



# City of Oceanside Clean Water Program You are the Solution to Water Pollution

## **BUILDING • CONSTRUCTION** **New Construction • Remodel • Home Improvement** **Best Management Practices for Preventing Urban Runoff Pollution**

### **What is Urban Runoff Pollution?**

As a coastal community, Oceanside relies on clean water for its residents, healthy beaches, public safety and a desirable environment for wildlife.



When it rains, many of the pollutants that lurk on our streets, sidewalks, parking lots and gutters wash down the storm drains, and into the nearest body of water. In Oceanside our four major bodies of water are the Pacific Ocean, Buena Vista Creek, Loma Alta Creek and the San Luis Rey River.

Unfortunately, storm drains do not filter water or debris, nor are they connected to the sewer system, so any pollutant that flows into the storm drain ends up in our ocean.



Urban runoff pollutants come from many different sources: leaking cars, chemicals, building materials, yard waste, soil erosion and litter. The good news is that urban runoff pollution is preventable.

As Oceanside residents, we simply need to work together and change a few habits to benefit our health, our families and our community. Remember, every bit of pollution hurts.



### **Home Improvement Projects and Urban Runoff Pollution**

Many of the materials that we use in our home improvement projects have the potential to pollute storm water, if not disposed of properly. Such materials as paint, wood chips and sawdust, stucco, dry wall, dirt, concrete and chemicals, if washed down a storm drain, contaminate our creeks, rivers and beaches. This flyer is designed to provide you with general information regarding the Best Management Practices (BMP's) typically used for preventing urban runoff pollution.

#### **Paint:**

Painting tools should never be rinsed out in the street or any area that might flow to the street. If you use a water-based paint, wash all paint brushes, pans, sprayer and other equipment in a sink connected to the sewer. Although we don't recommend their use, oil based paints and solvents can only be disposed of at a hazardous waste collection site.

#### **Dirt:**

Exposed dirt piles are illegal on streets and sidewalks. If you must temporarily remove soil, make sure to leave it in a contained, covered area where it cannot be tracked all over the street. If permanently removing dirt, a disposal location must be found prior to excavation. Numerous commercial businesses, listed in the Yellow Pages, are available to handle disposal needs or purchase your clean soil.

#### **Building Materials:**

Materials and equipment which require application and cleansing with water, such as grout, mortar, gypsum compound or dry wall mud, plaster or stucco, and concrete cannot be rinsed into a storm drain. Such materials as pipes, flooring, dry wall, wood, bricks, metal bracings, tar paper, spackle, and asphalt additionally cannot be thrown with curbside garbage if weighing over 50 pounds. For large projects with excess materials weighing over 50 pounds, Waste Management can provide a rental bin, InstaBin, to dispose and haul such materials. InstaBin will not accept liquid wastes, only dry materials, therefore you must ensure all stucco, grout, plaster and cement has dried prior to disposal.

#### **Spills:**

If an accidental spill of any liquid building material or other hazardous waste occurs, absorbents or kitty litter must be applied immediately to prevent the spill from entering a storm drain.

**To request an InstaBin contact:  
Waste Management 760-439-2824**

**For further information or to report an illegal discharge  
contact the Clean Water Program 760-435-5800  
City of Oceanside Water Utilities Department/Clean Water  
Program  
300 North Coast Highway, Oceanside, CA 92054  
[www.oceansidecleanwaterprogram.org](http://www.oceansidecleanwaterprogram.org)**