

This information courtesy of:



(This system is a bacteriological-only system, with neither pumps nor Filters - Ed.)

Commonly Asked Questions About Reclaimed Water:

Can I drink the reclaim water? - No, reclaim water is NOT potable water.

How many water storage tanks do I need? - Typically you will need three (3) water storage tanks.

What sizes of water storage tanks are needed? - We suggest each tank be equal to the water that can be used in one hour plus 500 gallons, but no less than 1,000 gallons.

Can the tanks be above ground? - Tanks can be above ground or underground.

Is a heater required to heat reclaim water? - Only in areas subject to temperatures below 40 degrees for three or more days in a row. Optimum water temperature is 60 degrees Fahrenheit or higher.

What kind of soaps can I use? - Most major brands of soap used in the industry are compatible. Do not use soaps or materials that contain biocides, silicones, and hydrofluoric acid.(CONTACT US for compatibility.)

How much water will I save? -100% of the water sprayed on the car, less evaporation and drive-off.

Does the system produce water? -NO the system does NOT produce water. *(However, if fresh water is used for soaps, waxes and spot-free (DI) water there will be an excess of water that will have to be dealt with by pumping & hauling or evaporation- Ed.)*

Does the system consume or deplete water? -NO the system does NOT consume or deplete water.

Can anything kill my system? - Yes. poisons, pesticides, biocides, toxic levels of acetone, chlorine, and gasoline, lack of water circulation, lack of oxygen. Anything that would kill fish or animals can harm the system..

What if someone drains their used motor oil into the car wash water? - Generally, an occasional "dumping" of oil from a single auto will not damage our system and the microbes will consume the used motor oil.



Can I operate without city sewer? - Yes, as far as our reclaim system is concerned. If you have human waste, water softener reject water or excessive reverse osmosis (RO) reject water, you will need to use separate disposal methods.

Which is better? An RO (Reverse Osmosis) system or a DI (DeIonized) system? - Each system has its own unique features and benefits. RO or DI water has no effect on our system.

Can I use RO reject water in my system? - Yes, subject to our approval of a water test showing incoming water quality.

Can I use the reject waters from the softener? - No, the water softener rejects water is salty or brine water. This reject water should be disposed of outside of the reclaim system. *(Salt from the roads in the northern winters also has a deleterious effect on the bacteria, requiring frequent water exchanges (pumping the tanks – Ed.)*

Does it take anything special to run this system? - Common sense, electrical power, water, Dynacat SR-15.

Can I use soap with dyes in it? - Yes, but the reclaim water will be tinted to some degree. The tint has no effect on the quality of the reclaim water.

Can I use the reclaim water in any of my other car wash processes? - Yes, the reclaimed water can also be used for driveway wash down and landscaping.

Where should the reclaim water NOT be used? -Do not use the reclaim water in mixing bins, RO feed, Water Softener feed, final rinse or human needs.

Where can the reclaim water be used in the car wash process? - Reclaim water can be used in all rinsing or water applications except for mixing bins *(soaps and waxes – Ed.)* and final rinse.

How much water is recycled? - 100% of the water that goes into the settling tank is recycled.

Can I use well water if I do not have city water? - Yes, subject to our review of the water tests.

Do I need to test my water before installing this system? - Yes! You can obtain water test results from your municipal water supplier or have your well tested by an independent lab.



How long does it take to get the system started? - Expect a three day start up time (Could be a day less or a day more).

How long can the system be shut down before it dies off? - We consider a four-(4) hour downtime as fatal.

How clean can I expect the water to be? - The water will range from clear to opaque.

How does the system work? - Organic material in the wastewater is consumed by specialized microbes, which have byproducts of WATER (H₂O) and carbon dioxide (CO₂).

Does the water smell or have an offensive odor? - The water has NO offensive odors. You may notice a slight musty smell if you open the bio-tanks.

How much time can I expect to maintain the system per week? - Less than 30 minutes per week.

What are the preventive maintenance requirements? - Clean the Cyclones (soft brush & water) on a monthly basis. Weekly, check air and water pressures, confirm adequate water and air flow. Check SR-15 consumption rate.

How can I test the quality of fresh and reclaim water myself? - We recommend (and sell) a Hanna Instruments Combo pH/EC/TDS & Temperature Meter, Model HI 98129.

What supplies will I need per month to keep the system running? - The 5-liter supply of SR-15 will last for 3 months.

What tools will I need to maintain the Rowafil System? - A screwdriver, nut-driver, channel locks, soft bottle brush.

How often do I need to change the filters? - The only filter is an air filter for the blower motor. Change as needed or about every six months.

Can this system be used to reclaim water from garages and oil-change shops? - YES, on an individual basis or in combination with car washes.

Can this system be used to reclaim water from a laundry? - NO, the laundry water contains high levels of chlorine, biocides and lint.



Does the reclaim system require a specific pH range for the wastewater? - YES, the system needs pH values in the waste water of between 6.5 to 8.5. .

Can I use fresh water instead of RO water for my final rinse? - Yes, as far as our system is concerned.

Can reclaim water be processed through the RO system? - NO, reclaim water will damage or make your RO system inefficient.

Can reclaim water be processed through the water softener? - NO, do not send reclaim water through the water softener.

What is the "restart" process if the system has been killed by poisons? - Flush out the water from all tanks, refill, replace the bio-sock, turn on the power and the system will restart automatically.

What is the "restart" process if the system has been killed from lack of oxygen or water or power loss? - Confirm that adequate water, air and power is available, turn the power on and the system will restart automatically.