

## Enforcement

The City promptly responds to all complaints of illegal discharges to the storm drain system.

**If you see anyone discharging anything directly or indirectly into the street, please call City Hall immediately at (562) 866-9771 as City staff needs to witness the violation in progress.**

Contractors and property owners may be held responsible for violations and costs associated with clean up, investigations and violations, fines or citations from the City, County, State and Federal regulatory agencies as well as any third party enforcement actions.

## A Word About Business Licenses

Every company or person doing business or based in Lakewood is required to have a business license. This includes contractors that may be based in another city but frequently work in the City of Lakewood. For more information on how to obtain a business license contact City of Lakewood Administrative Services at (562) 866-9771 ext. 2600.



Our environment is important to the City of Lakewood. Many common activities can lead to water pollution if you're not careful. Home improvement projects and work sites must be maintained to ensure that building materials do not enter the street, gutter or storm drain. Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), water in storm drains is not treated before entering our waterways.

You would never dump building materials into the ocean, so don't let them enter the storm drains. Follow these tips in this brochure to help prevent water pollution.



## City of Lakewood

For more information or assistance, please call the City of Lakewood's Public Works Department (562) 866-9771 extension 2500.

## City of Lakewood

### Best Management Practices

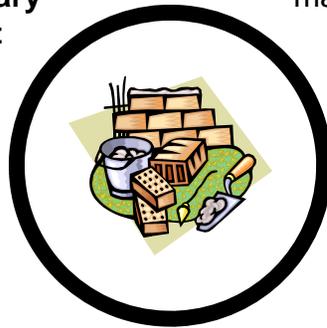
## Concrete & Mortar Projects



### Homeowners and Contractors

## Pollution Prevention is up to YOU!

Did you know that the storm drains are **NOT connected to sanitary sewer systems or treatment plants**? The primary purpose of storm drains is to carry rainwater away from developed areas to prevent flooding. Untreated pollutants such as concrete and mortar flow directly into our gutters, streets, channels and eventually the ocean which is toxic to fish, wildlife, and the



*Only Rain in the Storm Drain!*

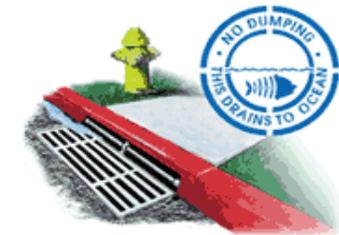
aquatic environment. Disposing of these materials into storm drains causes serious ecological problems—and is **PROHIBITED** by law.

### Do the Job Right!

This brochure was designed for do-it-yourself remodelers, homeowners, masons and bricklayers, contractors and anyone else who uses concrete or mortar to complete a construction project. Keep storm water protec-

tion in mind whenever you or people you hire work on your house or property.

Remember...The Ocean Begins at Your Front Door!



## What are Best Management Practices (BMP's)?

Best Management Practices or BMPs are procedures and practices that help to prevent pollutants such as chemicals, concrete, mortar, pesticides, waste, paint, and other hazardous materials from entering our storm drains. Each of us can do our part to keep our storm drains clean. These efforts add up to a pollution solution!

### What YOU Can Do:

- Set up and operate small mixers on tarps or heavy plastic drop cloths.
- Don't mix more fresh concrete or mortar than you will need for a project.
- Protect applications of fresh concrete and mortar from rainfall and runoff until the material has dried.

- Always store both dry and wet materials under cover, protected from rainfall and runoff and away from storm drains or channels.
- Protect dry materials from wind. Secure bags of concrete mix and mortar after they are open. Don't allow dry products to blow into driveways, sidewalks, streets, gutters, or storm drains.

### Location, Location, Location!

- Keep all construction debris away from the street, gutter and storm drains.
- Never dispose of washout into the street, storm drains, or landscape drains.
- Empty mixing containers and wash out chutes onto dirt areas that do not flow to streets, drains or waterways, or allow material to dry and dispose of properly.
- Never wash excess material from bricklaying, patio, or driveway construction into a street or storm drain. Sweep up and dispose

of small amounts of excess dry concrete, grout and mortar in the trash.

- Sediments and other solids that remain on the ground should be swept or vacuumed up immediately before they get washed into the street.
- Wash concrete or brick areas only when the wash water can flow onto a dirt area without further runoff or drain onto a surface which has been bermed so that the water and solids can be pumped up or vacuumed up for proper disposal.
- Do not place fill material, or soil on the sidewalk or street.
- During cleanup, check the street and gutters for sediment, or debris. Look down the street and clean up materials that may have traveled away from your property or job site.