

## More Info About...

### Less-Toxic Products & Techniques:

- Our Water Our World homeowner pest management tips & resources  
<http://www.ourwaterourworld.org>
- Ecology Center (510) 548-2220  
2530 San Pablo, Berkeley, CA 94702.  
Bookstore with books on organic gardening and IPM.
- U.C. Cooperative Extension Office  
(831) 759-7350

### The Right Plants for Your Area:

- *Sunset Western Garden Book*, Sunset Publishing
- Local reputable nurseries.
- Local garden clubs.
- Master Gardeners:  
[www.mastergardeners.org](http://www.mastergardeners.org)

### Proper Use of Pesticides:

- County Agricultural Commissioner  
(831) 647-7629

**Beneficial Insects:** Your pest's natural enemies.

- *Directory of Producers of Natural Enemies of Common Pests*, order from  
Bio-Integral Resource Center  
(510) 524-2567.



### Books and Brochures:

- *An Illustrated Guide to Organic Gardening*, Sunset Publishing.
- *How to Grow Vegetables and Fruits by the Organic Method*, Rodale Press.
- *Tiny Game Hunting*, Klein & Wenner, Bantam Books.

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

Other pamphlets include:

- Landscaping & Gardening
- Home Maintenance Tips
- Automotive Maintenance & Car Care



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

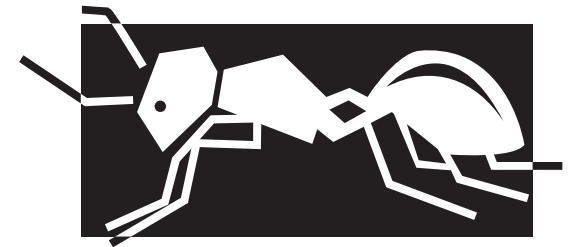
Monterey Peninsula Waste  
Management District  
Recycling & Household Hazardous  
Waste Collection Program  
831) 384-5313

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

## Pest Control Tips



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



Funded by the Monterey Regional Storm Water  
Management Program

## Who should use this brochure?

- Home Gardeners
- Landscapers
- Lawn & Garden Maintenance Workers
- Pest control services

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

Around the Monterey Bay, most storm drains flow directly to the 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 the people who live near streams or waterways. Home maintenance activities often involve materials and wastes that are toxic to the environment when they reach a storm drain or creek. 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 and ocean water.

# What Can You Do?

## Pesticide Alternatives

The “chemicals-only” approach to pest control is only a temporary fix. A more common sense approach is needed for a long-term solution. It is called Integrated Pest Management (IPM). For information on how to plan your IPM strategy or speak with an expert go to: [www.ourwaterourworld.org](http://www.ourwaterourworld.org)

- (1) **Physical controls:** Caulking holes, Barriers, Hand Picking, Traps;
- (2) **Biological Controls:** Predatory insects; Bacterial insecticides;
- (3) **Chemical Controls - Your Last Resort** Use the Least-Toxic Products: Dehydrating dusts (silica gel), Insecticidal soaps, Boric acid powder, Horticultural oils, Pyrethrin-based insecticides, Insect Growth Regulators.

## Safe Substitutes For Pest Control

**Garden Aphids and Mites** - Mix 1 Tablespoon of liquid soap and 1 cup of vegetable oil. Add 1 teaspoon of this mixture a cup of water and spray. (Oil may harm vegetable plants in the cabbage family.)

**Caterpillars** - When caterpillars are eating, apply products containing *Bacillus thuringiensis* to leaves.

**Ants** - Place boric acid powder or hydramethylnon baits in problem areas, cracks, and insect walkways. It is a mild poison, so be sure it is inaccessible to children and pets.

**Roaches** - Apply boric acid powder to cracks and entry points (see ants above). Place bay leaves on pantry shelves.

## If You Must Use Pesticides

- **Use a pesticide that is specifically designed to control your pest.** The insect should be listed on the label. Approximately 90% of the insects on your lawn and garden are not harmful.
- **Read labels!** Use only as directed. In their zeal to control the problem, many gardeners use pesticides at over *20 times the rate* that farmers do.
- **Never use pesticides when rain is forecast!**

## How Safe Is This Pesticide?

For information on pesticide safety, contact:

- Poison Control Center 800-222-1222
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Pesticide Safety Tips: [www.epa.gov/opp00001/factsheets/pest\\_ti.htm](http://www.epa.gov/opp00001/factsheets/pest_ti.htm)
- National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC) 800-858-7378
- If you are utilizing a licensed contractor or pest control service, ask what pesticide they are using and how toxic it is for your family and pets.

## Pesticide Disposal

- Household toxics - such as pesticides, cleansers, and motor oil - can pollute the ocean and poison groundwater if disposed of in storm drains or gutters.
- Rinse empty pesticide containers and use rinse water as you would the product. Dispose of empty rinsed containers in the trash.
- Always dispose of unused household toxics at a Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off Event. To find out dates and locations, call: (831) 384-5313.

**Dumping toxics into the street, gutter, or storm drain is illegal!**

## Are Pests Taking Over?

There might be good reason! You may need to make some changes at home to get that long-term solution you're looking for.

## Are you giving the bugs a great place to live? Outside:

- A moist, cool, protected environment. Bugs love: ivy, standing water, woodpiles, mulch.
- Animal waste, rotting fruit, and debris provide the perfect breeding ground for bugs.

## Inside:

- Easy access into your house.
- Easy access to food and water.

## Are your plants miserable?

A healthy plant can stand up to pests.

- Choose native plants that will do well in your area.
- Is your plant getting the right amount of light?
- Does the soil drain well?
- Have you fed your plants lately?

## Have you killed your pests' enemies?

- Pesticides don't discriminate. They kill the good bugs along with the bad. And they kill birds, too.
- Encourage beneficial insects with a variety of flowering plants for year-round blooming.
- And you can buy beneficial insects, such as ladybugs, at local nurseries