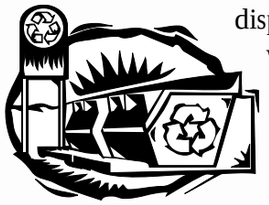
4 Handling Materials & Wastes

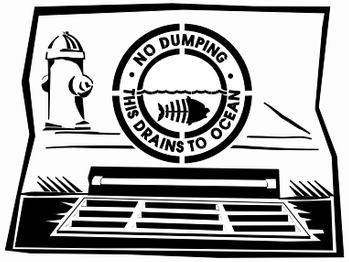
- **Practice Source Reduction** - minimize waste when ordering materials. Order only the amounts needed to complete the job.
- **Use recycled and recyclable materials** whenever possible.
- **Recycle** broken asphalt, concrete, wood and cleared vegetation. Non-recyclable materials must be taken to an appropriate landfill or disposed of as hazardous waste. For disposal information, call the numbers listed in this pamphlet.



5 Disposal Options

Use a crushing company to recycle cement, asphalt and porcelain rather than taking them to a landfill. For a listing of companies that accept these materials, call the:

City of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works
1 (800) 974-9794



Spill Response Agencies

City of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering
Stormwater Management Division
1 (800) 974-9794

City of Los Angeles
Police Department, Hazardous Materials Unit
(213) 237-2793 or (213) 485-4011

Los Angeles Fire Department
Health/Hazardous Materials Program
City: (213) 485-6185 County: (213) 890-4045

Recycling & Hazardous Waste Disposal

City of Los Angeles
Small Business Hazardous Waste Hotline
(800) 98-TOXIC / 988-6942

Solid Resources Citywide Recycling Division
(213) 847-1444

Los Angeles County
Department of Public Works
Recycling & Household Hazardous Waste Hotline
1 (800) 552-5218

To Report Illegal Dumping

City of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering
Stormwater Management Division
1 (800) 974-9794

Los Angeles County
Department of Public Works
1 (800) 303-0003

To Report a Clogged Catch Basin

City of Los Angeles
Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering
Stormwater Management Division
1 (800) 974-9794

Los Angeles County
Department of Public Works
(818) 458-HELP

This is one in a series of pamphlets describing storm drain protection measures. Other pamphlets include:

Automotive Maintenance & Car Care

Food Service Industry

General Construction & Site Supervision

Heavy Equipment & Earthmoving Activities

Home Repair & Remodeling

Horse Owners & Equine Industry

Landscaping, Gardening & Pest Control

Painting

Swimming Pool, Jacuzzi & Fountain Maintenance

Roadwork & Paving

For more information about storm drain protection or additional pamphlets, call:

STORMWATER PROGRAM
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

1 (800) 974-9794
www.LAstormwater.org

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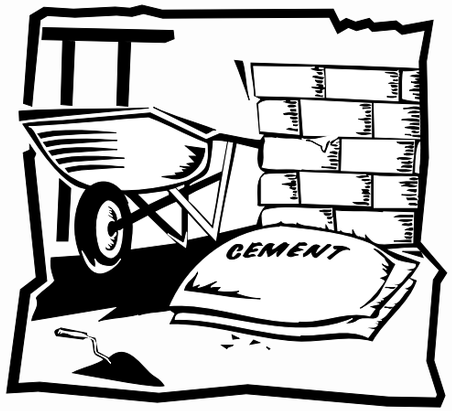
Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs)



Fresh Concrete & Mortar Application

Safe Environmental Habits and Procedures for:

Construction Inspectors
Developers
Do-It-Yourselfers
Home Builders
Masons and Bricklayers
Patio Construction Workers
Sidewalk Construction Crews

Stormwater Management Division Department of Public Works

Ocean Pollution Prevention
It's Up to *Us*

Los Angeles has two drainage systems–the sewers and the ***storm drains.*** The storm drain system was designed to prevent flooding by carrying excess rainwater away from city streets out to the ocean.

Because the system contains no filters, it now serves the *unintended* function of carrying urban pollution straight to the ocean.

This pamphlet tells you how to prevent ocean pollution from "stormwater" or "urban runoff."

Rain, industrial and household water mixed with urban pollutants creates stormwater pollution. The pollutants include: oil and other automotive fluids, paint and construction debris, yard and pet wastes, pesticides and litter.

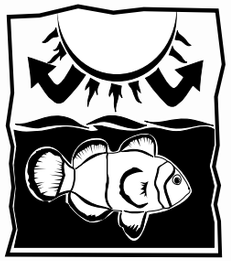
Urban runoff pollution flows to the ocean through the storm drain system–1,500 miles of pipes that take water and debris straight from Los Angeles streets to the ocean. Each day, 100 million gallons of polluted urban runoff enter the ocean untreated, leaving toxic chemicals in our surf and over 4,300 *tons* of trash on our beaches annually.

Urban runoff pollution contaminates the ocean, closes beaches, harms aquatic life and increases the risk of inland flooding by clogging gutters and catch basins.

These Best Management Practices (BMPs) will ensure a cleaner ocean and city.

Concrete & Mortar Application Problems

Fresh concrete and mortar activities are frequent sources of urban runoff pollution. Materials and wastes blown or washed into a street, gutter or storm drain have a direct impact on the ocean.



Sediment is the most common pollutant washed from work sites, creating multiple problems once it enters the ocean. Sediment clogs the gills of fish, blocks light transmission and increases ocean water temperature, all of which harm sea life, disrupting the food chain upon which both fish and people depend.

Sediment also carries with it other work site pollutants such as cement wash, gravel, asphalt, pesticides, cleaning solvents, motor oil, grease and fuel. Thus, poorly maintained equipment and vehicles leaking fuel and oil at the work site contribute to ocean pollution.

Solutions

Best Management Practices that include the proper handling, storage and disposal of materials can prevent pollutants from entering the ocean through the storm drain system.

❶ General Business Practices

- Schedule projects for dry weather periods.
- **Keep materials out of the rain.** Store both dry and wet materials under cover, protected from rainfall and runoff. Also, protect dry materials from the wind.
- Secure open bags of cement to keep wind-blown cement powder away from streets, gutters, storm drains, rainfall and runoff.

❷ Cleaning Up

- When cleaning up after driveway or sidewalk construction, wash concrete dust onto dirt areas, not down the driveway or into the street or storm drain.
- Wash out concrete mixers and equipment only in designated wash-out areas, where the water flows into containment ponds or onto dirt.

- Recycle cement wash water by pumping it back into cement mixers for reuse.
- Never dispose of cement washout into driveways, streets, gutters, storm drains or drainage ditches.

❸ During Construction

- Place erosion controls (i.e. berms or temporary vegetation) down slope to capture runoff carrying mortar or cement before it reaches the storm drain.
- Do not order or mix up more fresh concrete or cement than you will use.
- Set up and operate small mixers on tarps or heavy drop cloths.
- When breaking up paving (cement or asphalt), be sure to pick up all the pieces. Recycle them at a crushing company. Use the referral numbers listed in this pamphlet.

- Dispose of small amounts of excess dry concrete, grout and mortar in the trash.
- **Never bury waste material.** Recycle or dispose of it as hazardous waste material. For disposal information contact the:

City of Los Angeles
Hazardous and Toxic Materials Office
(800) 98-TOXIC