



Wash Water Safety

The wash water that is used in the BioPro processors will typically be contaminated with small amounts of soap (maximum of 2%), methanol (approximately 2%), and trace amounts of oils, salts and residual catalysts. This wash water is actually quite similar in chemical makeup to grey-water that would be removed from your dishwasher loaded with dirty dishes. Attached, is the sewer code for the municipality in which the BioPro processors were developed. The wastewater produced in the machine was able to meet the specifications that were required by this sewer code. (Please note that this sewer code is stringent to the point that such items as food coloring, lemon juice, or baking soda would not be permitted to be poured down the drain.) Most local governments have their own sewer codes with their own peculiarities; therefore, a customer would always need to check the details in their local municipality before disposing of the wastewater down the drain. In order to help alleviate any difficulties, some customers have purchased a grease trap such as is used in the drains of many kitchens to intercept the trace greases that could be carried in the waste water.

Many customers simply dispose of their wastewater into a leach field or into an irrigation application. All of the contaminants in the wastewater dilute or break down quickly in the environment and may even provide nutrients to the soil, so this is often considered to be the most trouble-free option. One thing to be mindful of in this situation is that the residual oils in the wastewater may stick to the leaves of plants if it gets on them. This will suffocate and kill the leaves.

Of primary environmental concern when dealing with the wash-water is the soap that is dissolved into it. While that soap is biodegradable and is easily removed in wastewater treatment plants, if it is introduced directly into a waterway, it can prove to be lethal to aquatic life as the attached documentation shows. Therefore, BioPro wash-water should never be discharged directly into waterways or storm-drains that flow directly into any waterways.

When disposing of BioPro wash-water, one should always use common sense, take all safety precautions, and make sure to meet all local laws and regulations.