



Restaurants

Wash water, single-use foodware, trash, food waste, oil and grease are harmful to our creeks and waterways. When pollutants from restaurants enter the street and storm drain inlets, they flow through the storm drain system to local waterways and the San Francisco Bay (Bay) without any cleaning or filtering. These pollutants can be toxic to fish, wildlife, and people.

Help protect the San Francisco Bay and local creeks by following these Best Management Practices (BMPs).



Never dispose of wash water or Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) to storm drains. Federal, State, and local regulations prohibit any discharges other than rain in the storm drain.

PLAN AND PREPARE

- Store materials indoors or in an enclosure whenever possible.
- Regularly maintain roof and equipment so that pollutants do not come in contact with rain water.
- Ensure your grease control device is maintained regularly to prevent sewer backups and overflows.
- Keep tallow bin lids closed and secured. Keep the surrounding area clean.
- Keep tallow bin grates clean and free of debris.
- Store tallow bins on flat surfaces, far from storm drains and with secondary containment (e.g. spill containment pallet, drip pan, behind berms).
- Schedule tallow bin collection to maintain adequate storage capacity.
- Inspect area around tallow drums/bins and trash enclosures frequently to ensure they are clean and free of oil and food residue, debris and leaks.
- Clean up and manage any litter on the property.
- Keep dumpster lids closed. Replace leaking or cracked dumpsters.
- Maintain garbage cans and dumpsters so that they are not overfilled. Increase service if there is overflow.
- Post signs and educational materials to remind staff of BMPs.
- Regularly train all levels of staff on BMPs to prevent stormwater pollution.
- Make sure all staff know the difference between the sanitary sewer and storm drain systems.



Sanitary Sewer vs. Storm Drain:
Do you know the difference?

Storm drains are outdoors. They are only for rain ("stormwater") that runs off the pavement, roofs, streets and gutters. Water that enters the *storm drain system* flows directly to local creeks, without any treatment.

Indoor drains (e.g., sinks, floor drains, toilets, mop sinks) are connected to the *sanitary sewer system*, which flows to a wastewater treatment plant.

How to Keep Pollution Out of Storm Drains

PREVENT SPILLS AND LEAKS

- Use a funnel to prevent splashing and spilling when pouring oil and grease into tallow bin.
- Never wash kitchen equipment outdoors or hose off outdoor surfaces where wash water can go to the street, gutter or storm drain.
- Clean floor mats by shaking into a trash can or vacuuming. If needed, wash mats indoors or on a landscaped surface.
- Empty mop water and wash water into a mop sink, floor drain or other indoor drain connected to the sanitary sewer.
- Never clean exhaust hoods or filters outdoors where wash water may flow to a storm drain.
- When cleaning exhaust ducting and rooftop exhaust fans, do not allow wash water to remain on roof or wash into downspouts.
- Collect washwater from cleaning exhaust ducting and rooftop exhaust fans and dispose of properly.



In Case of a Leak or Spill

1. Clean any spills or leaks on the container or ground with dry methods immediately using towels or absorbents.
2. Sweep used absorbents immediately and dispose of properly.

Whether you contract with a professional service or perform the cleaning yourself, you are liable for any illegal disposal to the storm drain. Wash water or rinse water may never be disposed of to the storm drain.

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:

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

WASTEWATER AGENCIES

All discharges to the sanitary sewer must meet local discharge limits.

Contact your local wastewater agency to find out if pretreatment requirements apply to your business.

San José-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility.....	(408) 945-3000
(Serving Campbell, Cupertino, Los Gatos, Milpitas, Monte Sereno, San Jose, Santa Clara, Saratoga)	
Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant	(408) 730-7270
(Serving Sunnyvale)	
Regional Water Quality Control Plant	(650) 329-2598
(Serving East Palo Alto Sanitary District, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Mountain View, Palo Alto, Stanford)	