

Clean beaches and healthy creeks, rivers, bays and ocean are important to Los Angeles County.

However, many landscape and building maintenance activities can lead to water pollution if you're not careful. Paint, chemicals, plant clippings and other materials can be blown or washed into storm drains that flow to the ocean. Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), water in storm drains is not treated before entering our waterways.

You would never pour soap or fertilizers into the ocean, so why would you let them enter the storm drains? Follow these easy tips to help prevent water pollution.

Some types of industrial facilities are required to obtain coverage under the State General Industrial Permit. For more information visit: www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/industrial.shtml



STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION: IT'S UP TO US!

Every day polluted urban runoff flows directly to the ocean through the storm drain system taking water and debris straight from the streets to the ocean.

Rain, industrial and household water mixed with urban pollutants (oil and other automobile fluids, paint and construction debris, yard and pet waste, pesticides and litter) creates storm water pollution.

A clean environment is important to all of us. The ocean begins at your front door of your business!

ENFORCEMENT

The City promptly responds to all complaints of illegal discharges to the storm drain system. Businesses may be held responsible for violations and costs associated with the clean up, investigation, violations, fines or citations from the City, County, State and Federal regulatory agencies as well as any third party enforcement actions.

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**

*Preventing Ocean
Pollution:
For Businesses*

**Storm Water
Pollution
Prevention
Program**

Reduce Runoff Pollution

Businesses can contribute to storm water pollution through improper cleaning practices that allow grass, clippings, paint, wash water, fluids, cleaners, trash and other pollutants to flow into the gutter and street. *These discharges are prohibited by law.*

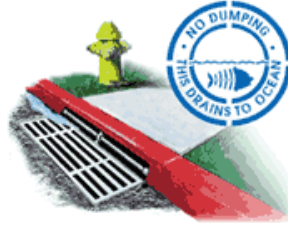
Best Management Practices

Best Management Practices or BMPs are procedures that help prevent pollutants from entering the storm drains. Each of us can do our part to keep pollution out of the storm drains by incorporating these practices into your daily activities.

Landscape Maintenance

- Do not blow, rake or dispose of grass clippings, leaves, sticks and other vegetative materials in the street, gutter or storm drain. Instead, dispose of green waste by composting, hauling it to a permitted waste facility or call EDCO Disposal at (562) 531-3054.
- Irrigate slowly and inspect the system for leaks, over spraying and runoff. Adjust automatic timers to avoid overwatering.
- Do not overwater. For information on the city's drought management requirements, please visit: www.lakewoodcity.org
- Follow label directions for the use and disposal of fertilizers and pesticides
- Do not apply pesticides or fertilizers if rain is expected within 48 hours or if wind speeds are above 5 mph.

- Do not spray pesticides within 100 feet of waterways.
- Fertilizers should be worked into the soil rather than dumped onto the surface.
- If fertilizer is spilled on the pavement or sidewalk, sweep it up immediately and place it back in the container.



Building Maintenance

- NEVER allow wash water, sweepings or sediment to enter the street, gutter or storm drain.
- Sweep up dry spills and use cat litter, towels or similar materials to absorb wet spills.
- If you wash your building, sidewalk or parking lot, you MUST contain the water. Use a shop vac to collect the water and contact the city for proper disposal. Do not let water enter the street, gutter or storm drain.
- Use drop cloths underneath outdoor painting, scraping and sandblasting work, and properly dispose of materials in the trash.
- Use a ground cloth or oversized tub for mixing painting and cleaning tools. Do not wash paint brushes or tools out in the street, gutter or storm drain.
- Use a damp mop or broom to clean floors. Do not sweep debris out to the sidewalk, street, gutter or storm drain.
- Cover dumpsters to keep insects, animals,

rainwater and sand from entering. Keep the area around the dumpster clear of trash and debris. Do not overfill the dumpster.

- Call EDCO Disposal at (562) 531-3054 to replace damaged or leaking dumpsters.
- Do not dump any toxic substance or liquid waste on the pavement, the ground or near a sidewalk, gutter or street. Even materials that seem harmless such as latex paint or biodegradable cleaners can damage the environment.
- Recycle paints, solvents and other materials. For more information about recycling and collection centers, visit www.dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/btrap
- Store materials indoors and under cover and away from storm drains.
- Call EDCO Disposal at (562) 531-3054 to recycle construction and demolition debris such as: lumber, paper cardboard, metals, masonry, carpet, plastic, pipes, drywall, rocks, dirt and green waste.
- Properly label materials. Familiarize employees with Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS).

