



# GREEN-SCHOOLS STAY HOME - WATER



## Idea - Eco Car Wash Challenge



There are various different ways people wash their cars, for example, at home with a hose or bucket and professional car washes using conveyor, in-bay automatic and self-service.

How much water does car washing use?

- Washing your car at home with a hose can use between 100-300 Litres
- Washing your car at a standard car wash can use, on average, about 144 Litres

Important to note that many car cleaning services today use some form of water reclamation &/or filtration technology.

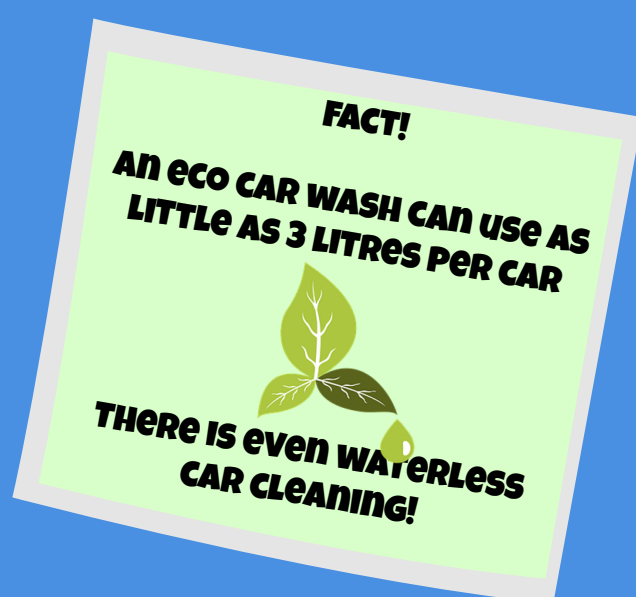
You can save water by:

- Only washing your car when really needed
- Going to an eco car wash
- Washing at home with a bucket (takes as little as 3 small buckets)

Also, using environmentally-friendly cleaning products is safer and can reduce water pollution.

Why is this useful?

Cutting down on car washes and using eco friendly methods where possible reduces our water usage which is especially important during summer months, costs less, reduces water pollution and protects our environment.



## Eco Car Wash Challenge

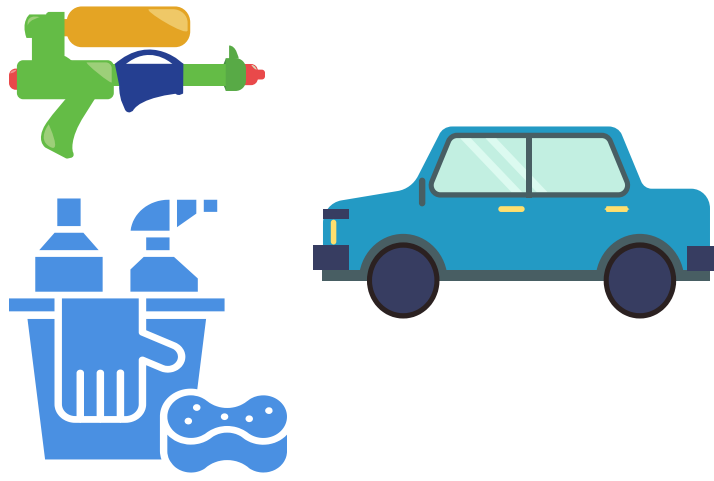


Has your car been under aerial attack from local birds? If so, try out an eco car wash to fight back!

### WHAT DO YOU need?

- A dirty car
- Kids and hands
- Gloves
- Basin with water
- Sponge or cloth
- Eco friendly washing liquid
- Spray bottle or if you have them water guns

**Note:** Adult supervision is required for safety, to fill up basins and refill bottles and water guns



### WHAT TO DO...

- If you can, wash your car on your lawn or over dirt so that the wastewater can be absorbed and neutralized in soil instead of flowing directly into storm drains or open water bodies.
- Fill a spray bottle/water gun with warm soapy water and spray your car to loosen dirt. **Note:** Fill up as necessary using a water jug and try keep a record of fills to calculate the total amount of water used for a clean.
- Get a cloth and warm basin of water to wipe down the car. Fill as needed keeping count of water **Note:** wear gloves for this part to avoid car dirt.
- Splash some non soapy water on the car to remove left over dirt and soap. **Note:** if you have a water butt you could use this water for rinsing.
- Car can air dry or you can wipe down with dry clean rag.
- Also, try to mop up or disperse those sudsy puddles that remain after you're done. They contain toxic residues (e.g. Oil, residue from exhaust fumes) and can tempt thirsty animals.
- Wash your hands well with clean water and soap.
- Add up all the water used and compare to a car wash.
- Last but not least, admire your hard work.



### CONCLUSION...

How many spray bottles/water guns did you use? How many basins did you use? Do you think your manual wash saved more water than a car wash? Was it more fun than you thought? Do you think you would do it again? What do you think the local birds were eating? (sometimes you can ID food through their poops!)

Thanks for taking part,  
keep checking back for  
more tips, experiments &  
activities with  
**#GreenSchoolsStayHome**