

MAKE SURE YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE...

With the rainy season upon us, an important distinction needs to be made between storm drains and sewers. The drainage systems found throughout our city perform very different roles.

Sewers allow us to dispose of, and treat, wastewater in a safe and environmentally responsible manner. Storm drains keep our streets from flooding by diverting rainwater into local waterways.



SEWERS

- Carry wastewater from toilets, showers, sinks, washing machines, food preparation and industrial processes to the Regional Water Quality Control Plant (RWQCP) for treatment
- Release wastewater, after it has gone through rigorous treatment, to the San Francisco Bay
- Can not handle solid or toxic materials such as grease, oils, medications, and other household chemicals



STORM DRAINS

- Carry rain and storm runoff directly to local creeks and the San Francisco Bay
- Do not clean the water before it is released into local creeks and the bay
- Are usually located along sidewalks and gutters, and are stenciled with the words "No Dumping, Flows to Bay"
- Unfortunately, carry harmful car soap, automotive fluids, grease removers, oil, pesticides and irrigation runoff, leaves, compost materials, and pet waste, directly to the bay

...TO KEEP THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT CLEAN AND HEALTHY!

Keep our storm drains and sewers flowing properly and protect the environment. Report problems immediately and take steps to limit activities and situations that send harmful products like car soap and auto fluids down our storm drains. Finally, dispose of grease, oils, medications or other household hazardous waste at the City's monthly Hazardous Waste Days.



CONTACTS:

- Report Sewer Problem 329-2579
- Report Storm Drain Problem 496-6974 (M-F; 7am–5pm)
329-2413 (after hours)
- Report Dumping in a Storm Drain 329-2413
- Learn about Hazardous Waste Days 496-6980