

Questions?

If your business is generating runoff (other than rainwater) you may be able to discharge it to the sanitary sewer. Direct all questions regarding discharge to sanitary sewer to your local wastewater treatment plant or sanitary district listed below:

Santa Barbara

City of Santa Barbara:
Rebecca Bjork, Environmental Control Supervisor
(805) 897-1914

Goleta

From La Cumbre Road to Santa Barbara Airport:

Goleta Sanitary District
Teresa Kistner, Industrial Waste Control Officer
(805) 967-4519

West of Santa Barbara Airport:

Mark Nation, Operations Superintendent
Goleta West Sanitary District
(805) 968-2617

Montecito

Montecito Sanitary District
(805) 969-4200

Carpinteria

Carpinteria Sanitary District
Katherine Huelscamp
(805) 684-7214 x13

General Questions

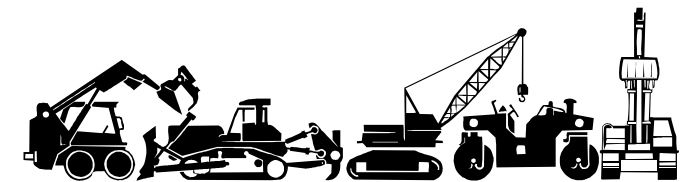
Vivian Nelson, Environmental Health Specialist, Senior
Santa Barbara County Environmental Health Services
(805) 681-4925



Santa Barbara County Water Agency and the City of Santa Barbara

**For more information about clean water, or to report
spills or polluted runoff, call the Water Quality Hotline at
1-877-OUR-OCEAN**

Preventing Pollution in our Creeks and Ocean



A Guide for Construction Contractors

Prepared by the City and County of Santa Barbara
as part of Project Clean Water





Do you know where water on the pavement goes?

Some people think that runoff from the streets on the South Coast flows down storm drains to our local wastewater treatment plant. This is a common misconception!

Anything that enters the storm drains flows to the creeks and ends up in the ocean. This includes pollution from parking lots and automotive businesses.

Our oceans and creeks are being polluted.

Used motor oil, bacteria, toxic chemicals, heavy metals and other types of pollution have been found in local creeks and the ocean. Pollution can be unsafe for people and affect aquatic life. As a result of pollution, beaches have been closed to protect public health.

What's Causing the Pollution?

In our area, the sanitary sewer system and the storm drain system are separate from each other. Storm drain system openings (catch basins) are located outside in gutters, alleys and streets. The storm drains empty directly into creeks, which flow to the ocean. All materials, such as liquid and trash, that are poured, spilled or dumped on streets, alleys and gutters enter the storm drains. This waste travels into creeks and the ocean **without being treated**.

To keep the ocean and creeks clean it is very important that only rain goes down the storm drain!

All other discharge to the storm drain should be prevented.



We Need Your Help!

Are your business practices sending pollution to the beach?

Storm water runoff from construction sites contributes to urban runoff pollution. Dirt, construction materials, vehicle fluids, trash, and human waste are some of the pollutants that get into the storm drain system.

Preventing these pollutants from entering the storm water system is vital to clean creeks and open beaches. City of Santa Barbara Municipal Code Title 16 Liquid and Industrial Waste Disposal prohibits discharge of any pollutants into the storm water system, and County Code Chapter 17 prohibits the discharge of solid, semi-solid, and liquid wastes.

Also, County Standard Conditions of Approval may require a project to be monitored for some of the Best Management Practices (BMPs) included here.

By using good site management methods, you can help prevent pollution in our creeks and ocean.

The common sense measures outlined in this booklet can be implemented with little effort and at a reasonable cost to the contractor and tradespeople.

Solution:

Best Management Practices

Listed below are Best Management Practices (BMPs) which can help you protect water quality in our creeks and ocean.

Working Next to Creeks, Wetlands and the Ocean

- When working near a creek, wetland or the ocean, be sure to have obtained all necessary permits from all Local, State and Federal Agencies before starting any work.
- Use all of the BMPs in this booklet, and any special requirements outlined in the permits when working in these sensitive areas.

Waste Management

- Store materials in closed or covered areas.
- Keep covers on all trash cans and dumpsters.
- Keep the area around your trash receptacles free of debris.
- Keep trash receptacles in a covered area to prevent wind or rain from getting into the trash.
- Prevent liquids from leaking out of the trash area and entering the storm drain system.
- Maximize trash cans to prevent littering.
- Waste being held for recycling or disposal should be held separate and covered.
- Practice source reduction- reduce waste by ordering only the amount you need to finish the job.
- Recycle leftover materials whenever possible. Materials such as concrete, asphalt, scrap metal, solvents, degreasers, cleared vegetation, paper, rock, and vehicle maintenance materials, such as used oil, antifreeze, batteries, and tires are recyclable. Call County Solid Waste Division at 882-3609 for more information on recycling construction materials.
- Be sure that trailers carrying your materials are covered during transit.



Construction

- Keep all stored or scrap materials such as sand, base rock, metal, wood or paper from entering the storm drain system. Keep separate and recycle when possible.
- Do not work or store materials in the streets, sidewalks, or areas exposed to rain or runoff. If work must be done outside, construct a separate, bermed area that does not drain into a storm drain.
- Protect all storm drain inlets using berms, screens or filter fabric cloth or other best management practices to prevent sediments from entering the storm drainage system during construction activities and rains.
- Schedule clearing and grubbing or heavy earth moving activities for periods of dry weather. Cover exposed piles of soil, construction materials and waste with a plastic sheeting or temporary roofs.
- Use terracing, rip rap, fiber rolls (wattles), sand bags, rocks, straw bales, silt fences or vegetation to reduce runoff velocity and to trap sediments. Before it rains, sweep and remove materials from surfaces that drain to catch basins, storm drains, creeks, or channels.
- Prevent soil erosion. Delineate clearing limits, easements, setbacks, sensitive or critical areas, trees, drainage courses, and buffer zones to prevent excessive or unnecessary disturbances and exposure. Place straw, hay bales, silt fences, jute netting or vegetation on all exposed ground immediately after grading operations are completed. Construct temporary drainage swales in order to contain drainage flows.
- When saw cutting asphalt or concrete, a vacuum or other effective capture and containment system must be used to collect all of the water and sediments.
- When a project is completed, pick up and sweep dirt and debris from all work areas including streets, sidewalks and alleys. Do not wash down work areas, tools and equipment on surfaces that drain to the storm drains or creeks.
- Clean all vehicle and equipment tires and undercarriages to remove any mud and debris onsite and prevent tracking onto the street. Provide controlled points of entry onto a construction site with clean gravel or wash basin to clean vehicles leaving the site.

Oil and Solvents

- Keep vehicles and equipment in good working order to prevent leaks. Refuel vehicles and heavy equipment in one designated location on the site and take care to clean up spills immediately.
- Recycle motor oil and solvents.
- Routinely check equipment to wipe spills and repair leaks.
- Apply absorbents on any oil leaks that may appear in parking lots. Properly dispose of absorbents before it rains. Some absorbents include: wipes, kitty litter, other organic-based absorbents. And use catch or drip pans.
- Never pour fluids down the storm drain, on a paved area or on the ground.



Site-Dewatering

- Water loaded with silt or sediment, or water that is in any way impaired, may not be pumped or drained into the streets, catch basins, storm drains, drainage ditches or creeks.
- Follow the site-dewatering plan to provide adequate treatment or containment of sediment-laden water.
- Follow the erosion control plan to prevent silt and sediment runoff from the site, and to prevent sediment-laden runoff to the site.
- If it is necessary to dewater a site after a storm, use appropriate BMPs.
- Proper use of straw bales, filter material and lined sediment basins may provide sufficient filtration for site dewatering. If the discharge of the filtered water is still dirty, further treatment, or containment, will be required, which may include use of bag filters on pump discharge hoses or the use of poly tanks (Baker tanks).
- Regardless of the treatment method used, if the discharge is still dirty, it will not be allowed into the City storm drain system.

Cement

- Keep all concrete, plaster and cement mortars out of the streets, gutters, storm drains and creeks.
- Store dry and wet materials off the streets and under cover protected from rainfall and runoff.
- Wash out concrete transit mixers and tools only when in designated wash-out areas.
- Never dispose of washout into the streets, catch basins, storm drains, drainage ditches, or creeks.
- Whenever possible, return contents of mixer barrel to the batch plant for recycling. Dispose of small amounts of excess concrete, grout, and mortar in the trash.



Painting

- Never clean brushes or rinse paint containers into a street, catch basin, gutter, storm drain, or creek.
- Water based paint brushes may be rinsed in a drain leading to the sanitary sewer (i.e., indoor plumbing). Excess paint may be disposed of as hazardous waste.
- Oil-based paint, thinners and sludges must be disposed of as hazardous waste.
- Latex paint may be recycled.



**Remember Only Rain
Down the Storm Drain!**

