

# APPENDIX C

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## EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS



# The Ocean Begins at Your Front Door



PROJECT  
*Pollution*  
PREVENTION

Follow these simple steps to help reduce water pollution:

### *Household Activities*

- Do not rinse spills with water. Use dry cleanup methods such as applying cat litter or another absorbent material, sweep and dispose of in the trash. Take items such as used or excess batteries, oven cleaners, automotive fluids, painting products and cathode ray tubes, like TVs and computer monitors, to a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center (HHWCC).
- For a HHWCC near you call (714) 834-6752 or visit [www.oclandfills.com](http://www.oclandfills.com).
- Do not hose down your driveway, sidewalk or patio to the street, gutter or storm drain. Sweep up debris and dispose of it in the trash.

### *Automotive*

- Take your vehicle to a commercial car wash whenever possible. If you wash your vehicle at home, choose soaps, cleaners, or detergents labeled non-toxic, phosphate-free or biodegradable. Vegetable and citrus-based products are typically safest for the environment.
- Do not allow washwater from vehicle washing to drain into the street, gutter or storm drain. Excess washwater should be disposed of in the sanitary sewer (through a sink or toilet) or onto an absorbent surface like your lawn.
- Monitor your vehicles for leaks and place a pan under leaks. Keep your vehicles well maintained to stop and prevent leaks.
- Never pour oil or antifreeze in the street, gutter or storm drain. Recycle these substances at a service station, a waste oil collection center or used oil recycling center. For the nearest Used Oil Collection Center call 1-800-CLEANUP or visit [www.1800cleanup.org](http://www.1800cleanup.org).

### *Pool Maintenance*

- Pool and spa water must be dechlorinated and free of excess acid, alkali or color to be allowed in the street, gutter or storm drain.
- When it is not raining, drain dechlorinated pool and spa water directly into the sanitary sewer.
- Some cities may have ordinances that do not allow pool water to be disposed of in the storm drain. Check with your city.

### *Landscape and Gardening*

- Do not over-water. Water your lawn and garden by hand to control the amount of water you use or set irrigation systems to reflect seasonal water needs. If water flows off your yard onto your driveway or sidewalk, your system is over-watering. Periodically inspect and fix leaks and misdirected sprinklers.
- Do not rake or blow leaves, clippings or pruning waste into the street, gutter or storm drain. Instead, dispose of waste by composting, hauling it to a permitted landfill, or as green waste through your city's recycling program.
- Follow directions on pesticides and fertilizer, (measure, do not estimate amounts) and do not use if rain is predicted within 48 hours.
- Take unwanted pesticides to a HHWCC to be recycled. For locations and hours of HHWCC, call (714) 834-6752 or visit [www.oclandfills.com](http://www.oclandfills.com).

### *Trash*

- Place trash and litter that cannot be recycled in securely covered trash cans.
- Whenever possible, buy recycled products.
- Remember: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

### *Pet Care*

- Always pick up after your pet. Flush waste down the toilet or dispose of it in the trash. Pet waste, if left outdoors, can wash into the street, gutter or storm drain.
- If possible, bathe your pets indoors. If you must bathe your pet outside, wash it on your lawn or another absorbent/permeable surface to keep the washwater from entering the street, gutter or storm drain.
- Follow directions for use of pet care products and dispose of any unused products at a HHWCC.

### *Common Pollutants*

#### *Home Maintenance*

- Detergents, cleaners and solvents
- Oil and latex paint
- Swimming pool chemicals
- Outdoor trash and litter

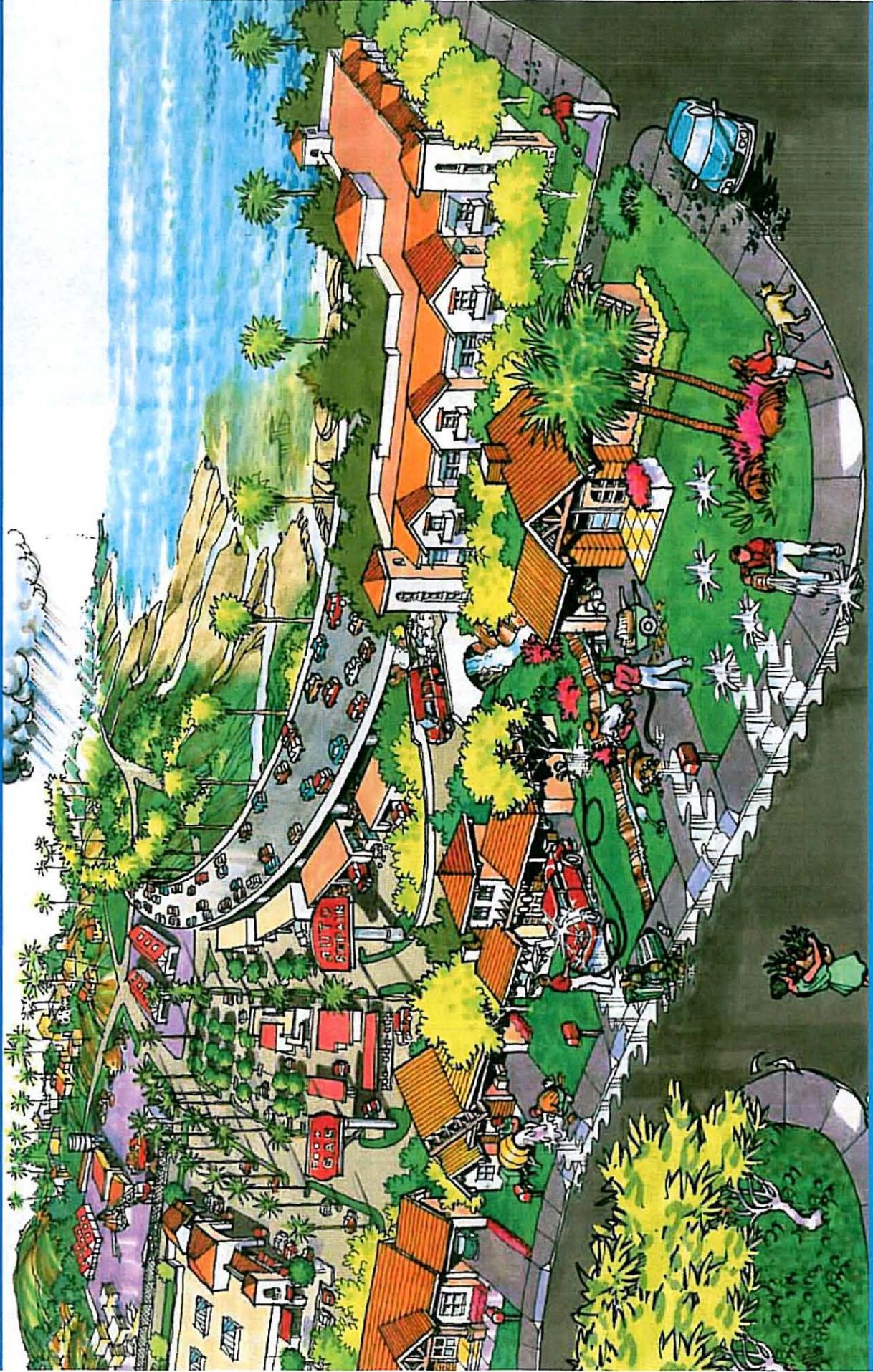
#### *Lawn and Garden*

- Pet and animal waste
- Pesticides
- Clippings, leaves and soil
- Fertilizer

#### *Automobile*

- Oil and grease
- Radiator fluids and antifreeze
- Cleaning chemicals
- Brake pad dust

# The Ocean Begins at Your Front Door



*Never allow pollutants to enter the street, gutter or storm drain!*

## Did You Know?

- Most people believe that the largest source of water pollution in urban areas comes from specific sources such as factories and sewage treatment plants. In fact, the largest source of water pollution comes from city streets, neighborhoods, construction sites and parking lots. This type of pollution is sometimes called “non-point source” pollution.
- There are two types of non-point source pollution: stormwater and urban runoff pollution.
- Stormwater runoff results from rainfall. When rainstorms cause large volumes of water to rinse the urban landscape, picking up pollutants along the way.
- Urban runoff can happen any time of the year when excessive water use from irrigation, vehicle washing and other sources carries trash, lawn clippings and other urban pollutants into storm drains.

## Where Does It Go?

- Anything we use outside homes, vehicles and businesses – like motor oil, paint, pesticides, fertilizers and cleaners – can be blown or washed into storm drains.
- A little water from a garden hose or rain can also send materials into storm drains.
- Storm drains are separate from our sanitary sewer systems; unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks or toilets), water in storm drains is not treated before entering our waterways.

## Sources of Non-Point Source Pollution

- Automotive leaks and spills.
- Improper disposal of used oil and other engine fluids.
- Metals found in vehicle exhaust, weathered paint, rust, metal plating and tires.
- Pesticides and fertilizers from lawns, gardens and farms.
- Improper disposal of cleaners, paint and paint removers.
- Soil erosion and dust debris from landscape and construction activities.
- Litter, lawn clippings, animal waste, and other organic matter.
- Oil stains on parking lots and paved surfaces.



## The Effect on the Ocean

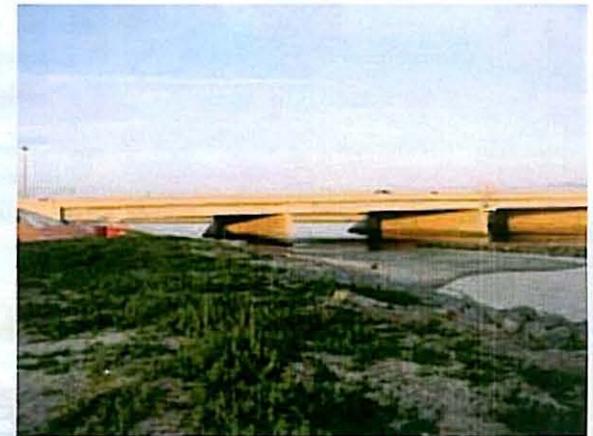


Non-point source pollution can have a serious impact on water quality in Orange County. Pollutants from the storm drain system can harm marine life

as well as coastal and wetland habitats. They can also degrade recreation areas such as beaches, harbors and bays.

Stormwater quality management programs have been developed throughout Orange County to educate and encourage the public to protect water quality, monitor runoff in the storm drain system, investigate illegal dumping and maintain storm drains.

Support from Orange County residents and businesses is needed to improve water quality and reduce urban runoff pollution. Proper use and disposal of materials will help stop pollution before it reaches the storm drain and the ocean.



# For More Information

## Orange County Stormwater Program

### California Environmental Protection Agency

[www.calepa.ca.gov](http://www.calepa.ca.gov)

- **Air Resources Board**

[www.arb.ca.gov](http://www.arb.ca.gov)

- **Department of Pesticide Regulation**

[www.cdpr.ca.gov](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov)

- **Department of Toxic Substances Control**

[www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov)

- **Integrated Waste Management Board**

[www.ciwmb.ca.gov](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov)

- **Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment**

[www.oehha.ca.gov](http://www.oehha.ca.gov)

- **State Water Resources Control Board**

[www.waterboards.ca.gov](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov)

**Earth 911 - Community-Specific Environmental Information** 1-800-cleanup or visit [www.1800cleanup.org](http://www.1800cleanup.org)

### Health Care Agency's Ocean and Bay Water Closure and Posting Hotline

(714) 433-6400 or visit [www.ocbeachinfo.com](http://www.ocbeachinfo.com)

**Integrated Waste Management Dept. of Orange County** (714) 834-6752 or visit [www.oilandfills.com](http://www.oilandfills.com) for information on household hazardous waste collection centers, recycling centers and solid waste collection

### O.C. Agriculture Commissioner

(714) 447-7100 or visit [www.ocagcomm.com](http://www.ocagcomm.com)

### Stormwater Best Management Practice Handbook

Visit [www.cabmphandbooks.com](http://www.cabmphandbooks.com)

### UC Master Gardener Hotline

(714) 708-1646 or visit [www.uccemg.com](http://www.uccemg.com)

The Orange County Stormwater Program has created and moderates an electronic mailing list to facilitate communications, take questions and exchange ideas among its users about issues and topics related to stormwater and urban runoff and the implementation of program elements. To join the list, please send an email to [ocstormwaterinfo-join@list.ocwatersheds.com](mailto:ocstormwaterinfo-join@list.ocwatersheds.com)

Aliso Viejo . . . . .	(949)	425-2535
Anaheim Public Works Operations . . . . .	(714)	765-6860
Brea Engineering . . . . .	(714)	990-7666
Buena Park Public Works . . . . .	(714)	562-3655
Costa Mesa Public Services . . . . .	(714)	754-5323
Cypress Public Works . . . . .	(714)	229-6740
Dana Point Public Works . . . . .	(949)	248-3584
Fountain Valley Public Works . . . . .	(714)	593-4441
Fullerton Engineering Dept. . . . .	(714)	738-6853
Garden Grove Public Works . . . . .	(714)	741-5956
Huntington Beach Public Works . . . . .	(714)	536-5431
Irvine Public Works . . . . .	(949)	724-6315
La Habra Public Services . . . . .	(562)	905-9792
La Palma Public Works . . . . .	(714)	690-3310
Laguna Beach Water Quality . . . . .	(949)	497-0378
Laguna Hills Public Services . . . . .	(949)	707-2650
Laguna Niguel Public Works . . . . .	(949)	362-4337
Laguna Woods Public Works . . . . .	(949)	639-0500
Lake Forest Public Works . . . . .	(949)	461-3480
Los Alamitos Community Dev. . . . .	(562)	431-3538
Mission Viejo Public Works . . . . .	(949)	470-3056
Newport Beach, Code & Water Quality Enforcement . . . . .	(949)	644-3215
Orange Public Works . . . . .	(714)	532-6480
Placentia Public Works . . . . .	(714)	993-8245
Rancho Santa Margarita . . . . .	(949)	635-1800
San Clemente Environmental Programs . . . . .	(949)	361-6143
San Juan Capistrano Engineering . . . . .	(949)	234-4413
Santa Ana Public Works . . . . .	(714)	647-3380
Seal Beach Engineering . . . . .	(562)	431-2527 x317
Stanton Public Works . . . . .	(714)	379-9222 x204
Tustin Public Works/Engineering . . . . .	(714)	573-3150
Villa Park Engineering . . . . .	(714)	998-1500
Westminster Public Works/Engineering . . . . .	(714)	898-3311 x446
Yorba Linda Engineering . . . . .	(714)	961-7138
Orange County Stormwater Program . . . . .	(877)	897-7455
Orange County 24-Hour Water Pollution Problem Reporting Hotline 1-877-89-SPILL (1-877-897-7455)		

On-line Water Pollution Problem Reporting Form

[www.ocwatersheds.com](http://www.ocwatersheds.com)



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## The Pollution Solution

Several residential activities can result in water pollution. Among these activities are car washing and hosing off driveways and sidewalks. Both activities can waste water and result in excess runoff. Water conservation methods described in this pamphlet can prevent considerable amounts of runoff and conserve water. By taking your car to a commercial car wash and by sweeping driveways and sidewalks, you can further prevent the transport of pollutants to Orange County waterways. Here are some of the common pollutants for which you can be part of the solution:

### 1 Pesticides and Fertilizer

**Pollution:** The same pesticides that are designed to be toxic to pests can have an equally lethal impact on our marine life. The same fertilizer that promotes plant growth in lawns and gardens can also create nuisance algae blooms, which remove oxygen from the water and clog waterways when it decomposes.



**Solution:** Never use pesticides or fertilizer within 48 hours of an anticipated rainstorm. Use only as much as is directed on the label and keep it off driveways and sidewalks.

### 2 Dirt and Sediment

**Pollution:** Dirt or sediment can impede the flow of the stormwater and negatively impact stream habitat as it travels through waterways and deposits downstream. Pollutants can attach to sediment, which can then be transported through our waterways.

**Solution:** Protect dirt stockpiles by covering them with tarps or secure plastic sheets to prevent wind or rain from allowing dirt or sediment to enter the storm drain system.

### 3 Metals

**Pollution:** Metals and other toxins present in car wash water can harm important plankton, which forms the base of the aquatic food chain.

**Solution:** Take your car to a commercial car wash where the wash water is captured and treated at a local wastewater treatment plant.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that most of the pollution found in our waterways is not from a single source, but from a "non-point" source meaning the accumulation of pollution from residents and businesses throughout the community.

### 4 Pet Waste

**Pollution:** Pet waste carries bacteria through our watersheds and eventually will be washed out to the ocean. This can pose a health risk to swimmers and surfers.

**Solution:** Pick up after your pet!

### 5 Trash and Debris

**Pollution:** Trash and debris can enter waterways by wind, littering and careless maintenance of trash receptacles. Street sweeping collects some of this trash, however, much of what isn't captured ends up in our storm drain system where it flows untreated out to the ocean.



**Solution:** Don't litter and make sure trash containers are properly covered. It is far more expensive to clean up the litter and trash that ends up in our waterways than it is to prevent it in the first place. Come out to one of Orange County's many locations for Coastal and Inner-Coastal Cleanup Day, which is held in September.

### 6 Motor Oil / Vehicle Fluids

**Pollution:** Oil and petroleum products from our vehicles are toxic to people, wildlife and plants.

**Solution:** Fix any leaks from your vehicle and keep the maintenance up on your car. Use absorbent material such as cat litter on oil spills, then sweep it up and dispose of it in the trash. Recycle used motor oil at a local Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center.



## A TEAM EFFORT

The Orange County Stormwater Program has teamed with the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) and the University of California Cooperative Extension Program (UCCE) to develop this pamphlet.

Low Impact Development (LID) and sustainable water use prevents water pollution and conserves water for drinking and reuse. Reducing your water use and the amount of water flowing from your home protects the environment and saves you money.

Thank you for making water protection a priority!

For more information, please visit [www.ocwatersheds.com/publiced/](http://www.ocwatersheds.com/publiced/)

[www.mwdoc.com](http://www.mwdoc.com)

[www.uccemg.com](http://www.uccemg.com)



To report a spill, call the Orange County 24-Hour Water Pollution Prevention Reporting Hotline at 1-877-89-SPILL \ (1-877-897-7455)

Special Thanks to  
The City of Los Angeles Stormwater Program for the use of its artwork

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California for the use of the California-Friendly Plant and Native Habitat photos



Homeowners Guide  
for Sustainable Water Use  
Low Impact Development, Water Conservation  
& Pollution Prevention



The Ocean Begins at Your Front Door



# RUNOFF, RAINWATER AND REUSE

## Where Does Water Runoff Go?

Stormwater, or water from rainfall events, and runoff from outdoor water use such as sprinklers and hoses flows from homes directly into catch basins and the storm drain system. After entering the storm drain, the water flows untreated into streams, rivers, bays and ultimately the Pacific Ocean. Runoff can come from lawns, gardens, driveways, sidewalks and roofs. As it flows over hard, impervious surfaces, it picks up pollutants. Some pollutants carried by the water runoff include trash, pet waste, pesticides, fertilizer, motor oil and more.

## Water Conservation

Pollution not only impairs the water quality for habitat and recreation, it can also reduce the water available for reuse. Runoff allowed to soak into the ground is cleaned as it percolates through the soil, replenishing depleted groundwater supplies. Groundwater provides approximately 50% of the total water for drinking and other indoor household activities in north and central Orange County. When land is covered with roads, parking lots, homes, etc., there is less land to take in the water and more hard surfaces over which the water can flow.

In Orange County, 60-70% of water used by residents and businesses goes to irrigation and other outdoor uses. Reusing rainwater to irrigate our lawn not only reduces the impact of water pollution from runoff, but it also is a great way to conserve our precious water resources and replenish our groundwater basin.

## What is Low Impact Development (LID)?

Low Impact Development (LID) is a method of development that seeks to maintain the natural hydrologic character of an area. LID provides a more sustainable and pollution-preventative approach to water management.

New water quality regulations require implementation of LID in larger new developments and encourage implementation of LID and other sustainable practices in existing residential areas. Implementing modifications to your lawn or garden can reduce pollution in our environment, conserve water and reduce your water bill.



Permeable pavement allows water runoff to infiltrate through the soil and prevents most pollutants from reaching the storm drain system.

## OPTIONS FOR RAINWATER HARVESTING AND REUSE

Rainwater harvesting is a great way to save money, prevent pollution and reduce potable water use. To harvest your rainwater, simply redirect the runoff from roofs and downspouts to rain barrels. Rain gardens are another option; these reduce runoff as well as encourage infiltration.

### Downspout Disconnection/Redirection

Disconnecting downspouts from pipes running to the gutter prevents runoff from transporting pollutants to the storm drain. Once disconnected, downspouts can be redirected to rain gardens or other vegetated areas, or be connected to a rain barrel.

### Rain Barrels

Rain barrels capture rainwater flow from roofs for reuse in landscape irrigation. Capacity of rain barrels needed for your home will depend on the amount of roof area and rainfall received. When purchasing your rain barrel, make sure it includes a screen, a spigot to siphon water for use, an overflow tube to allow for excess water to run out and a connector if you wish to connect multiple barrels to add capacity of water storage.

Mosquito growth prevention is very important when installing a rain barrel. The best way to prevent mosquito breeding is to eliminate entry points by ensuring all openings are sealed tightly. If these methods are unsuccessful, products are available to kill mosquito larvae, but that are harmless to animals and humans. Regular application of these products is essential. Please visit the Orange County Vector Control website for more information at [www.ocvcd.org/mosquitoes3.php](http://www.ocvcd.org/mosquitoes3.php).

### Rain Gardens

Rain gardens allow runoff to be directed from your roof downspout into a landscaped area. Vegetation and rocks in the garden will slow the flow of water to allow for infiltration into the soil. Plants and soil particles will absorb pollutants from the roof runoff. By utilizing a native plant palette, rain gardens can be maintained all year with minimal additional irrigation. These plants are adapted to the semi-arid climate of Southern California, require less water and can reduce your water bill.



Before modifying your yard to install a rain garden, please consult your local building and/or planning departments to ensure your garden plan follows pertinent building codes and ordinances. Besides codes and ordinances, some home owner associations also have guidelines for yard modifications. If your property is in hill areas or includes engineered slopes, please seek professional advice before proceeding with changes.

For information on how to disconnect a downspout or to install and maintain a rain barrel or rain garden at your home, please see the Los Angeles Rainwater Harvesting Program, A Homeowner's "How-To" Guide, November 2009 at [www.larainwaterharvesting.org/](http://www.larainwaterharvesting.org/)

## OTHER WATER CONSERVATION AND POLLUTION PREVENTION TECHNIQUES

### Native Vegetation and Maintenance

"California Friendly" plants or native vegetation can significantly reduce water use. These plants often require far less fertilizers and pesticides, which are two significant pollutants found in Orange County waterways. Replacing water "thirsty" plants and grass types with water efficient natives is a great way to save water and reduce the need for potentially harmful pesticides and fertilizer.

Please see the California Friendly Garden Guide produced by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and associated Southern California Water Agencies for a catalog of California friendly plants and other garden resources at [www.bewaterwise.com/Gardensoft](http://www.bewaterwise.com/Gardensoft).

### Weed Free Yards

Weeds are water thieves. They often reproduce quickly and rob your yard of both water and nutrients. Weed your yard by hand if possible. If you use herbicides to control the weeds, use only the amount recommended on the label and never use it if rain is forecast within the next 48 hours.



### Soil Amendments

Soil amendments such as green waste (e.g. grass clippings, compost, etc.) can be a significant source of nutrients and can help keep the soil near the roots of plants moist. However, they can cause algal blooms if they get into our waterways, which reduces the amount of oxygen in the water and impacts most aquatic organisms. It is important to apply soil amendments more than 48 hours prior to predicted rainfall.

## IRRIGATE EFFICIENTLY

### Smart Irrigation Controllers

Smart Irrigation Controllers have internal clocks as well as sensors that will turn off the sprinklers in response to environmental changes. If it is raining, too windy or too cold, the smart irrigation control sprinklers will automatically shut off.

Check with your local water agency for available rebates on irrigation controllers and smart timers.

- **Aim your sprinklers at your lawn, not the sidewalk** – By simply adjusting the direction of your sprinklers you can save water, prevent water pollution from runoff, keep your lawn healthy and save money.
- **Set a timer for your sprinklers** – Lawns absorb the water they need to stay healthy within a few minutes of turning on the sprinklers. Time your sprinklers, when water begins running off your lawn, you can turn them off. Your timer can be set to water your lawn for this duration every time.
- **Water at Sunrise** – Watering early in the morning will reduce water loss due to evaporation. Additionally, winds tend to die down in the early morning so the water will get to the lawn as intended.
- **Water by hand** – Instead of using sprinklers, consider watering your yard by hand. Hand-watering ensures that all plants get the proper amount of water and you will prevent any water runoff, which wastes water and carries pollutants into our waterways.
- **Fix leaks** – Nationwide, households waste one trillion gallons of water a year to leaks—that is enough water to serve the entire state of Texas for a year. If your garden hose is leaking, replace the nylon or rubber hose washer and ensure a tight connection. Fix broken sprinklers immediately.



Water waste from an unmet left off sprinkler can pollute the local waterway.

Help Prevent Ocean Pollution:

*Do your part to prevent water pollution in our creeks, rivers, bays and ocean.*

Clean beaches and healthy creeks, rivers, bays, and ocean are important to Orange County. However, many common household activities can lead to water pollution if you're not careful.

*REMEMBER THE  
WATER IN YOUR  
STORM DRAIN  
IS NOT TREATED  
BEFORE  
IT ENTERS OUR  
WATERWAYS*

drains. Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), water in storm drains is not treated.

You would never pour soap, fertilizers or oil into the ocean, so don't let them enter streets, gutters or storm drains. Follow the easy tips in this brochure to help prevent water pollution.

Litter, oil, chemicals and other substances that are left on your yard or driveway can be blown or washed into storm drains that flow to the ocean. Over-watering your lawn and washing your car can also flush materials into the storm

For more information, please call the **Orange County Stormwater Program** at **1-877-89-SPILL** (1-877-897-7455) or visit [www.ocwatersheds.com](http://www.ocwatersheds.com)

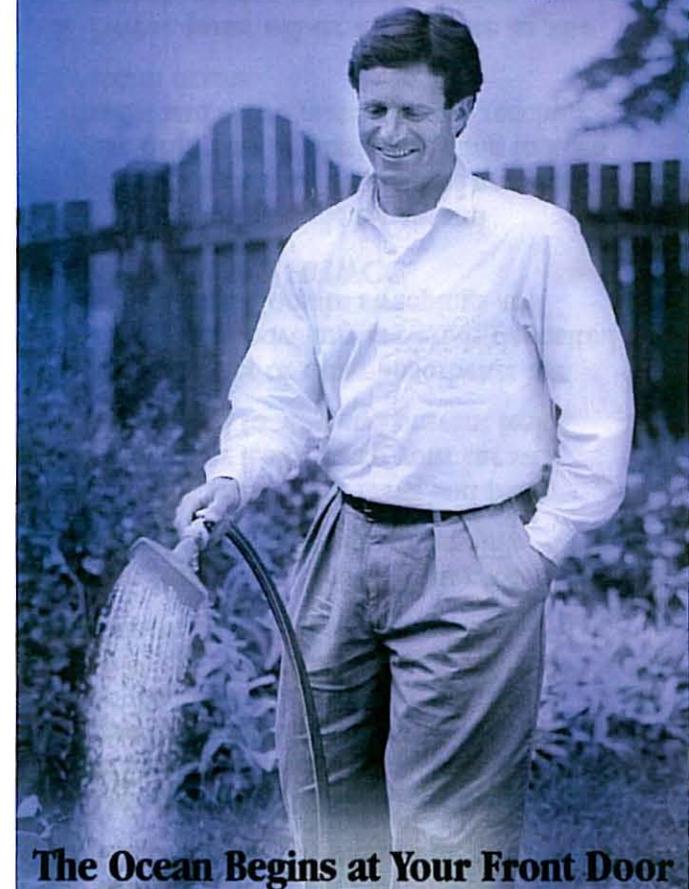
To report a spill, call the **Orange County 24-Hour Water Pollution Problem Reporting Hotline** **1-877-89-SPILL** (1-877-897-7455).

**For emergencies, dial 911.**

The tips contained in this brochure provide useful information to help prevent water pollution while performing everyday household activities. If you have other suggestions, please contact your city's stormwater representatives or call the Orange County Stormwater Program.



## Household Tips



PROJECT  
**Pollution**  
PREVENTION



# Pollution Prevention

## Household Activities

- **Do not rinse spills with water!** Sweep outdoor spills and dispose of in the trash. For wet spills like oil, apply cat litter or another absorbent material, then sweep and bring to a household hazardous waste collection center (HHWCC).
- Securely cover trash cans.
- Take household hazardous waste to a household hazardous waste collection center.
- Store household hazardous waste in closed, labeled containers inside or under a cover.
- Do not hose down your driveway, sidewalk or patio. Sweep up debris and dispose of in trash.
- Always pick up after your pet. Flush waste down the toilet or dispose of in the trash.
- Bathe pets indoors or have them professionally groomed.

## Household Hazardous Wastes include:

- ▲ Batteries
- ▲ Paint thinners, paint strippers and removers
- ▲ Adhesives
- ▲ Drain openers
- ▲ Oven cleaners
- ▲ Wood and metal cleaners and polishes
- ▲ Herbicides and pesticides
- ▲ Fungicides/wood preservatives
- ▲ Automotive fluids and products
- ▲ Grease and rust solvents
- ▲ Thermometers and other products containing mercury
- ▲ Fluorescent lamps
- ▲ Cathode ray tubes, e.g. TVs, computer monitors
- ▲ Pool and spa chemicals

## Gardening Activities

- Follow directions on pesticides and fertilizers, (measure, do not estimate amounts) and do not use if rain is predicted within 48 hours.
- Water your lawn and garden by hand to control the amount of water you use. Set irrigation systems to reflect seasonal water needs. If water flows off your yard and onto your driveway or sidewalk, your system is over-watering.
- Mulch clippings or leave them on the lawn. If necessary, dispose in a green waste container.
- Cultivate your garden often to control weeds.

## Washing and Maintaining Your Car

- Take your car to a commercial car wash whenever possible.
- Choose soaps, cleaners, or detergents labeled "non-toxic," "phosphate free" or "biodegradable." Vegetable and citrus-based products are typically safest for the environment, **but even these should not be allowed into the storm drain.**
- Shake floor mats into a trash can or vacuum to clean.

- Do not use acid-based wheel cleaners and "hose off" engine degreasers at home. They can be used at a commercial facility, which can properly process the washwater.
- **Do not dump washwater onto your driveway, sidewalk, street, gutter or storm drain.** Excess washwater should be disposed of in the sanitary sewers (through a sink, or toilet) or onto an absorbent surface like your lawn.
- Use a nozzle to turn off water when not actively washing down automobile.
- Monitor vehicles for leaks and place pans under leaks. Keep your car well maintained to stop and prevent leaks.
- Use cat litter or other absorbents and sweep to remove any materials deposited by vehicles. Contain sweepings and dispose of at a HHWCC.
- Perform automobile repair and maintenance under a covered area and use drip pans or plastic sheeting to keep spills and waste material from reaching storm drains.
- **Never pour oil or antifreeze in the street, gutter or storm drains.** Recycle these substances at a service station, HHWCC, or used oil recycling center. For the nearest Used Oil Collection Center call 1-800-CLEANUP or visit [www.ciwmb.ca.gov/UsedOil](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/UsedOil).

For locations and hours of Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers in Anaheim, Huntington Beach, Irvine and San Juan Capistrano, call (714)834-6752 or visit [www.oilandfills.com](http://www.oilandfills.com).

*Do your part to prevent water pollution in our creeks, rivers, bays and ocean.*



Clean beaches and healthy creeks, rivers, bays and ocean are important to Orange County. However, not properly disposing of household hazardous waste can lead to water pollution. Batteries, electronics, paint, oil, gardening chemicals, cleaners and other hazardous materials cannot be thrown in the trash. They also must never be poured or thrown into yards, sidewalks, driveways, gutters or streets. Rain or other water could wash the materials into the storm drain and eventually into our waterways and the ocean. In addition, hazardous waste must not be poured in the sanitary sewers (sinks and toilets).

**NEVER DISPOSE  
OF HOUSEHOLD  
HAZARDOUS  
WASTE IN THE  
TRASH, STREET,  
GUTTER,  
STORM DRAIN  
OR SEWER.**

For more information,  
please call the  
**Orange County Stormwater Program**  
at (714) 567-6363  
or visit  
[www.ocwatersheds.com](http://www.ocwatersheds.com)

**To Report Illegal Dumping of  
Household Hazardous Waste  
call 1-800-69-TOXIC**

To report a spill,  
call the  
**Orange County 24-Hour  
Water Pollution Problem  
Reporting Hotline**  
(714) 567-6363.

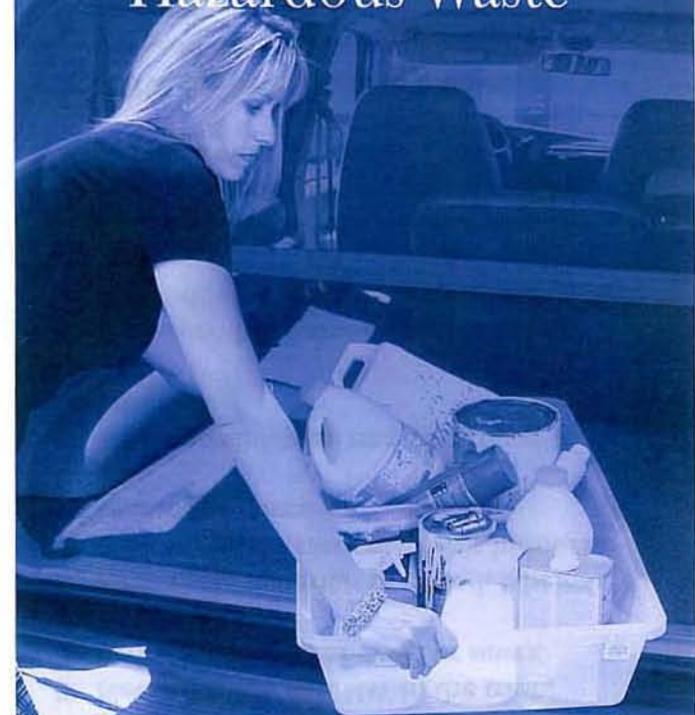
For emergencies, dial 911.



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Help Prevent Ocean Pollution:

## Proper Disposal of Household Hazardous Waste



The Ocean Begins at  
Your Front Door

**PROJECT  
Pollution  
PREVENTION**

ORANGE COUNTY

# Pollution Prevention

Leftover household products that contain corrosive, toxic, ignitable, or reactive

ingredients are considered to be "household hazardous waste" or "HHW." HHW can be found throughout your home, including the bathroom, kitchen, laundry room and garage.

*WHEN POSSIBLE,  
USE  
NON-HAZARDOUS  
OR  
LESS-HAZARDOUS  
PRODUCTS.*

Disposal of HHW down the drain, on the ground, into storm drains, or in the trash is illegal and unsafe.

Proper disposal of HHW is actually easy. Simply drop them off at a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center (HHWCC) for free disposal and recycling. Many materials including anti-freeze, latex-based paint, motor oil and batteries can be recycled. Some centers have a "Stop & Swap" program that lets you take partially used home, garden, and automobile products free of charge. There are four HHWCCs in Orange County:

**Anaheim:**.....1071 N. Blue Gum St  
**Huntington Beach:**..... 17121 Nichols St  
**Irvine:**..... 6411 Oak Canyon  
**San Juan Capistrano:**... 32250 La Pata Ave

Centers are open Tuesday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Centers are closed on rainy days and major holidays. For more information, call (714) 834-6752 or visit [www.oclandfills.com](http://www.oclandfills.com).

## *Common household hazardous wastes*

- Batteries
- Paint and paint products
- Adhesives
- Drain openers
- Household cleaning products
- Wood and metal cleaners and polishes
- Pesticides
- Fungicides/wood preservatives
- Automotive products (antifreeze, motor oil, fluids)
- Grease and rust solvents
- Fluorescent lamps
- Mercury (thermometers & thermostats)
- All forms of electronic waste including computers and microwaves
- Pool & spa chemicals
- Cleaners
- Medications
- Propane (camping & BBQ)
- Mercury-containing lamps

- Television & monitors (CRTs, flatscreens)

## *Tips for household hazardous waste*

- Never dispose of HHW in the trash, street, gutter, storm drain or sewer.
- Keep these materials in closed, labeled containers and store materials indoors or under a cover.
- When possible, use non-hazardous products.
- Reuse products whenever possible or share with family and friends.
- Purchase only as much of a product as you'll need. Empty containers may be disposed of in the trash.
- HHW can be harmful to humans, pets and the environment. Report emergencies to 911.





*Did you know that just one quart of oil can pollute 250,000 gallons of water?*

A clean ocean and healthy creeks, rivers, bays and beaches are important to Orange County. However, not properly disposing of used oil can lead to water pollution. If you pour or drain oil onto driveways, sidewalks or streets, it can be washed into the storm drain. Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), water in storm drains is not treated before entering the ocean. Help prevent water pollution by taking your used oil to a used oil collection center.

Included in this brochure is a list of locations that will accept up to five gallons of used motor oil at no cost. Many also accept used oil filters. Please contact the facility before delivering your used oil. This listing of companies is for your reference and does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement of the company.

Please note that used oil filters may not be disposed of with regular household trash. They must be taken to a household hazardous waste collection or recycling center in Anaheim, Huntington Beach, Irvine or San Juan Capistrano. For information about these centers, visit [www.oilandfills.com](http://www.oilandfills.com).

Please do not mix your oil with other substances!

For more information, please call the Orange County Stormwater Program at **1-877-89-SPILL** (1-877-897-7455) or visit [www.watersheds.com](http://www.watersheds.com).

For information about the proper disposal of household hazardous waste, call the Household Waste Hotline at **(714) 834-6752** or visit [www.oilandfills.com](http://www.oilandfills.com).

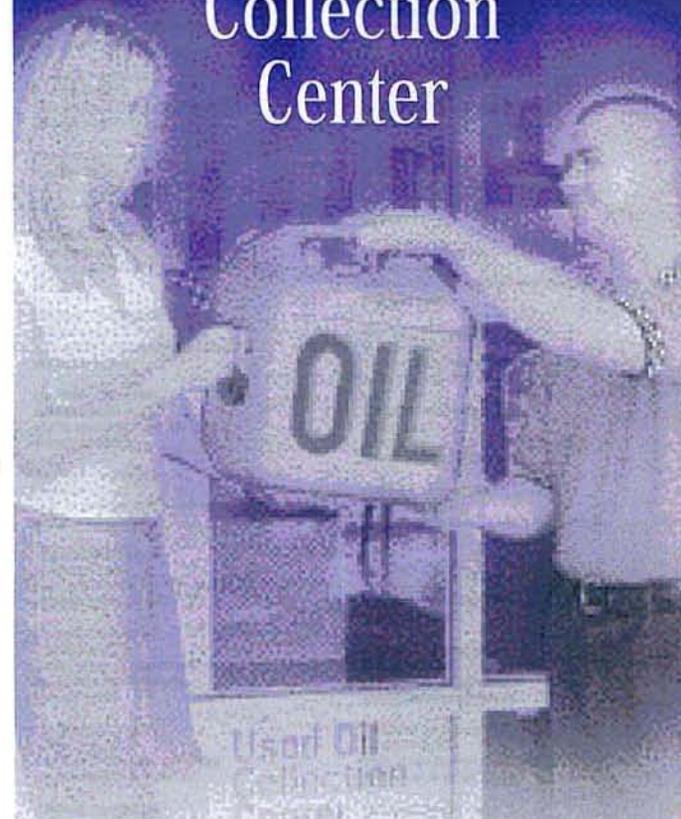


For additional information about the nearest oil recycling center, call the Used Oil Program at **1-800-CLEANUP** or visit [www.cleanup.org](http://www.cleanup.org).

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Help Prevent Ocean Pollution:

## Recycle at Your Local Used Oil Collection Center



The Ocean Begins at Your Front Door



CENTRAL COUNTY





**C**lean beaches and healthy creeks, rivers, bays and ocean are important to Orange County. However, many common activities such as pest control can lead to water pollution if you're not careful. Pesticide treatments must be planned and applied properly to ensure that pesticides do not enter the street, gutter or storm drain. Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), water in storm drains is not treated before entering our waterways.

You would never dump pesticides into the ocean, so don't let it enter the storm drains. Pesticides can cause significant damage to our environment if used improperly. If you are thinking of using a pesticide to control a pest, there are some important things to consider.

For more information,  
please call  
University of California Cooperative  
Extension Master Gardeners at  
(714) 708-1646  
or visit these Web sites:  
[www.uccemg.org](http://www.uccemg.org)  
[www.ipm.ucdavis.edu](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu)

For instructions on collecting a specimen  
sample visit the Orange County  
Agriculture Commissioner's website at:  
[http://www.ocagcomm.com/ser\\_lab.asp](http://www.ocagcomm.com/ser_lab.asp)

To report a spill, call the  
**Orange County 24-Hour  
Water Pollution Problem  
Reporting Hotline**  
at 1-877-89-SPILL (1-877-897-7455).

**For emergencies, dial 911.**

Information From:  
Cheryl Wilen, Area IPM Advisor; Darren Haver,  
Watershed Management Advisor; Mary  
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Horticulture Advisor; Carolyn L. Unruh,  
University of California Cooperative  
Extension staff writer. Photos courtesy of  
the UC Statewide IPM Program and  
Darren Haver.

Funding for this brochure has been provided in full  
or in part through an agreement with the State Water  
Resources Control Board (SWRCB) pursuant to the  
Costa-Machado Water Act of 2000 (Prop. 13).



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Help Prevent Ocean Pollution:

## Responsible Pest Control

The Ocean Begins  
at Your Front Door



# Tips for Pest Control

## Key Steps to Follow:

**Step 1:** Correctly identify the pest (insect, weed, rodent, or disease) and verify that it is actually causing the problem.



Three life stages of the common lady beetle, a beneficial insect.

This is important because beneficial insects are often mistaken for pests and sprayed with pesticides needlessly.

Consult with a Certified Nursery

Professional at a local nursery or garden center or send a sample of the pest to the Orange County Agricultural Commissioner's Office.

Determine if the pest is still present – even though you see damage, the pest may have left.

**Step 2:** Determine how many pests are present and causing damage.



Small pest populations may be controlled more safely using non-pesticide techniques. These include removing food sources, washing off leaves with a strong stream of water, blocking entry into the home using caulking and replacing problem plants with ones less susceptible to pests.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) usually combines several least toxic pest control methods for long-term prevention and management of pest problems without harming you, your family, or the environment.



**Step 3:** If a pesticide must be used, choose the least toxic chemical.

Obtain information on the least toxic pesticides that are effective at controlling the target pest from the UC Statewide Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program's Web site at [www.ipm.ucdavis.edu](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu).

Seek out the assistance of a Certified Nursery Professional at a local nursery or garden center when selecting a pesticide. Purchase the smallest amount of pesticide available.

Apply the pesticide to the pest during its most vulnerable life stage. This information can be found on the pesticide label.

**Step 4:** Wear appropriate protective clothing.

Follow pesticide labels regarding specific types of protective equipment you should wear. Protective clothing should always be washed separately from other clothing.

**Step 5:** Continuously monitor external conditions when applying pesticides such as weather, irrigation, and the presence of children and animals.

Never apply pesticides when rain is predicted within the next 48 hours. Also, do not water after applying pesticides unless the directions say it is necessary.

Apply pesticides when the air is still; breezy conditions may cause the spray or dust to drift away from your targeted area.

In case of an emergency call 911 and/or the regional poison control number at (714) 634-5988 or (800) 544-4404 (CA only).

For general questions you may also visit [www.calpoison.org](http://www.calpoison.org).

**Step 6:** In the event of accidental spills, sweep up or use an absorbent agent to remove any excess pesticides. Avoid the use of water.

Be prepared. Have a broom, dust pan, or dry absorbent material, such as cat litter, newspapers or paper towels, ready to assist in cleaning up spills.

Contain and clean up the spill right away. Place contaminated materials in a doubled plastic bag. All materials used to clean up the spill should be properly disposed of according to your local Household Hazardous Waste Disposal site.

**Step 7:** Properly store and dispose of unused pesticides.

Purchase Ready-To-Use (RTU) products to avoid storing large concentrated quantities of pesticides.



Store unused chemicals in a locked cabinet.

Unused pesticide chemicals may be disposed of at a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center.

Empty pesticide containers should be triple rinsed prior to disposing of them in the trash.

Household Hazardous Waste  
Collection Center  
(714) 834-6752  
[www.oilandfills.com](http://www.oilandfills.com)





**C**lean beaches and healthy creeks, rivers, bays and ocean are important to Orange County. However, many common activities can lead to water pollution if you're not careful. Home improvement projects and work sites must be maintained to ensure that building materials do not enter the street, gutter or storm drain. Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), water in storm drains is not treated before entering our waterways.

You would never dump building materials into the ocean, so don't let them enter the storm drains. Follow these tips to help prevent water pollution.

For more information,  
please call the  
**Orange County Stormwater Program**  
at (714) 567-6363  
or visit  
[www.ocwatersheds.com](http://www.ocwatersheds.com)

To report a spill,  
call the  
**Orange County 24-Hour  
Water Pollution Problem  
Reporting Hotline**  
at (714) 567-6363.

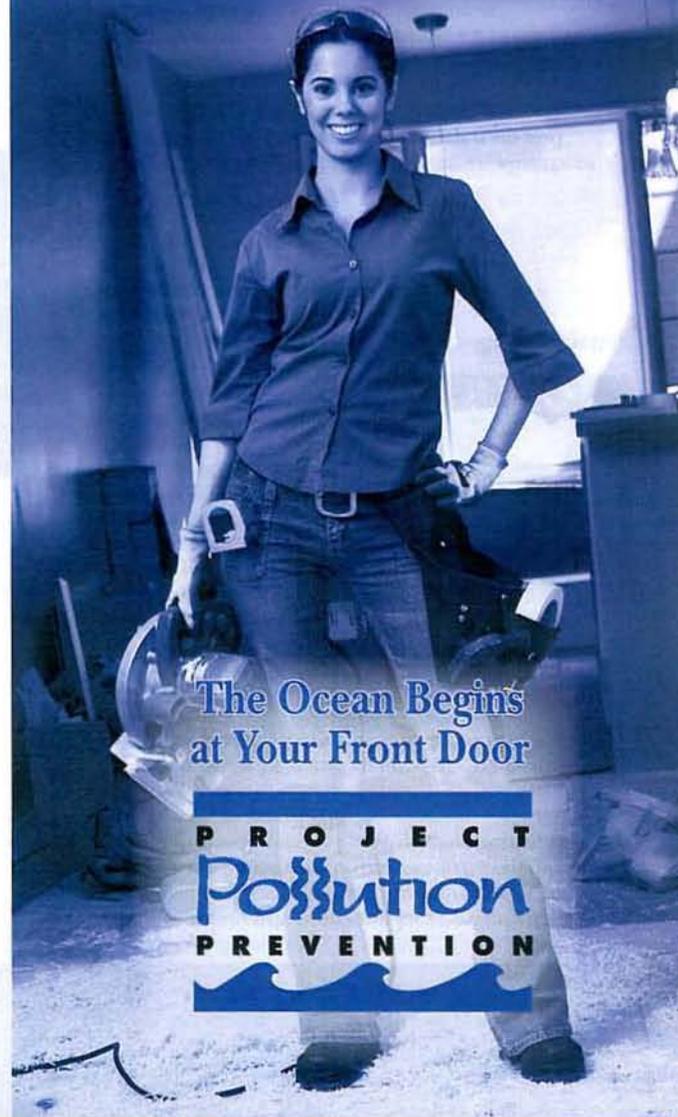
**For emergencies, dial 911.**

The tips contained in this brochure provide useful information to help prevent water pollution while performing home improvement projects. If you have other suggestions, please contact your city's stormwater representatives or call the Orange County Stormwater Program.



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## Help Prevent Ocean Pollution: Tips for Home Improvement Projects



**The Ocean Begins  
at Your Front Door**

**PROJECT  
Pollution  
PREVENTION**

# Tips for Home Improvement Projects

Home improvement projects can cause significant damage to the environment. Whether you hire a contractor or work on the house yourself, it is important to follow these simple tips while renovating, remodeling or improving your home:

## General Construction

- Schedule projects for dry weather.
- Keep all construction debris away from the street, gutter and storm drain.
- Store materials under cover with temporary roofs or plastic sheets to eliminate or reduce the possibility that rainfall, runoff or wind will carry materials from the project site to the street, storm drain or adjacent properties.

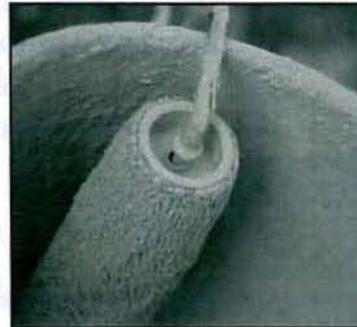


## Building Materials

- Never hose materials into a street, gutter or storm drain.
- Exposed piles of construction material should not be stored on the street or sidewalk.
- Minimize waste by ordering only the amount of materials needed to complete the job.
- Do not mix more fresh concrete than is needed for each project.
- Wash concrete mixers and equipment in a designated washout area where the water can flow into a containment area or onto dirt.
- Dispose of small amounts of dry excess materials in the trash. Powdery waste, such as dry concrete, must be properly contained within a box or bag prior to disposal. Call your local trash hauler for weight and size limits.

## Paint

- Measure the room or object to be painted, then buy only the amount needed.
- Place the lid on firmly and store the paint can upside-down in a dry location away from the elements.
- Tools such as brushes, buckets and rags should never be washed where excess water can drain into the street, gutter or storm drain. All tools should be rinsed in a sink connected to the sanitary sewer.
- When disposing of paint, never put wet paint in the trash.
- Dispose of water-based paint by removing the lid and letting it dry in the can. Large amounts must be taken to a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center (HHWCC).
- Oil-based paint is a household hazardous waste. All leftover paint should be taken to a HHWCC.
- For HHWCC locations and hours, call (714) 834-6752 or visit [www.oilandfills.com](http://www.oilandfills.com).



## Erosion Control

- Schedule grading and excavation projects for dry weather.
- When temporarily removing soil, pile it in a contained, covered area where it cannot spill into the street, or obtain the required temporary encroachment or street closure permit and follow the conditions instructed by the permit.

- When permanently removing large quantities of soil, a disposal location must be found prior to excavation. Numerous businesses are available to handle disposal needs. For disposal options, visit [www.ciwmb.ca.gov/SWIS](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/SWIS).
- Prevent erosion by planting fast-growing annual and perennial grasses. They will shield and bind the soil.

## Recycle

- Use a construction and demolition recycling company to recycle lumber, paper, cardboard, metals, masonry (bricks, concrete, etc.), carpet, plastic, pipes (plastic, metal and clay), drywall, rocks, dirt and green waste.
- For a listing of construction and demolition recycling locations in your area, visit [www.ciwmb.ca.gov/recycle](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/recycle).



## Spills

- Clean up spills immediately by using an absorbent material such as cat litter, then sweep it up and dispose of it in the trash.
- Immediately report spills that have entered the street, gutter or storm drain to the County's 24-Hour Water Pollution Problem Reporting Hotline at (714) 567-6363 or visit [www.ocwatersheds.com](http://www.ocwatersheds.com) to fill out an incident reporting form.



**C**lean beaches and healthy creeks, rivers, bays and ocean are important to Orange County. However, many common activities can lead to water pollution if you're not careful. Fertilizers, pesticides and other chemicals that are left on yards or driveways can be blown or washed into storm drains that flow to the ocean. Overwatering lawns can also send materials into storm drains. Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), water in storm drains is not treated before entering our waterways.

You would never pour gardening products into the ocean, so don't let them enter the storm drains. Follow these easy tips to help prevent water pollution.

For more information, please call the **Orange County Stormwater Program** at **1-877-89-SPILL** (1-877-897-7455) or visit [www.ocwatersheds.com](http://www.ocwatersheds.com)

**UCCE Master Gardener Hotline:**  
**(714) 708-1646**

To report a spill, call the **Orange County 24-Hour Water Pollution Problem Reporting Hotline** **1-877-89-SPILL** (1-877-897-7455).

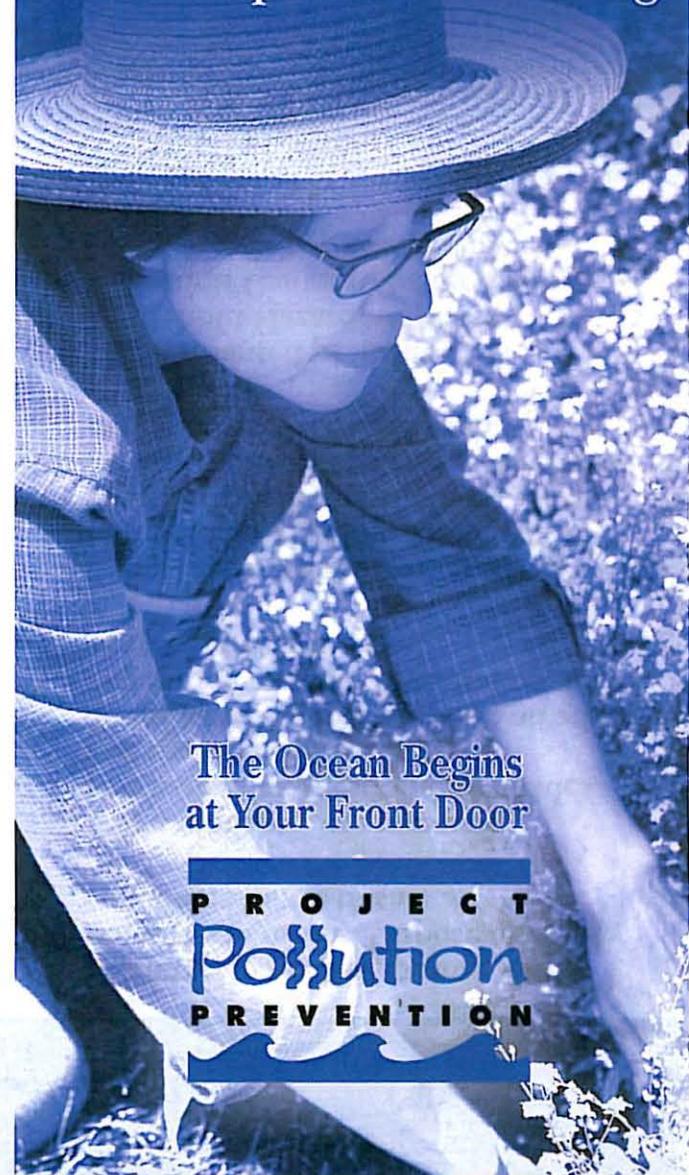
**For emergencies, dial 911.**

The tips contained in this brochure provide useful information to help prevent water pollution while landscaping or gardening. If you have other suggestions, please contact your city's stormwater representatives or call the Orange County Stormwater Program.



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## Help Prevent Ocean Pollution: Tips for Landscape & Gardening



The Ocean Begins  
at Your Front Door

**P R O J E C T**  
**Pollution**  
**P R E V E N T I O N**

# Tips for Landscape & Gardening

Never allow gardening products or polluted water to enter the street, gutter or storm drain.

## General Landscaping Tips

- Protect stockpiles and materials from wind and rain by storing them under tarps or secured plastic sheeting.
- Prevent erosion of slopes by planting fast-growing, dense ground covering plants. These will shield and bind the soil.
- Plant native vegetation to reduce the amount of water, fertilizers, and pesticide applied to the landscape.
- Never apply pesticides or fertilizers when rain is predicted within the next 48 hours.



## Garden & Lawn Maintenance

- Do not overwater. Use irrigation practices such as drip irrigation, soaker hoses or micro spray systems. Periodically inspect and fix leaks and misdirected sprinklers.

- Do not rake or blow leaves, clippings or pruning waste into the street, gutter or storm drain. Instead, dispose of green waste by composting, hauling it to a permitted landfill, or recycling it through your city's program.



- Use slow-release fertilizers to minimize leaching, and use organic fertilizers.
- Read labels and use only as directed. Do not over-apply pesticides or fertilizers. Apply to spots as needed, rather than blanketing an entire area.
- Store pesticides, fertilizers and other chemicals in a dry covered area to prevent exposure that may result in the deterioration of containers and packaging.



- Rinse empty pesticide containers and re-use rinse water as you would use the

product. Do not dump rinse water down storm drains. Dispose of empty containers in the trash.

- When available, use non-toxic alternatives to traditional pesticides, and use pesticides specifically designed to control the pest you are targeting. For more information, visit [www.ipm.ucdavis.edu](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu).
- If fertilizer is spilled, sweep up the spill before irrigating. If the spill is liquid, apply an absorbent material such as cat litter, and then sweep it up and dispose of it in the trash.
- Take unwanted pesticides to a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center to be recycled. Locations are provided below.

## Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers

Anaheim: 1071 N. Blue Gum St.  
Huntington Beach: 17121 Nichols St.  
Irvine: 6411 Oak Canyon  
San Juan Capistrano: 32250 La Pata Ave.

For more information, call (714) 834-6752 or visit [www.oclandfills.com](http://www.oclandfills.com)



**C**lean beaches and healthy creeks, rivers, bays and ocean are important to Orange County. However, many common activities can lead to water pollution if you're not careful. Pet waste and pet care products can be washed into the storm drains that flow to the ocean. Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), water in storm drains is not treated before entering our waterways.

You would never put pet waste or pet care products into the ocean, so don't let them enter the storm drains. Follow these easy tips to help prevent water pollution.

For more information, please call the **Orange County Stormwater Program** at **1-877-89-SPILL** (1-877-897-7455) or visit [www.ocwatersheds.com](http://www.ocwatersheds.com)

To report a spill, call the **Orange County 24-Hour Water Pollution Problem Reporting Hotline** **1-877-89-SPILL** (1-877-897-7455).

**For emergencies, dial 911.**

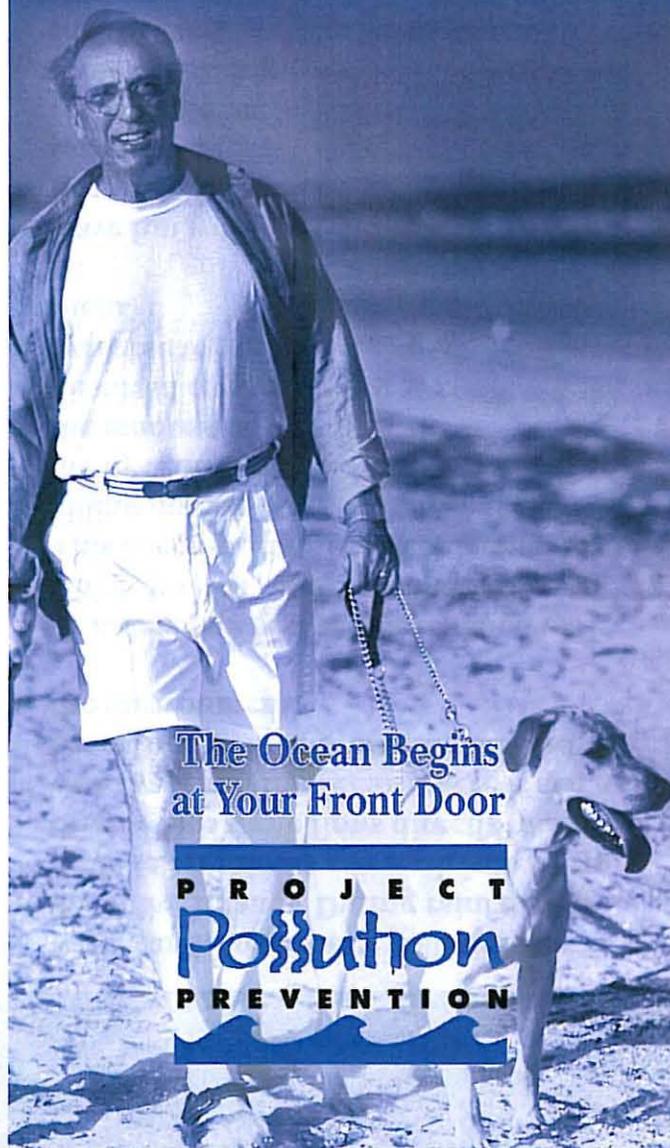
The tips contained in this brochure provide useful information to help prevent water pollution while caring for your pet. If you have other suggestions, please contact your city's stormwater representatives or call the Orange County Stormwater Program.



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Help Prevent Ocean Pollution:

## Tips for Pet Care



The Ocean Begins at Your Front Door

**P R O J E C T**  
**Pollution**  
**P R E V E N T I O N**

# Tips for Pet Care

Never let any pet care products or washwater run off your yard and into the street, gutter or storm drain.

## *Washing Your Pets*

Even biodegradable soaps and shampoos can be harmful to marine life and the environment.

- If possible, bathe your pets indoors using less-toxic shampoos or have your pet professionally groomed. Follow instructions on the products and clean up spills.
- If you bathe your pet outside, wash it on your lawn or another absorbent/permeable surface to keep the washwater from running into the street, gutter or storm drain.



## *Flea Control*

- Consider using oral or topical flea control products.
- If you use flea control products such as shampoos, sprays or collars, make sure to dispose of any unused products at a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center. For location information, call (714) 834-6752.



## *Why You Should Pick Up After Your Pet*

It's the law! Every city has an ordinance requiring you to pick up after your pet. Besides being a nuisance, pet



waste can lead to water pollution, even if you live inland. During rainfall, pet waste left outdoors can wash into storm drains. This waste flows directly into our waterways and the ocean where it can harm human health, marine life and the environment.

As it decomposes, pet waste demands a high level of oxygen from water. This decomposition can contribute to killing marine life by reducing the amount of dissolved oxygen available to them.

Have fun with your pets, but please be a responsible pet owner by taking care of them and the environment.

- Take a bag with you on walks to pick up after your pet.
- Dispose of the waste in the trash or in a toilet.





**C**lean beaches and healthy creeks, rivers, bays, and ocean are important to Orange County. However, many common activities can lead to water pollution if you're not careful. Swimming pools and spas are common in Orange County, but they must be maintained properly to guarantee that chemicals aren't allowed to enter the street, where they can flow into the storm drains and then into the waterways. Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), water in storm drains is not treated before entering our waterways.

You would never dump pool chemicals into the ocean, so don't let it enter the storm drains. Follow these easy tips to help prevent water pollution.

For more information, please call the **Orange County Stormwater Program** at **1-877-89-SPILL** (1-877-897-7455) or visit [www.ocwatersheds.com](http://www.ocwatersheds.com)

To report a spill, call the **Orange County 24-Hour Water Pollution Reporting Hotline** **1-877-89-SPILL** (1-877-897-7455).

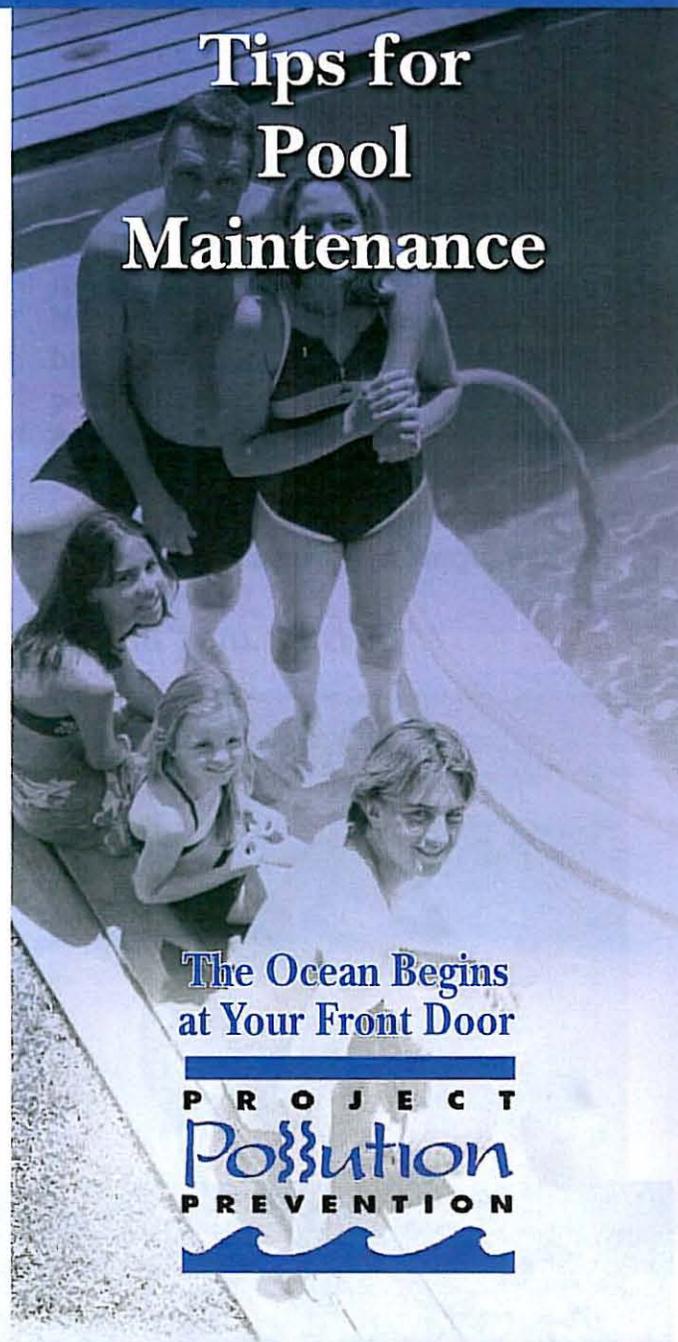
**For emergencies, dial 911.**

The tips contained in this brochure provide useful information to help prevent water pollution while maintaining your pool. If you have other suggestions, please contact your city's stormwater representatives or call the Orange County Stormwater Program.



Help Prevent Ocean Pollution:

## Tips for Pool Maintenance



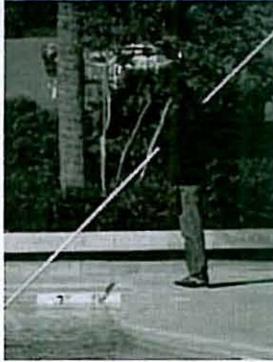
The Ocean Begins at Your Front Door

**P R O J E C T**  
**Pollution**  
**P R E V E N T I O N**



# Tips for Pool Maintenance

Many pools are plumbed to allow the pool to drain directly to the sanitary sewer. If yours is not, follow these instructions for disposing of pool and spa water.



## *Acceptable and Preferred Method of Disposal*

When you cannot dispose of pool water in the sanitary sewer, the release of dechlorinated swimming pool water is allowed if all of these tips are followed:

- The residual chlorine does not exceed 0.1 mg/l (parts per million).
- The pH is between 6.5 and 8.5.
- The water is free of any unusual coloration, dirt or algae.
- There is no discharge of filter media.
- There is no discharge of acid cleaning wastes.

- Some cities may have ordinances that do not allow pool water to be disposed into a storm drain. Check with your city.

## *How to Know if You're Following the Standards*

You can find out how much chlorine is in your water by using a pool testing kit. Excess chlorine can be removed by discontinuing the use of chlorine for a few days prior to discharge or by purchasing dechlorinating chemicals from a local pool supply company. Always make sure to follow the instructions that come with any products you use.



## *Doing Your Part*

By complying with these guidelines, you will make a significant contribution toward keeping pollutants out of Orange County's creeks, streams, rivers, bays and the ocean. This helps to protect organisms that are sensitive to pool chemicals, and helps to maintain the health of our environment.



For more information,  
please call the  
**Orange County Stormwater Program**  
at **1-877-89-SPILL** (1-877-897-7455)  
or visit  
[www.ocwatersheds.com](http://www.ocwatersheds.com)

To report a spill,  
call the  
**Orange County 24-Hour  
Water Pollution Problem  
Reporting Hotline**  
at **1-877-89-SPILL** (1-877-897-7455).

**For emergencies, dial 911.**

The tips contained in this brochure provide useful information to help prevent water pollution. If you have other suggestions, please contact your city's stormwater representatives or call the Orange County Stormwater Program.



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Help Prevent Ocean Pollution:

## Tips for Residential Pool, Landscape and Hardscape Drains



The Ocean Begins  
at Your Front Door



# Tips for Residential Pool, Landscape and Hardscape Drains

## Pool Maintenance

All pool water discharged to the curb, gutter or permitted pool drain from your property must meet the following water quality criteria:

- The residual chlorine does not exceed 0.1 mg/L (parts per million).
- The pH is between 6.5 and 8.5.
- The water is free of any unusual coloration.
- There is no discharge of filter media or acid cleaning wastes.



Some cities have ordinances that do not allow pool water to be discharged to the storm drain. Check with your city.

## Landscape and Hardscape Drains

The following recommendations will help reduce or prevent pollutants from your landscape and hardscape drains from entering the street, gutter or storm drain. Unlike water that enters the sewer (from sinks and toilets), water that enters a landscape or hardscape drain is not treated before entering our creeks, rivers, bays and ocean.

## Household Activities

- Do not rinse spills of materials or chemicals to any drain.
- Use dry cleanup methods such as applying cat litter or another absorbent material, then sweep it up and dispose of it in the trash. If the material is hazardous, dispose of it at a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center (HHWCC). For locations, call (714) 834-6752 or visit [www.oilandfills.com](http://www.oilandfills.com).
- Do not hose down your driveways, sidewalks or patios to your landscape or hardscape drain. Sweep up debris and dispose of it in the trash.
- Always pick up after your pet. Flush waste down the toilet or dispose of it in the trash.

- Do not store items such as cleaners, batteries, automotive fluids, paint products, TVs, or computer monitors uncovered outdoors. Take them to a HHWCC for disposal.

## Yard Maintenance

- Do not overwater. Water by hand or set automated irrigation systems to reflect seasonal water needs.
- Follow directions on pesticides and fertilizers (measure, do not estimate amounts) and do not use if rain is predicted within 48 hours.
- Cultivate your garden often to control weeds and reduce the need to use chemicals.



## Vehicle Maintenance

- Never pour oil or antifreeze down your landscape or hardscape drain. Recycle these substances at a service station, a waste collection center or used oil recycling center. For locations, contact the Used Oil Program at 1-800-CLEANUP or visit [www.CLEANUP.org](http://www.CLEANUP.org).
- Whenever possible, take your vehicle to a commercial car wash.
- If you do wash your vehicle at home, do not allow the washwater to go down your landscape or hardscape drain. Instead, dispose of it in the sanitary sewer (a sink or toilet) or onto an absorbent surface such as your lawn.
- Use a spray nozzle that will shut off the water when not in use.





**C**lean beaches and healthy creeks, rivers, bays and ocean are important to Orange County. However, many common activities such as painting can lead to water pollution if you're not careful. Paint must be used, stored and disposed of properly to ensure that it does not enter the street, gutter or storm drain. Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), water in storm drains is not treated before entering our waterways.

You would never dump paint into the ocean, so don't let it enter the storm drains. Follow these easy tips to help prevent water pollution.

For more information, please call the **Orange County Stormwater Program** at (714) 567-6363 or visit [www.ocwatersheds.com](http://www.ocwatersheds.com)

To report a spill, call the **Orange County 24-Hour Water Pollution Problem Reporting Hotline** at (714) 567-6363.

**For emergencies, dial 911.**

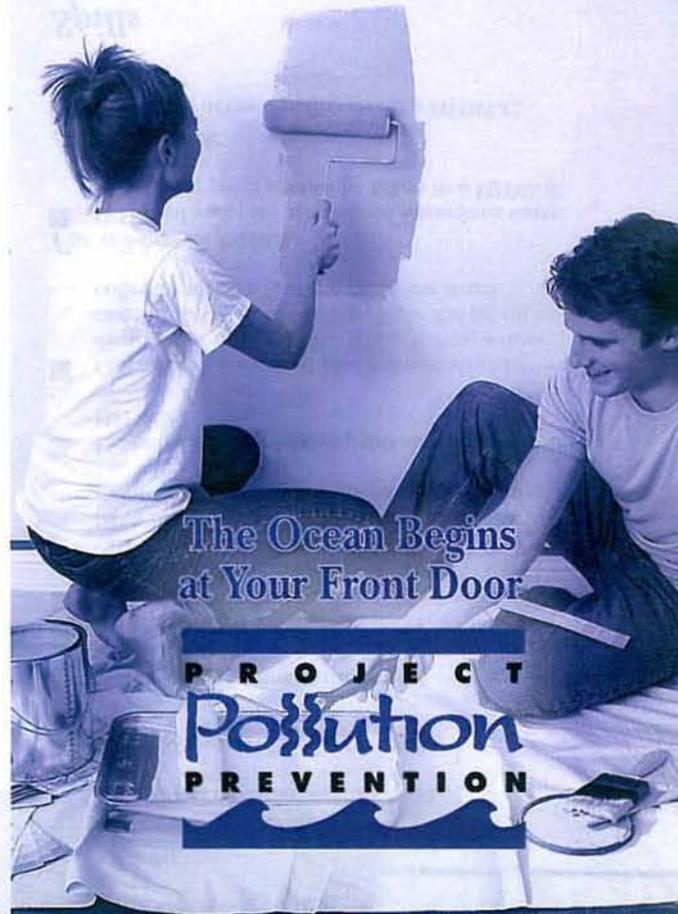
The tips contained in this brochure provide useful information to help prevent water pollution while using, storing and disposing of paint. If you have other suggestions, please contact your city's stormwater representatives or call the Orange County Stormwater Program.



Printed on Recycled Paper

Help Prevent Ocean Pollution:

## Tips for Projects Using Paint



The Ocean Begins at Your Front Door

PROJECT  
**Pollution**  
PREVENTION

# Tips for Projects Using Paint

Paint can cause significant damage to our environment. Whether you hire a contractor or do it yourself, it is important to follow these simple tips when purchasing, using, cleaning, storing and disposing of paint.

## Purchasing Paint

- Measure the room or object to be painted, then buy only the amount needed.
- Whenever possible, use water-based paint since it usually does not require hazardous solvents such as paint thinner for cleanup.

## Painting

- Use only one brush or roller per color of paint to reduce the amount of water needed for cleaning.
- Place open paint containers or trays on a stable surface and in a position that is unlikely to spill.
- Always use a tarp under the area or object being painted to collect paint drips and contain spills.

## Cleaning

- Never clean brushes or rinse paint containers in the street, gutter or storm drain.
- For oil-based products, use as much of the paint on the brushes as possible. Clean brushes with thinner. To reuse thinner, pour it through a fine filter (e.g. nylon, metal gauze or filter paper) to remove solids such as leftover traces of paint.
- For water-based products, use as much of the paint on the brushes as possible, then rinse in the sink.
- Collect all paint chips and dust. Chips and dust from marine paints or paints containing lead, mercury or tributyl tin are hazardous waste. Sweep up and dispose of at a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center (HHWCC).

## Storing Paint

- Store paint in a dry location away from the elements.
- Store leftover water-based paint, oil-based paint and solvents separately in original or clearly marked containers.
- Avoid storing paint cans directly on cement floors. The bottom of the can will rust much faster on cement.
- Place the lid on firmly and store the paint can upside-down to prevent air from entering. This will keep the paint usable longer. Oil-based paint is usable for up to 15 years. Water-based paint remains usable for up to 10 years.

## Alternatives to Disposal

- Use excess paint to apply another coat, for touch-ups, or to paint a closet, garage, basement or attic.
- Give extra paint to friends or family. Extra paint can also be donated to a local theatre group, low-income housing program or school.
- Take extra paint to an exchange program such as the "Stop & Swap" that allows you to drop off or pick up partially used home care products free of charge. "Stop & Swap" programs are available at most HHWCCs.
- For HHWCC locations and hours, call (714) 834-6752 or visit [www.oclandfills.com](http://www.oclandfills.com).



## Disposing of Paint

- Never put wet paint in the trash.

### For water-based paint:

- If possible, brush the leftover paint on cardboard or newspaper. Otherwise, allow the paint to dry in the can with the lid off in a well-ventilated area protected from the elements, children and pets. Stirring the paint every few days will speed up the drying.
- Large quantities of extra paint should be taken to a HHWCC.
- Once dried, paint and painted surfaces may be disposed of in the trash. When setting a dried paint can out for trash collection, leave the lid off so the collector will see that the paint has dried.

### For oil-based paint:

- Oil-based paint is a household hazardous waste. All leftover paint should be taken to a HHWCC.

### Aerosol paint:

- Dispose of aerosol paint cans at a HHWCC.

## Spills

- Never hose down pavement or other impermeable surfaces where paint has spilled.
- Clean up spills immediately by using an absorbent material such as cat litter. Cat litter used to clean water-based paint spills can be disposed of in the trash. When cleaning oil-based paint spills with cat litter, it must be taken to a HHWCC.
- Immediately report spills that have entered the street, gutter or storm drain to the County's 24-Hour Water Pollution Problem Reporting Hotline at (714) 567-6363 or visit [www.ocwatersheds.com](http://www.ocwatersheds.com) to fill out an incident reporting form.



**C**lean beaches and healthy creeks, rivers, bays and ocean are important to Orange County. Fats, oils and grease from restaurants and food service facilities can cause sewer line blockages that may result in sewage overflow into your facility and into storm drains. Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), water in storm drains is not treated before entering our waterways and should never contain washwater, trash, grease or other materials.

You would never dump oil and trash into the ocean, so don't let it enter the storm drains. Follow these tips to help prevent water pollution.

For more information, please call the  
**Orange County Stormwater Program**  
at 1-877-89-SPILL (1-877-897-7455)  
or visit  
[www.ocwatersheds.com](http://www.ocwatersheds.com)

Report sewage spills and discharges that are not contained to your site to the  
**Orange County 24-Hour Water Pollution Problem Reporting Hotline**  
at 1-877-89-SPILL (1-877-897-7455)

For emergencies, dial 911.

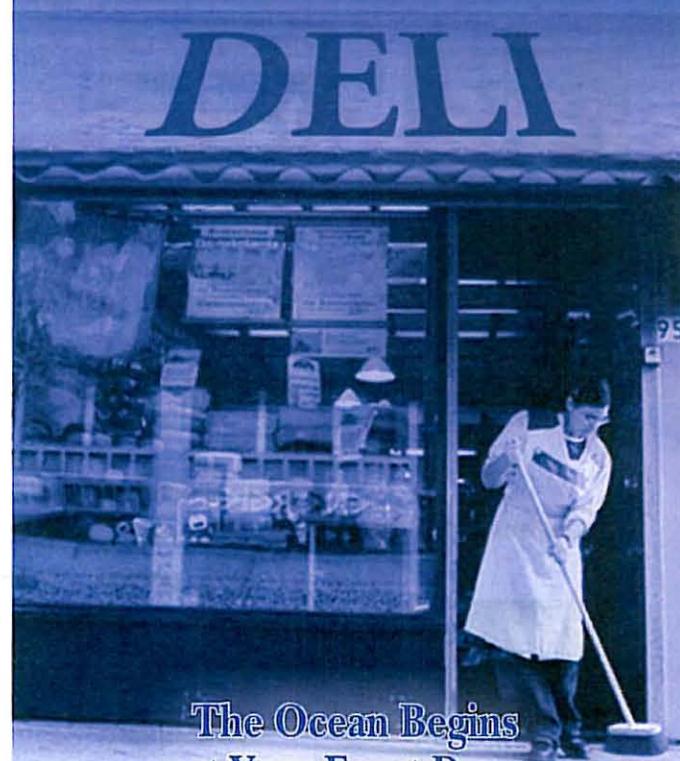
CALIFORNIA  
*Restaurant* ASSOCIATION  
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Help Prevent Ocean Pollution:

## Tips for the Food Service Industry



The Ocean Begins  
at Your Front Door

PROJECT  
**Pollution**  
PREVENTION

# Best Kitchen Practices

## Food Waste Disposal

- Scrape food waste off of plates, utensils, pots, food preparation and cooking areas and dispose of it in the trash.
- Never put food waste down the drain. Food scraps often contain grease, which can clog sewer pipes and result in sewage backups and overflows.

## Grease & Oil Disposal

- Never put oil or grease down the drain. Contain grease and oil by using covered grease storage containers or installing a grease interceptor.
- Never overfill your grease storage container or transport it without a cover.
- Grease control devices must be emptied and cleaned by permitted companies.
- Keep maintenance records on site.



- For a list of oil/grease recycling companies, contact the CIWMB at [www.ciwmb.ca.gov/foodwaste/render.htm](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/foodwaste/render.htm) or contact your local sanitation district.

## Minor Spill Cleanup

- Always use dry cleanup methods, such as a rag, damp mop or broom.
- Never hose a spill into the street, gutter or storm drain.



## Major Spill Cleanup

- Have spill containment and clean-up kits readily available, and train all employees on how to use them.
- Immediately contain and clean the spill using dry methods.
- If the spill leaves your site, call (714) 567-6363.

## Dumpster Cleanup

- Pick up all debris around the dumpster.
- Always keep the lid on the dumpster closed.
- Never pour liquids into the dumpster or hose it out.



## Floor Mat Cleaning

- Sweep the floor mats regularly, discarding the debris into the trash.
- Hose off the mats in a mop sink, at a floor drain, or in an outdoor area that can contain the water.
- Never hose the mats in an area where the wastewater can flow to the street, gutter or storm drain.



## Washwater Disposal

- Dispose of washwater in a mop sink or an area with a floor drain.
- Never dispose of washwater in the street, gutter or storm drain.





### *Preventing water pollution at your commercial/industrial site*

Clean beaches and healthy creeks, rivers, bays and ocean are important to Orange County. However, many landscape and building maintenance activities can lead to water pollution if you're not careful. Paint, chemicals, plant clippings and other materials can be blown or washed into storm drains that flow to the ocean. Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), water in storm drains is not treated before entering our waterways.

You would never pour soap or fertilizers into the ocean, so why would you let them enter the storm drains? Follow these easy tips to help prevent water pollution.

Some types of industrial facilities are required to obtain coverage under the State General Industrial Permit. For more information visit: [www.swrcb.ca.gov/stormwater/industrial.html](http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/stormwater/industrial.html)

For more information,  
please call the  
**Orange County Stormwater Program**  
at **1-877-89-SPILL (1-877-897-7455)**  
or visit  
[www.ocwatersheds.com](http://www.ocwatersheds.com)

To report a spill,  
call the  
**Orange County 24-Hour  
Water Pollution Problem  
Reporting Hotline**  
at **1-877-89-SPILL (1-877-897-7455)**.

**For emergencies, dial 911.**



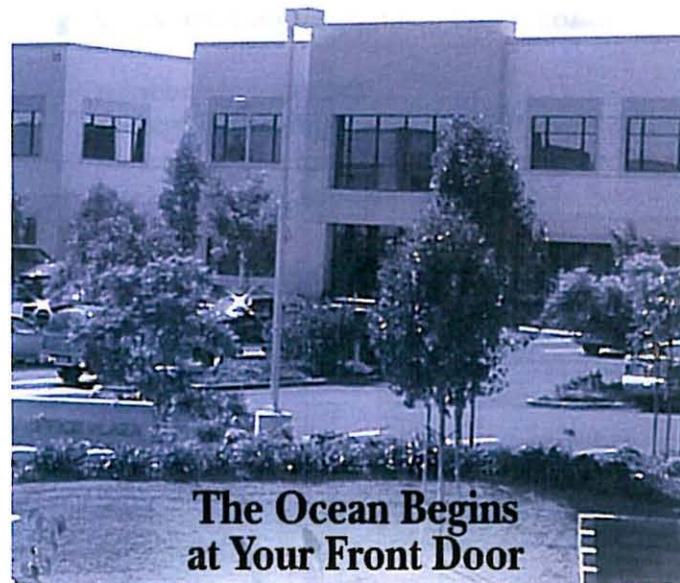
RECYCLE  
USED OIL



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Help Prevent Ocean Pollution:

## Proper Maintenance Practices for Your Business



**The Ocean Begins  
at Your Front Door**

**PROJECT  
Pollution  
PREVENTION**

# Proper Maintenance Practices for your Business

## *Landscape Maintenance*

- Compost grass clippings, leaves, sticks and other vegetation, or dispose of it at a permitted landfill or in green waste containers. Do not dispose of these materials in the street, gutter or storm drain.
- Irrigate slowly and inspect the system for leaks, overspraying and runoff. Adjust automatic timers to avoid overwatering.
- Follow label directions for the use and disposal of fertilizers and pesticides.
- Do not apply pesticides or fertilizers if rain is expected within 48 hours or if wind speeds are above 5 mph.
- Do not spray pesticides within 100 feet of waterways.
- Fertilizers should be worked into the soil rather than dumped onto the surface.
- If fertilizer is spilled on the pavement or sidewalk, sweep it up immediately and place it back in the container.

## *Building Maintenance*

- Never allow washwater, sweepings or sediment to enter the storm drain.
- Sweep up dry spills and use cat litter, towels or similar materials to absorb wet spills. Dispose of it in the trash.
- If you wash your building, sidewalk or parking lot, you **must** contain the water. Use a shop vac to collect the water and contact your city or sanitation agency for proper disposal information. Do not let water enter the street, gutter or storm drain.
- Use drop cloths underneath outdoor painting, scraping, and sandblasting work, and properly dispose of materials in the trash.
- Use a ground cloth or oversized tub for mixing paint and cleaning tools.
- Use a damp mop or broom to clean floors.
- Cover dumpsters to keep insects, animals, rainwater and sand from entering. Keep the area around the dumpster clear of trash and debris. Do not overfill the dumpster.

- Call your trash hauler to replace leaking dumpsters.
- Do not dump any toxic substance or liquid waste on the pavement, the ground, or near a storm drain. Even materials that seem harmless such as latex paint or biodegradable cleaners can damage the environment.
- Recycle paints, solvents and other materials. For more information about recycling and collection centers, visit [www.oclandfills.com](http://www.oclandfills.com).
- Store materials indoors or under cover and away from storm drains.
- Use a construction and demolition recycling company to recycle lumber, paper, cardboard, metals, masonry, carpet, plastic, pipes, drywall, rocks, dirt, and green waste. For a listing of construction and demolition recycling locations in your area, visit [www.ciwmb.ca.gov/recycle](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/recycle).
- Properly label materials. Familiarize employees with Material Safety Data Sheets.

NEVER DISPOSE  
OF ANYTHING  
IN THE STORM  
DRAIN.

