

This brochure is one of a series of pamphlets describing storm drain protection measures for specific types of home maintenance activities.

Other pamphlets include:

- Pest Control Tips
- Home Maintenance Tips
- Car Care for Do-It-Yourselfers

Spill Response Agencies

1. **Monterey County Hotline**
(831) 394-6811
2. **County of Monterey Department of Environmental Health** (831) 755-4511
3. **California State Department of Fish & Game**
1-888-DFG-CALTIP (334-2258)
4. **Public Works Departments:**
Carmel By-The-Sea (831) 620-2010
County of Monterey (831) 755-4800
Del Rey Oaks (831) 394-8511
Marina (831) 884-1212
Monterey (831) 646-3920
Pacific Grove (831) 648-5722
Pebble Beach:
Unincorporated County of Monterey (831) 755-4800
Pebble Beach Company (831) 625-8402
Sand City (831) 394-1386
Seaside (831) 899-6825
5. **Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary**
(831) 647-4201
6. **DIAL 911 (For Emergencies Only)**

Waste Disposal

Monterey Peninsula Waste
Management District
Recycling & Household Hazardous
Waste Collection Program
(831) 384-5313



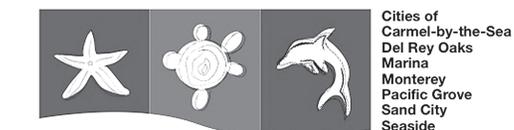
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City of Los Angeles Stormwater Management Division
and the Alameda County Urban Runoff Clean Water
Program

Landscaping & Gardening



**Best Management
Practices (BMPs) for
Gardeners, Homeowners,
and Landscapers**



Cities of
Carmel-by-the-Sea
Del Rey Oaks
Marina
Monterey
Pacific Grove
Sand City
Seaside



County of Monterey
Pebble Beach Company
Unified School Districts of
Carmel
Monterey
Pacific Grove

For more information about the stormwater
pollution prevention program call:
831-645-4621

For stormwater educational materials,
storm drain stenciling or
school presentations call:
831-899-9957



Cities of
Carmel-by-the-Sea
Del Rey Oaks
Marina
Monterey
Pacific Grove
Sand City
Seaside



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Funded by the Monterey Regional Storm Water
Management Program

Who should use this brochure?

- Home Gardeners
- Landscapers
- Lawn & Garden Maintenance Workers

Storm Drain Pollution Prevention: It's Up to Us

Around the Monterey Bay, most storm drains lead directly to local creeks, streams, and the ocean sanctuary with no treatment. Storm water pollution is a serious problem for wildlife dependent on clean water and for people who depend on healthy waterways. Home maintenance activities often involve materials and waste products that are toxic to the environment when they reach a storm drain. Landscaping runoff that contains weedkillers or pesticides are common sources of concern. Proper handling and use of these materials is essential to protect the health of the Bay.

Fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides are washed off lawns and landscaped areas. These chemicals not only kill garden invaders, they also harm useful insects, poison fish and contaminate ground water and the ocean.

The *Stormwater & Education Alliance (SEA)* is involved in educating local residents and businesses to prevent storm water pollution. We hope you will join us, by using the practices described in this pamphlet.

What Can You Do?

Problems

Landscaping and garden maintenance activities can be major contributors to ocean pollution. Soils, yard wastes, overwatering and garden chemicals become part of the urban runoff mix that winds its way through streets, gutters, and storm drains before entering the ocean.

Poorly functioning sprinklers can cause over-watering which increases the number of pollutants flowing into storm drains. Adjust sprinklers to avoid watering hardscapes, tree trunks or other unintended targets. Water lawn/garden only as needed.

Leaves, grass clippings, and tree trimmings that are swept or blown into the street are also ocean polluters. These wastes clog catch basins, increasing the risk of flooding your street, and carry garden chemicals into the ocean. As they decompose, they also absorb oxygen that fish



Solutions

General Landscaping Tips

- Protect stockpiles and materials from wind and rain by storing them under tarps or secured plastic sheeting.
- Schedule grading and excavation projects for dry weather.
- Prevent erosion by planting fast-growing annual and perennial grasses. These will shield and bind the soil.
- Utilize soil erosion prevention techniques during the rainy season.

Garden & Lawn Maintenance

- Do not over-apply pesticides and use less toxic products.
- Use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques. Visit www.ourwaterourworld.org to get free expert advice.
- Never use pesticides when rain is forecast!
- Do not overwater. Conserve water by using irrigation practices such as drip irrigation, soaker hoses, or micro-spray systems.
- Place clippings and pruning waste in approved containers for pickup. Or, take clippings to a landfill that composts yard waste.
- Do not blow or rake leaves into the street, gutter, or storm drains.
- Use organic or non-toxic fertilizers.
- Do not over-fertilize and do not fertilize near ditches, streams, or other water bodies.
- Store pesticides, fertilizers, and other chemicals in a covered area to prevent runoff.
- **For information on pesticide use and disposal, see the pamphlet entitled "Pest Control Tips"**