Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR

Preventing Storm Drain Pollution

Outdoor Storage & Spill Response at Your Business

When wash waters, leaked waste, and spills enter the street and storm drain inlets, they flow through the storm drain system to our local waterways, the San Francisco Bay (Bay), and eventually the ocean, without any cleaning or filtering. These pollutants can be toxic to fish, wildlife, and people. Federal, state, and local regulations prohibit discharge of anything but rain water into the storm drain system.

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



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

How to Keep Pollution Out of Storm Drains

PLAN AND PREPARE

- ○ Train employees on Best Management Practices (BMPs) for material storage, spill prevention and response.
- ○ **Never** dump oils, chemicals, mop water or any other liquids into or near a storm drain, gutter, street, drainage ditch, creek, or any surface leading to a storm drain.
- ○ Regularly inspect containers/equipment for wear/leaks. Replace and repair as needed.
- ○ Regularly inspect outdoor areas for leaks, chemical/oil spills and loose litter. Immediately stop, contain, and clean up all spills or leaks.



- ○ Sweep regularly to prevent debris and other materials from entering storm drain inlets.
- ○ Store all materials inside, if possible. If unable, elevate any material on a pallet.
- ○ Keep spill kit stocked, labelled, and near high-risk spill areas (e.g. by outdoor storage area, loading dock). Include spill response plan/directions.

What's in your spill kit?

1. To Contain Spills – Absorbent socks, barriers, storm drain inlet protection.

2. To Manage Spills – Absorbent granules or kitty litter, towels, pads, dry mop.

3. To Collect Waste – Wet/Dry vac, broom, dustpan, gloves, disposal bags, bucket.

Watershed Watch
Protect Our Creeks & Bay

For more information about Stormwater Pollution Prevention
1-866-WATERSHED
MyWatershedWatch.org

How to Keep Pollution Out of Storm Drains

OUTDOOR MATERIALS MANAGEMENT



- ○ If materials must be stored outdoors, then keep storage areas tidy.
- ○ Store materials as far as possible from storm drain inlets, and/or add storm drain covers.
- ○ Enclose items to prevent contact with rainfall/runoff. Do all the following:
  - • Cover (e.g. by a tarp, roof, or in a fully enclosed container).
  - • Elevate (e.g. on a shelf or on pallets). Keep all lids/caps closed when not in use.
  - • Use secondary containment (e.g. berms, spill containment pallets, double walled containers, sheds, etc.) for equipment and fluid storage containers (e.g. barrels, carboys, etc.) that may leak.
- ○ Exercise care and planning when transferring liquids and powders to minimize spill potential.
- ○ Schedule regular trash/recycling and hazardous waste hauler pick-ups sufficient for the site.
- ○ Keep spill cleanup materials labelled and in easily accessible areas.



SPILL RESPONSE



- ○ Clean up surface residues to prevent them from washing into storm drains during rain events.
- ○ Contain the spill and protect nearby storm drains immediately.
- ○ Manage spill by dry mopping or covering liquids with absorbents/towels. Collect/sweep-up waste immediately with a broom or wet/dry vac, and dispose of in a lawful manner.

CLEANING METHODS



- ○ Clean outdoor areas and spills with “dry” cleaning methods such as sweeping, vacuuming, dry-mopping, and drying with absorbents or rags/towels. If absorbents are used, completely sweep and dispose of spent material.
- ○ If water must be used, then use berms or other protective barriers to isolate polluted areas from storm drain inlets. Block off or seal storm drain inlets to prevent potential discharge. Collect and dispose of water in a lawful manner.
- ○ Collect & dispose of non-hazardous wash waters in mop utility sink, toilet or sanitary sewer cleanout.
- ○ Never wash equipment or materials in a manner that causes wash water to flow to gutter, storm drain, street or creek.

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WASTE DISPOSAL

- Learn about proper disposal options and hazardous waste disposal by contacting the Very Small Quantity Generator (VSQG) Program: hhw.santaclaracounty.gov/vsqg-business-waste-drop-program or (800) 207-8222.
- Keep Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for all stored chemicals accessible.
- Cleaning solutions, fluids that cannot be recycled, and absorbent materials used to clean up those fluids, may need to be disposed of as hazardous waste. Learn more at hhw.org.



SPILL REPORTING

- To report illegal dumping/spills, contact your local stormwater pollution control agency (See below).
- If spill enters a creek, call Valley Water's 24-hour pollution hotline: (888) 510-5151.
- If a significant spill of hazardous materials occurs or threatens to occur, the responsible party must immediately report to 911 or to the California Office of Emergency Services: (800) 852-7550, CalOES.ca.gov.

STORMWATER POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCIES

For spills or materials entering a creek, pond or reservior 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
Cupertino ..... (408) 777-3354
Los Altos ..... (650) 947-2770
Los Altos Hills ..... (650) 941-7222
Milpitas ..... (408) 586-3365
Mountain View ..... (650) 903-6378
Palo Alto ..... (650) 329-2122
San José ..... (408) 945-3000
Santa Clara ..... (408) 615-3080
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) 730-7260
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