



How to Host a Car Wash

Car wash fundraisers are very successful for teams that have a large base of volunteers, especially teens! A car wash is an ideal event for school, church and community groups.

Setting Up Your Car Wash:

A car wash fundraiser is great in that it requires very little planning and you can do it in almost any empty parking lot. If your organization doesn't own a building with a large parking lot, make sure you get permission from another business before using their space. Also be sure that the space has an exterior water supply and that the owners are donating their water to you. Gas stations, fire stations, and community centers are great places to ask. Remember to select a location that's based on a busy street with adequate room for cars to line up and participants can enter and exit easily.

Calling All Volunteer Scrubbers and Buffers:

Ideally, your team members will serve as volunteers. Ask that all volunteers can commit to at least one hour, and create a rotating schedule so that washers can take a break.

Car Washing Supplies:

- Soap
- Sponges
- Rags
- Towels
- Windex
- Buckets
- Hoses
- Buffers
- Fanny packs for all volunteers to collect money and to make change
- Poster board and markers for signs (post a few volunteers on the street to wave cars in)
- Snacks and drinks for your volunteers (you can also sell snacks and drinks to your customers for an extra profit)

Contact your local Autism Speaks office for materials to display at your event, such as brochures and Walk Now for Autism Speaks banners.