amounts of water.
2. All paved horizontal surfaces like sidewalks, patios, driveways or street and parking areas are prohibited from being washed. These surfaces may be dry swept or blown clean with leaf blowers. Premises of raw or processed food, pharmaceutical or vaccine processing, storage or vending establishments, including restaurants and grocery stores, may be washed to the extent necessary for sanitation purposes.
3. Water may be used by professional mobile wash businesses at the minimum rate necessary, for the washing of vehicles

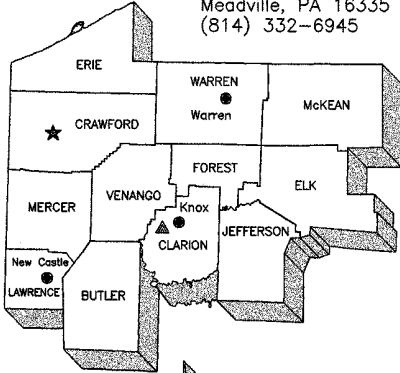
4. Street and parking lot sweepers are permitted to operate, including the use of water for dust suppression only, since dust suppression is an essential water use for control of particulate matter.
5. Cleaning for sanitation of mobile equipment used for hauling or vending raw or processed food, pharmaceuticals or vaccines or for handling waste products, is permitted to insure the health and safety of the general public.
6. Cleaning of the exteriors of commercial, construction, emergency, public transportation or government vehicles is permitted to the extent necessary to preserve the proper functioning and safe operation of the vehicle. This is generally restricted to windows, mirrors, and lights.

The Chapter 119 regulations are very specific relative to dealers of new or used cars, to wash or contract for washing of vehicles.

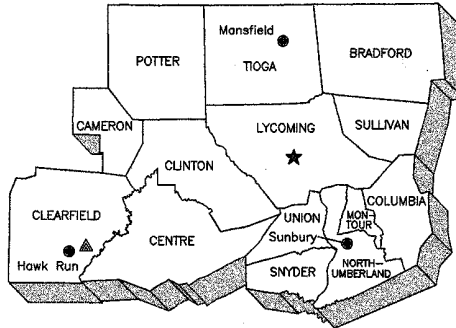
If a community or water supplier is experiencing severe shortages or is implementing water rationing with the approval of the Commonwealth Drought Coordinator, local restrictions may be more stringent than state regulations. Local restrictions will supersede the above state rules within individual service areas where rationing may be in effect.

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
REGIONAL OFFICES**

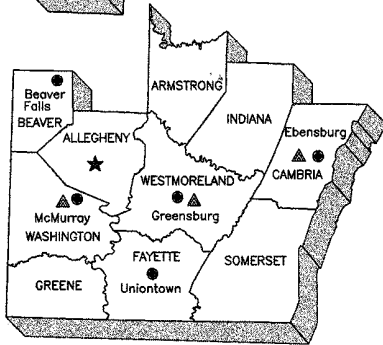
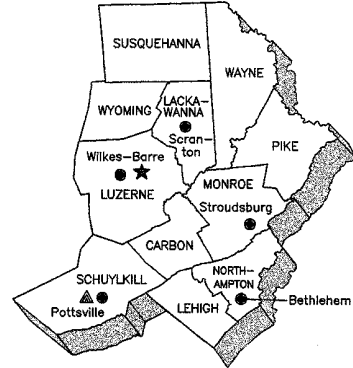
6 NORTHWEST REGION
230 Chestnut Street
Meadville, PA 16335
(814) 332-6945



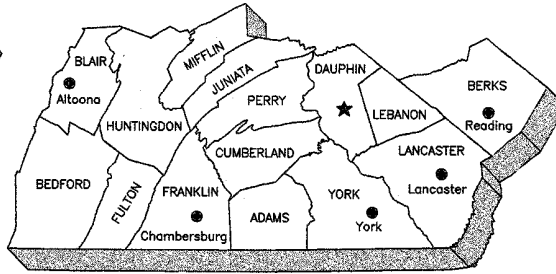
4 NORTHCENTRAL REGION
208 West Third Street, Suite 101
Williamsport, PA 17701-6448
(570) 327-3636



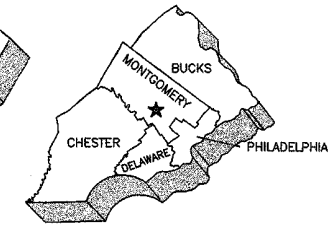
2 NORTHEAST REGION
2 Public Square
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711-0790
(570) 826-2511



5 SOUTHWEST REGION
400 Waterfront Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
(412) 442-4000



3 SOUTHCENTRAL REGION
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1 SOUTHEAST REGION
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555 North Lane
Conshohocken, PA 19428
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LEGEND: ★ REGIONAL OFFICES ● DISTRICT OFFICES ▲ MINING OFFICES

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For more information contact:

**Bureau of Watershed Management
Division of Water Use Planning
P.O. Box 8555
Harrisburg, PA 17101
717-772-4048**

This fact sheet and related environmental information are available electronically via Internet. For more information, visit us through the PA PowerPort at <http://www.state.pa.us> or visit DEP directly at <http://www.dep.state.pa.us> (directLINK "Drought").



www.GreenWorks.tv - A web space dedicated to helping you learn how to protect and improve the environment. The site features the largest collection of environmental videos available on the Internet and is produced by the nonprofit Environmental Fund for Pennsylvania, with financial support from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, 877-PA-GREEN.