

This brochure is one of a series of pamphlets describing storm drain protection measures for specific types of construction industry activities. Other pamphlets include:

**General Construction and Site Supervision**

**Landscaping, Gardening, and Pool Maintenance**

**Painting and application of Solvents and Adhesives**

**Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application**

**Roadwork and Paving**

**Earth-Moving Activities**

**Heavy Equipment Operation**

For more information about the countywide storm drain protection program and additional brochures, call:



Contra Costa  
Clean Water Program  
255 Glacier Drive  
Martinez, CA 94553  
1-800-NO DUMPING

## Spill Response Agencies

1. DIAL 911
2. Governor's Office of Emergency Services Warning Center  
(800) 852-7550 (24 hours)

## Local Pollution Control Agencies

Contra Costa	
Clean Water Program	(925) 313-2360
City of Antioch	(925) 779-7035
City of Brentwood	(925) 516-5348
City of Clayton	(925) 672-6690
City of Concord	(925) 671-3394
Contra Costa County	(925) 313-2238
Town of Danville	(925) 314-3310
City of El Cerrito	(925) 215-4367
City of Hercules	(925) 799-8247
City of Lafayette	(925) 284-1951
City of Martinez	(925) 372-3515
Town of Moraga	(925) 546-7111
City of Orinda	(925) 253-4231
City of Pinole	(510) 724-9010
City of Pittsburg	(925) 439-4961
City of Pleasant Hill	(925) 671-5261
City of Richmond	(510) 412-2001
City of San Pablo	(510) 215-3030
City of San Ramon	(925) 275-2241
City of Walnut Creek	(925) 943-5827

# Landscaping, Gardening, And Pool Maintenance



## Best Management Practices for the Construction Industry



Contra Costa  
Clean Water Program

# Storm Drain Pollution Prevention: It's Up to Us

In Contra Costa County, storm drains flow directly to local creeks, San Francisco Bay, and the delta with no treatment. Stormwater pollution is a serious problem for wildlife dependent on our waterways and for the people who live near polluted streams or baylands. Some common sources of this pollution include spilled oil, fuel, and fluids from vehicles and heavy equipment; construction debris; landscaping runoff containing pesticides or weed killers; and materials such as used motor oil, antifreeze, and paint products that people pour or spill into a street or storm drain.

Eighteen cities, the County, and the County Flood Control District have joined together to educate local residents and businesses and fight storm drain pollution. We hope you will join us, by using the practices describe in this pamphlet.

## Who should use this brochure?

Masons and Bricklayers

Sidewalk Construction Crews

Patio Construction Workers

Construction Inspectors

General Contractors

Home Builders

Developers

# What Can You Do?

## General Business Practices

- Protect stockpiles and landscaping materials from wind and rain by storing them under tarps or secured plastic sheeting.
- Use temporary check dams or ditches to divert runoff away from storm drains or sanitary sewer inlets.
- Protect storm drains with filter fabric cloth or other appropriate controls.
- Schedule grading and excavation projects for dry weather.
- Revegetation is an excellent form of erosion control for any site.

## Landscaping/Garden/Maintenance

- Use up pesticides. Rinse containers and use rinse water as product. Dispose of rinsed containers in the trash.

- Dispose of unused pesticide as hazardous waste. For information on the proper disposal of hazardous waste, call 1-800 NO DUMPING.

- Collect lawn and garden clippings, pruning waste, and tree trimmings. Clip if necessary and compost.

### Storm Drain Pollution from Landscaping and Swimming Pool Maintenance

Many landscaping activities expose soils and increase the likelihood that earth and garden chemicals will run off into the storm drains during irrigation or when it rains. Swimming pool water containing chlorine and copper-based algaecides should never be discharged to storm drains. These chemicals are toxic to aquatic life.

- Do not blow or rake leaves, etc. into the street unless you are piling them for recycling.
- Store pesticides, fertilizers, and other chemicals indoors or in a shed or storage cabinet.

## Pool/Fountain/Spa Maintenance

- Never discharge pool or spa water to a street or storm drain.
- When emptying a pool or spa, let chlorine dissipate for a few days, and then recycle/reuse water by draining it gradually onto a landscaped area
- Do not use copper-based algaecides unless absolutely necessary. Control algae with chlorine or other alternatives to copper based pool chemicals. Copper is a powerful herbicide.

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