You Are Essential To Clean Water Potential

Urban sources are the largest contributers of pollution to local creeks and San Francisco Bay. However, you can help prevent stormwater pollution by following these tips that create a big impact and protect waterways:



Sweep up fallen leaves and place them in your green compost cart instead of blowing them into the street.

When washing your car, use a commercial car wash to avoid creating polluted runoff.





Avoid spraying pesticides in or around your house. Check out the less-toxic pest management techniques found on **ourwaterourworld.org**.

Dispose of old paints, pesticides, cleaners, or other household hazardous waste at the City's Household Hazardous Waste Station. More info on cityofpaloalto.org/hazwaste.





Pick up litter when you see it. Keep garbage and recycling carts tightly covered to prevent litter from being blown away or scattered by foraging animals.

Pick up pet waste, and dispose of it properly in the garbage. Pet waste can carry harmful bacteria and pathogens into creeks.





Avoid single-use disposables to reduce waste and litter. Some ideas include bringing your own reusable produce bag to the grocery store or switching to reusable snack packs. More info on **cityofpaloalto.org/zwliving**.

Install a rain barrel, rain garden, or pervious pavement on your property. These features enhance the beauty and water-efficiency of your landscape, collect rainwater for future irrigation use, reduce moisture and ponding around building foundations, build resiliency against drought, and filter pollutants from stormwater runoff.



Want to learn more pollution prevention tips and information? Visit cityofpaloalto.org/watershed or call 650.329.2122.





Toilets Aren't Trash Cans!













Do not flush hair, contact lenses, cotton pads or swabs, medication, cat litter, toilet roll tubes, cigarettes, cleaning

chemicals, paints & pesticides; fats, oils, grease (FOG), razors, **or anything else** down the toilet. Flushing items other than human waste and toilet paper can cause sewer backups into homes and streets, and pollution into creeks and the San Francisco Bay.

ONLY flush the Three **P**'s: Poop, Pee, and Toilet Paper!

Visit cleanbay.org or call 650.329.2122 for more information.



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