

- Dispose of small amounts of excess dry concrete, grout, and mortar in the trash. Call your local refuse hauler for weight and size limits.
- Never hose down driveways, sidewalk or streets.
- Never blow leaves, construction debris, or trash into the streets. Sweep debris and deposit in a trash can.

## Waste Disposal:

### Recycle:

- Plant material/tree branches, leaves, etc.
- Wood, broken asphalt, and concrete (check with your local landfill)
- Water-based paints (in some communities)
- Used motor oil (curbside and drop-off)

### Take to a household hazardous waste drop-off event:

- Unused garden and household chemicals
- Leftover paint
- Used solvents
- Paint stripping residue and rags
- Used antifreeze

### Dispose as trash:

- Construction debris from small projects
- Dry, empty paint cans, spent brushes, rags, and drop cloths
- Small amounts of dry mortar, grout, etc.
- **Clean up all spills when they happen. If building materials or other wastes get into a gutter, storm drain, or creek call the appropriate spill response agency immediately.**

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

Other pamphlets include:

- General Construction and Site Supervision
- Painting and Application of Solvents and Adhesives
- Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application
- Roadwork and Paving
- Earth-Moving Activities
- Heavy Equipment Operation



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

## 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

\*\*\*Note: For household hazardous waste pick-up and drop-off days in your area contact your local disposal service or waste management district.

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Informational material adapted from the Santa Clara Valley Nonprint Source Pollution Control Program

# Home Repair & Remodeling



General Construction  
Landscaping  
Foundation Work  
Painting and Paint Cleanup  
Masonry  
Tilework

**Best Management Practices (BMPs)  
for the Construction Industry & Homeowner**



Funded by the Monterey Regional Storm Water Management Program

## Who should use this brochure?

This brochure is for homeowners, and do-it-yourself remodelers. **Permits are required** for projects entailing: painting, plastering, concrete, and grading. Contractors and other professionals should refer to [www.montereysea.org](http://www.montereysea.org) for publications and a manual of best management practices for construction-related industries. <http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/msea/literature/MRSWMP.htm>

Keep waterway protection in mind whenever you or people you hire work on your house or property. The property owner is ultimately responsible for correcting any pollution problems caused by construction activities. Penalties may be more severe if storm drain contamination is not reported promptly.

## Storm Drain Pollution Prevention: It's Up to Us

Around the Monterey Bay, most storm drains flow directly to the ocean sanctuary with no treatment. Storm water pollution is a serious problem for wildlife dependent on clean water and for the people who live near streams or waterways. Home remodeling, repair, and construction activities often involve materials and wastes that are toxic to the environment when they reach a storm drain or creek. Paint products, concrete, mortar, and 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.

## What Can You Do?

### Painting and Paint Cleanup

All paints, solvents, and adhesives contain chemicals that are harmful to aquatic animals and other wildlife in our creeks and Bay. Toxic chemicals may come from liquid or solid products or from cleaning residues on rags. It is especially important not to clean brushes or painting equipment (buckets, pans, hoses, etc.) in an area where paint or paint cleanup water can flow to a gutter, street, or storm drain.

### Painting Cleanup

- Never clean brushes or rinse paint containers into a street, gutter, storm drain, or stream.
- For water-based paints, paint out brushes on scrap material to the extent possible, and rinse to the sanitary sewer.
- For **oil-based paints**, paint out brushes to the extent possible, filter and reuse thinners and solvents. Dispose of excess paint and thinner through your local household hazardous waste disposal program. Call (831) 384-5313.

### Paint Removal

When they are thoroughly dry, empty paint cans, spent brushes, rags, and drop cloths may be disposed of as trash. Leave the lids off paint cans so the refuse collector can see that they are empty.

- Dispose of empty aerosol paint cans as household hazardous waste.
- Chemical **paint stripping** residue, including saturated rags, is a hazardous waste. Sweep up and save for household hazardous waste drop-off day. Call (831) 384-5313.
- Reuse/recycle leftover paints whenever possible.

- Use up excess water-based paint or give it to a neighbor, or take to a household hazardous waste event. Most household hazardous waste collection programs recycle latex paint.
- Use up leftover oil-based paint if possible. Paint residue is a hazardous waste and must be taken to household hazardous waste collection events.

### General Construction

- Keep all construction debris away from the street, gutter, and storm drain.
- During cleanup, check the street and gutters for refuse or debris. Look around the corner or downstream for material that may have already traveled away from your property.
- If you or your contractor keep a dumpster at your site, be sure it is securely covered with a lid or tarp when not in use.
- Paint the inside of galvanized rain gutters to reduce corrosion.

### Landscaping/Foundation Work

- Intensive gardening, landscaping, and all excavation projects such as foundation repair or pool construction expose soils and increase the likelihood that garden chemicals and earth will wash into the storm drains. Be careful to control erosion and minimize runoff to all driveways, gutters, and storm drains.
- Dispose of unused pesticides as hazardous waste.
- Cover excavated material and stockpiles of asphalt, sand, etc. with plastic tarps during the project to prevent runoff.
- Replant as soon as possible, with temporary vegetation such as annual grass seed if necessary. Revegetation provides excellent erosion control.

- Take care not to over-apply pesticides and use less toxic products. Use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques. Visit [www.ourwaterourworld.org](http://www.ourwaterourworld.org)
- Collect lawn and garden clippings, pruning waste and tree trimmings. Many cities and landfills have yard waste composting programs. Check with your local recycling program.
- Do not blow or rake leaves, etc. into the street, or place yard waste in gutters or on dirt shoulders.
- In unincorporated areas and communities with curbside yard waste recycling, leave clippings and pruning waste for pickup in approved bags or containers.

### Concrete, Masonry, & Tile Work

- Don't mix up more fresh concrete or cement than you will use in a day.
- Cover and protect bags of cement and paste after they are open. Be sure to keep wind-blown cement powder away from gutters, storm drains, rainfall, and runoff.
- Wash down exposed aggregate concrete only when wash water can flow onto a direct area, or be collected, pumped, and disposed of properly. Make sure runoff does not reach gutters or storm drains.
- Never wash excess material from bricklaying or patio or driveway construction into a street or storm drain. Empty mixing container onto a dirt area, or allow material to dry and put in trash.
- Collect and reuse excess abrasive gravel and sand.
- When rinsing tools used for concrete and plaster work make sure the runoff goes to a drain hooked up to the sewer (inside drains) and not to a storm drain.