

# OUR ENVIRONMENTAL STANCE

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## AUTOBELL CAR WASH

At Autobell, we are committed to environmental protection and water conservation. Recycling, water management, and using only biodegradable chemicals are among our top priorities.

Autobell Car Wash is in the water management business. We use only state-of-the-art car wash technology that allows our facilities to treat 100% and recycle up to 100% of wash water, and we dispose of treated wash water only into approved water treatment facilities. In an average home car wash, up to 150 gallons of water are used, and all this water goes untreated into storm drains, creeks, and eventually into our drinking water supply. By educating our customers and the general public on the environmental benefit of professional car washes, we hope to reduce the amount of untreated water that flows into our water supply. One Autobell unit even includes a bioretention pond and rain garden to further assist in the treatment and conservation of rain water runoff. One of our newer stores utilizes an Aqua Bio 100% water reclaim treatment system in which bacteria digest and recycle the waste water, a recent innovation in car wash technology.

Autobell also offers a Charity Car Wash Program, which discourages wasteful and polluting “parking lot” car washes by instead providing charitable groups discounted professional car wash certificates to sell for fund raising.

In addition to our recycling and water management measures, Autobell Car Wash routinely performs preventive maintenance on our equipment to avoid spills and leaks. We also train employees how to conserve water at the store level on a daily basis. These efforts include checking hoses and nozzles for leaks and wear, sweeping our lobbies and lots rather than spraying them down with water, and using the towel washing machine only when full.

Additionally, since 2000, Autobell Car Wash employees have participated in an annual creek walk of Little Sugar Creek in Charlotte. The creek walk is part of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities Department Adopt-A-Stream program where volunteers walk creek beds and banks and collect trash and debris. Autobell employees volunteer but are “on the clock” while participating in the creek walk.

At Autobell Car Wash, we know water is precious. Whether through our Charity Car Wash Program or daily business practices, we strive to make the best use of our water resources and to educate our customers and the general public on the value of recycling and proper wastewater disposal. We believe this will directly improve the quality of water in our communities now and for years to come.

