

Preventing Pollution: It's Up to Us

In the Santa Clara Valley, storm drains transport water directly to local creeks and San Francisco Bay without treatment. Stormwater pollution is a serious problem for wildlife dependent on our creeks and bay and for the people who live near polluted streams or baylands. Common sources of this pollution include spilled oil, fuel, and fluids from vehicles and heavy equipment; construction debris; sediment created by erosion; 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.

Thirteen valley municipalities have joined together with Santa Clara County and the Santa Clara Valley Water District to educate local residents and businesses and fight stormwater pollution. Join us, by following the practices described in this pamphlet.

Doing the Job Right

General Business Practices

- Develop and implement erosion/sediment control plans for roadway embankments.
- Schedule excavation and grading work during dry weather.
- Check for and repair leaking equipment.
- Perform major equipment repairs at designated areas in your maintenance yard, where cleanup is easier. Avoid performing equipment repairs at construction sites.

Storm Drain Pollution from Roadwork

Road paving, surfacing, and pavement removal happen right in the street, where there are numerous opportunities for asphalt, saw-cut slurry, or excavated material to illegally enter storm drains. Extra planning is required to store and dispose of materials properly and guard against pollution of storm drains, creeks, and the Bay.

- When refueling or when vehicle/equipment maintenance must be done on site, designate a location away from storm drains and creeks.
- Do not use diesel oil to lubricate equipment parts or clean equipment.
- Recycle used oil, concrete, broken asphalt, etc. whenever possible, or dispose of properly.

During Construction

- Avoid paving and seal coating in wet weather, or when rain is forecast, to prevent fresh materials from contacting stormwater runoff.
- Cover and seal catch basins and manholes when applying seal coat, slurry seal, fog seal, or similar materials.
- Protect drainage ways by using earth dikes, sand bags, or other controls to divert or trap and filter runoff.
- Never wash excess material from exposed-aggregate concrete or similar treatments into a street or storm drain. Collect and recycle, or dispose to dirt area.

- Cover stockpiles (asphalt, sand, etc.) and other

construction materials with plastic tarps. Protect from rainfall and prevent runoff with temporary roofs or plastic sheets and berms.

- Park paving machines over drip pans or absorbent material (cloth, rags, etc.) to catch drips when not in use.
- Clean up all spills and leaks using "dry" methods (with absorbent materials and/or rags), or dig up, remove, and properly dispose of contaminated soil.
- Collect and recycle or appropriately dispose of excess abrasive gravel or sand.
- Avoid over-application by water trucks for dust control.

Asphalt/Concrete Removal

- Avoid creating excess dust when breaking asphalt or concrete.
- After breaking up old pavement, be sure to remove all chunks and pieces. Make sure broken pavement does not come in contact with rainfall or runoff.
- When making saw cuts, use as little water as possible. Shovel or vacuum saw-cut slurry and remove from the site. Cover or protect storm drain inlets during saw-cutting. Sweep up, and properly dispose of, all residues.
- Sweep, never hose down streets to clean up tracked dirt. Use a street sweeper or vacuum truck. Do not dump vacuumed liquor in storm drains.



Small Business Hazardous Waste Disposal Program

Businesses that generate less than 27 gallons or 220 pounds of hazardous waste per month are eligible to use Santa Clara County's Small Business Hazardous Waste Disposal Program. Call (408) 299-7300 for a quote, more information or guidance on disposal.

Palo Alto operates a similar program, with monthly collection, for small businesses. Call the City of Palo Alto, (650) 496-6980, or Greenfield Services Corporation, 1-800-433-5060 for information or to schedule an appointment.

This brochure is one in a series of pamphlets describing storm drain pollution prevention 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

Earth-Moving Activities and Dewatering Activities

Heavy Equipment Operation

Home Repair and Remodeling

For additional brochures call **1-800-794-2482**.



**Santa Clara Valley
Urban Runoff
Pollution Prevention Program**

Spill Response Agencies:

1. In the City of Santa Clara, call (408) 984-3080.
2. In the City of Palo Alto, call (650) 329-2413.
3. In the City of San Jose, dial 9-1-1 if hazardous materials enter the storm drain system. For non-hazardous spills, call (408) 945-3000.
4. In other cities, **DIAL 9-1-1**
5. State Office of Emergency Services Warning Center (24 hours). **1-800-852-7550**
6. Santa Clara County Environmental Health Services. (408) 299-6930

Local Pollution Control Agencies

- County of Santa Clara
Pollution Prevention Program. . . . (408) 441-1195
- County of Santa Clara Integrated Waste
Management Program. (408) 441-1198
- County of Santa Clara District Attorney
Environmental Crimes Hotline . . . (408) 299-TIPS
- Santa Clara County
Recycling Hotline. 1-800-533-8414
- Santa Clara Valley Water
District. (408) 265-2600
- Santa Clara Valley Water
District Pollution Hotline. 1-888-510-5151
- San Jose/Santa Clara Water
Pollution Control Plant. (408) 945-3000
*Serving Campbell, Cupertino, Los Gatos,
Milpitas, Monte Sereno, San Jose, Santa
Clara, Saratoga*
- Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant
Serving Sunnyvale. (408) 730-7270
- Regional Water Quality
Control Plant. (650) 329-2598
*Serving East Palo Alto Sanitary District, Los
Altos, Los Altos Hills, Mountain View, Palo
Alto, Stanford*
- Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Francisco Bay Region. (510) 622-2300

Roadwork and Paving

*Best Management Practices for
the Construction Industry*



Who should use this brochure?

- Road crews
- Driveway/sidewalk/parking lot construction crews
- Seal coat contractors
- Operators of grading equipment, paving machines, dump trucks, concrete mixers
- Construction inspectors
- General contractors
- Home builders
- Developers