## ENVIRONMENTAL CONCRETE WASHOUT

## 2008 Nova Award Nomination 7



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### EnviroWash Concrete Washout System

EnviroWash is the first system to recycle water used in cleaning concrete equipment at the jobsite. With 6 million truckloads of ready-mix concrete delivered in the State of Texas in 2006, an average of 25 gallons of fresh water was used to clean the trucks after dispensing the concrete loads. This equates to approximately 150 million gallons of water pumped from an underground aquifer, which could have been used as drinking water instead of wasted water. The water used to clean these trucks was then contaminated by the concrete and dumped onto the ground. With EnviroWash, we are able to reduce the amount of fresh water used for this process by upwards of 90% thereby cutting it down to 4,500,000 gallons!

EnviroWash will replace the current EPA approved washout pit, which does not prevent any contamination of fresh water and are not covered to prevent overflow from or the contamination of rainwater. In addition, the current system allows for only part of the waste concrete to be crushed and recycled for use as road base. Large amounts are dumped into our already over-full garbage dumps. With the EnviroWash, 100% of the hardened material could be crushed and recycled back into CCA for reuse as ready-mix. The current 'BMP', as noted by the EPA, does not prevent any of the overflow due to over-filling or heavy rains, which can send large quantities of high *ph* water into our waterways and lakes. This overflow can contain up to 50 different metals and could cause the collapse of entire ecosystems. The EnviroWash units are covered to prevent the overflow as well as locked to prevent any children and/or animals from coming in contact with the caustic material inside.

This innovative new technology originated in the Houston, Texas area and was developed by Ricki Abney, Sr. around 2002. He conceived the idea while working at many different home building jobsites and observing the large quantities of water being used and dumped. Seeing all this water being wasted, he was determined to find a way to help conserve it.

Field-testing began about 1 year ago at different jobsites in Houston. It continues to be used and liked by many builders in Houston and requested by many more. We are currently looking to expand its use through other parts of Texas as well as the rest of the United States.

EnviroWash is a very simple yet innovative system that helps the builders solve a common problem at a conservative price. By recycling the water within the system not only do we cut the amount of fresh water being used but we also prevent millions of gallons of high ph water from being released into our lakes and waterways. Please note that none of the water used within the EnviroWash unit is ever dumped back into the environment. The water is continually recycled to clean more concrete equipment and will only lose about 5-10% due to evaporation or spray from the trucks while washing down.

www.envirowashout.com

PIONEERING ENVIRONMENTALLY SAFE WASHOUTS

# ENVIROWASH F1 FIXED UNIT

**Pioneering Environmentally Safe Washouts** 



The EnviroWash system operates with a closed loop recycling process, which means that all water used in the system is recycled, treated, and reused. So the water you start with is the water you end with. The impact that this can have on our water supply is truly astounding considering that millions of gallons of water are used each year for concrete washout, and possibly even more rainwater is contaminated by overflow and leakage of washout wastewater.

### THE ENVIROWASH SYSTEM - WHAT IT IS

The EnviroWash, developed by Waste Crete Systems, is the only concrete washout solution that prevents nearly 100% of rainwater and groundwater contamination throughout the building process with patent pending closed-loop concrete wastewater recycling, treatment and handling tochnology.

#### **CLEAR BENEFITS**

- EPA Compliance
- Safety
- Cost-effective
- Water conservation
- Easy-operation
- Designed to meet your needs

### HOW IT WORKS

The EnviroWash F1 (Fixed Unit) is composed of five core components: Hinged and locked hoppers, a pumping system comprised of sump and pressure pumps, central walkway, forced weir tank system, and control box. In a nutshell, the closed-loop system captures concrete wastewater in hinged hoppers; the pumping system then collects wastewater from under the hoppers and deposits it into the forced weir tank system for separation and filtration. The recycled water is then pumped into the hoppers for reuse. This process maintains a viable source of recycled water that can be used for an indefinite period of time.

