

# Department of Justice

United States Attorney Kathleen Mehlretter  
Western District of New York

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## **WASH COMPANY PLEADS GUILTY AND IS SENTENCED TO PAY \$10,000 FINE FOR VIOLATING CLEAN WATER ACT**

ROCHESTER, N.Y.-- Rochester Power Wash, Inc., entered a guilty plea to the misdemeanor charge of negligent discharge of waste water in violation of the Clean Water Act before United States Magistrate Judge Jonathan W. Feldman and was sentenced to a \$10,000 fine and 5 years probation, U.S. Attorney Kathleen M. Mehlretter of the Western District of New York announced today. The negligent discharge of waste water carries a mandatory minimum fine of \$2500 and a maximum of \$25,000 per day of violation, and one year imprisonment.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Tiffany H. Lee, who handled the case, stated that the defendant corporation, through its president Samuel P. Centanni, admitted that Rochester Power Wash had a contract with the United States Postal Service to provide washing services to postal vehicles from 2004 through to 2006 in the Western District of New York and, according to the contract, Rochester Power Wash had agreed that washing methods would be in compliance with applicable environmental laws and that "under no circumstances would vehicle wash water effluents enter into a storm drain." Between March and April 2007, Rochester Power Wash employees were observed washing United State postal vehicles without reclaiming the water used to wash the vehicles. Waste water was observed running into the sewer systems when Rochester Power Wash conducted its washing service at the Fairport carrier annex.

The plea and sentence was the culmination of an investigation on the part of the agents from the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Criminal Investigation Division, under the direction of William V. Lometti, Special Agent in Charge, and the United States Postal Service, Office of Inspector General, under the direction of Joe Flynn, Special Agent in Charge.