[KEEN TO BE GREEN]

degradable cleaners that break

up the dirt and grime on a car

without polluting the envi-

ronment. Eco Auto Solutions

owner Javier Virgen swears that

this method is better for the

environment and our health.

No water, no nasty chemicals,

and in an hour, my car was

A New Kind of Car Wash

By Meher McArthur, Ledger Columnist



My car had been looking pretty grubby. I'd let the winter rains rinse it off "naturally," but with sum-

mer here, I wanted to figure out the greenest way to clean it. Apparently, hand-washing it in the driveway is a bad idea; it can easily use 100 gallons of water, compared with under 50 gallons at commercial car washes (and some recycle the rinse water). Even worse, unlike household wastewater, which enters sewers or septic systems and is treated before being discharged into the environment, the run-off from your car goes right into storm drains and pollutes rivers, wetlands and the sea. (Fortunately, federal law requires commercial car washes to drain used water into sewer systems.)

I recently discovered another option, an eco-friendly, waterless car wash (www.eco autosolutions.com) at Rafik's 76 Unocal Station at Hyperion and Griffith Park in Silver Lake, and tried it out. Instead of water, this car wash uses biospotless and fragrant. My car and I drove home cleaner and greener.

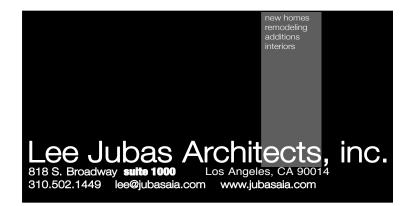
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