



Roadwork and Paving

In the Santa Clara Valley, storm drains transport water directly to local creeks and San Francisco Bay, without treatment. Stormwater pollution is a serious problem for wildlife dependent on our waterways and for people who live near polluted streams or baylands. Some common sources of this pollution include spilled oil, fuel, and fluids from vehicles and heavy equipment; construction debris; sediment created by erosion, landscaping runoff containing pesticides or weed killers; and materials such as used motor oil, antifreeze, and paint products that people pour or spill into street or storm drain.

Thirteen valley municipalities have joined together with Santa Clara County and Valley Water to educate local residents and businesses to prevent stormwater pollution. Join us in protecting the Bay and local creeks by following these Best Management Practices (BMPs).

Storm Drain Pollution from Roadwork

Road construction often involves extensive earthwork and grading, which loosens soil and creates opportunities for erosion and deposition of sediments in storm drains and creeks. Where road paving, surfacing, and pavement removal happen there are numerous opportunities for asphalt, saw cut slurry, or excavated material to enter storm drains and flow straight to creeks. Efforts should be made to store and dispose of materials properly and guard against pollution of storm drains, creeks, and the Bay.



Never allow spills and leaks to enter storm drains. Federal, state, and local regulations prohibit any discharges other than rain into the storm drain.

Who should use this brochure?

- Road crews
- Driveway/sidewalk/parking lot construction crews
- Seal coat contractors
- Construction inspectors
- General contractors
- Operators of grading equipment, paving machines, dump trucks, concrete mixers
- Home builders
- Developers

Doing the Job Right

GENERAL BUSINESS PRACTICES

- ☐ Check with stormwater staff to see if your project triggers stormwater treatment requirements.
- ☐ Schedule grading and excavation work during dry weather.
- ☐ Protect storm drain inlets receiving runoff from construction area with devices such as, but not limited to, gravel bag barriers and geotextile storm drain inserts.
- ☐ Develop and implement erosion/sediment control plans for roadway embankments.
- ☐ Check all equipment for leaks and repair leaking equipment promptly.
- ☐ Perform major maintenance, repairs, and washing of equipment in designated areas in your maintenance yard, away from the construction site. If refueling or vehicle maintenance must be done onsite, designate a completely contained area away from storm drains and creeks.
- ☐ Recycle used concrete, broken asphalt, etc. whenever possible, or dispose of properly.
- ☐ Do not use diesel oil to lubricate equipment or parts onsite.



Doing the Job Right

ASPHALT/CONCRETE REMOVAL

- Avoid creating excess dust when breaking asphalt or concrete. Do not allow dust to enter waterways.
- After breaking up old pavement, be sure to remove all chunks and pieces.
- Make sure broken pavement does not come in contact with rainfall or runoff. Cover and lift material if storing before proper disposal.
- Protect storm drain inlets during saw cutting. If saw cut slurry enters a catch basin, clean it up immediately.
- Vacuum, shovel, or absorb saw cut slurry deposits, waste oils, and top coat, and dispose of all waste properly and as soon as reasonably possible. When making saw cuts, use as little water as possible. Sweep up, and properly dispose of, all residues.
- Never hose down streets or the sidewalks. Use dry sweep methods, such as a street sweeper or vacuum truck. Do not dump vacuumed liquid in storm drains.



DURING CONSTRUCTION

- Avoid paving or seal coating in wet weather or when rain is in the forecast, to prevent uncured materials from coming into contact with stormwater runoff. Cover storm drain inlets and manholes when applying seal coat, slurry seal, fog seal, or similar materials.
- When construction is complete, remove all covers from storm drain inlets and manholes.
- Protect drainage ways by using compost socks, gravel bags, or other controls to divert or trap and filter runoff.
- Do not wash sweepings from exposed aggregate concrete into the street or storm drain. Collect and return sweepings to aggregate base stockpile or dispose properly.
- Berm (e.g., compost socks, wattles, etc.) and cover stockpiles of sand, dirt or other construction materials with tarps when rain is forecasted or when they are not in use.
- Work in a bermed area away from storm drains and over a drip pan or drop cloths big enough to collect fluids. Clean up all spills and leaks using “dry” methods (with absorbent materials and/or rags) or dig up and remove contaminated soil.
- Collect and recycle or properly dispose of excess abrasive gravel or sand. Do NOT sweep or wash it into gutters, storm drains, streets, dirt areas, or the sanitary sewer.
- Avoid over-application by water trucks for dust control.

Small Business Hazardous Waste Disposal Program

Businesses that generate less than 27 gallons or 220 pounds of hazardous waste per month are eligible to use Santa Clara County's Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator Program. Call (800) 207-8222 to learn about proper disposal options and hazardous waste disposal.

Palo Alto operates a similar program, with a monthly collection, for small businesses. Call the City of Palo Alto, (650) 496-6980, or Clean Harbors, 1-800-433-5060 for information or to schedule an appointment.

STORMWATER POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCIES

For spills or materials entering a creek, pond or reservoir call Valley Water's 24/7 Pollution Hotline: 1-888-510-5151

For more information on preventing stormwater pollution, contact your local agency during regular business hours:

Campbell, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Saratoga (West Valley Communities)	(408) 354-4734	Mountain View	(650) 903-6378
Cupertino	(408) 777-3354	Palo Alto	(650) 329-2122
Los Altos	(650) 947-2770	San José	(408) 945-3000
Los Altos Hills	(650) 941-7222	Santa Clara	(408) 615-3080
Milpitas	(408) 586-3365	Unincorporated Santa Clara County	(408) 918-4609
		Sunnyvale	(408) 730-7260