

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR STORMWATER

Tips for Property Owners and Operators

Property owners and operators are responsible for any activities on their property that lead to nonstormwater discharges to the street, gutter or stormdrain. The Clean Water Program's friendly and knowledgeable staff support property owners and managers like you in preventing water pollution and complying with stormwater regulations. The fact that you're reading this fact sheet means you have already decided to take steps to do the right thing when maintaining your property. Thank you for keeping our water safe and healthy.

General Practices

- Know possible pollution sources that you must manage, such as:
 - ✓ Business tenants that generate grease, trash, wastewater, scrap metal and other types of waste.
 - ✓ Mobile businesses that generate wash and wastewater.
 - ✓ Contractor activities that involve equipment containing liquids (e.g. gas, oil), dust/debris, chemicals, or power washing (i.e. for landscaping, construction, cleaning pavement, cleaning restaurant hood and roof equipment, cleaning spills).
 - ✓ On-site equipment such as hose water (contains chlorine) and irrigation equipment.
- Inspect your property at least monthly to make sure all outdoor activities meet local stormwater requirements.
- Keep property clean. Ensure cleaning activities never cause hose water, wastes, or wastewater to enter streets or storm drains.
- Have a spill prevention and control plan so that nothing enters storm drains and pollutes streams and San Francisco Bay.

Communicate with Businesses and Contractors

- Make sure contractors, mobile businesses, tenants, and staff are aware of stormwater regulations. Allowing any material (liquid or solid) to be dumped or hosed off into streets or storm drains, or placed where it could be carried to streets or storm drains by rainwater, is an illegal discharge.
- Provide tenant/staff training on best management practices and spill control response procedures.
- Post signs to notify tenants/staff to keep all dumpster and waste container lids closed, and outdoor areas clean.
- Post signs to notify tenants/employees of spill response plans and location of spill control equipment.



Keep wash waters, waste waters, trash, and debris OUT of the storm drains. Keep oils, grease, and hazardous chemicals OUT of storm drains and sanitary sewers.



Draining wash water from cleaning activities into the street or storm drains damages sensitive habitats and can kill wildlife. Water flowing into storm drains travels directly to local creeks and then to **San Francisco Bay**. It does not go to a wastewater treatment plant.

Learn more about preventing water pollution and the Clean Water Program at www.cleanwaterprogram.org.



Protecting Alameda County
Creeks, Wetlands & the Bay
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Landscaping and Pest Control

- Look for Bay-Friendly Qualified Professionals (BFQPs). BFQPs complete training on how to create landscapes that conserve water and soil, reduce waste, and prevent pollution. For info, visit rescapeca.org/directory.
- Consider hiring landscapers who use Integrated Pest Management (IPM). IPM focuses on long term pest prevention while minimizing risks to people and nature.

Outdoor Storage and Waste Areas

- Make sure businesses, contractors and staff on your property cover and contain any outdoor materials when not in-use.
- Businesses should have the right size, type, and number of waste containers/dumpsters/bins for their business activities.
- The lids to dumpsters, recycling bins, and other waste containers must always be closed when not in use. Ensure that they are not leaking or over-filled.

Cleaning and Emergency Spill Control

- For greasy drips or spills, absorbents like rags or cat litter may be used, then swept up and properly disposed of.
- If wet cleaning methods are used, then block storm drains, protect storm drains as needed, use minimal water, and collect all wash water for proper disposal.
- It is important that wash water on your property is collected and disposed of at an approved location – never into the street, parking lot, or storm drain.
- Consider hiring or becoming a Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association Recognized Mobile Cleaner. To learn more visit www.basmaa.org/training.

KEY DEFINITIONS

The **Storm Drain System** was built to collect and transport rain to prevent flooding in urban areas. Anything that flows or is discharged into the storm drain system goes directly into local creeks or San Francisco Bay without any treatment.

The **Sanitary Sewer System** collects and transports sanitary wastes from interior building plumbing systems to the wastewater treatment plant where the wastewater is treated.



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Simple changes to your operations and maintenance can help you comply with local regulations. The Clean Water Program makes it easy.

Learn more about preventing water pollution and the Clean Water Program at www.cleanwaterprogram.org.

Local Stormwater Agencies

For advice on avoiding disposal to the storm drain system, contact:

Alameda.....	(510) 747-7930
Albany	(510) 528-5770
Berkeley.....	(510) 981-6442
Dublin	(925) 833-6630
Emeryville	(510) 596-3728
Fremont	(510) 494-4570
Hayward	(510) 881-7900
Livermore	(925) 960-8100
Newark	(510) 578-4286
Oakland	(510) 238-6600
Piedmont.....	(510) 420-3050
Pleasanton	(925) 931-5500
San Leandro.....	(510) 577-3401
Unincorp. Alameda County....	(510) 567-6700
Union City.....	(510) 675-5308
Clean Water Program.....	(510) 670-6548

For More Help

For advice and approval on wastewater disposal to the sanitary sewer system, contact:

Cities of Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland or Piedmont

East Bay Municipal

Utility District (EBMUD)..... (510) 287-1651

Castro Valley

Castro Valley Sanitary District..(510) 537-0757

City of Dublin

Dublin-San Ramon

Services District..... (925) 828-0515

Cities of Fremont, Newark or Union City

Union Sanitary District

City of Hayward

City of Hayward

City of Livermore

City of Livermore

City of Pleasanton

City of Livermore

Cities of San Lorenzo, unincorporated portions of San Leandro and Hayward

Oro Loma Sanitary District

City of San Leandro

City of San Leandro.....