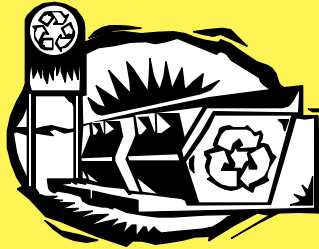


4

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.
- **Never bury waste materials or leave them in the street.**
- **Dispose of all waste properly.** Many construction materials, including solvents, water-based paints, vehicle fluids, broken asphalt and concrete, wood, and cleared vegetation can be recycled. 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) 485-8080 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 or (888) CLEAN-LA

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

Automotive Maintenance & Car Care

Food Service Industry

Fresh Concrete & Mortar Application

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:



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

Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs)



General Construction & Site Supervision

Safe Environmental Habits and Procedures for:

General Contractors
Construction Inspectors

Home Builders
Developers

Masons & Bricklayers

Patio Construction Workers

Sidewalk Construction Crews



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.

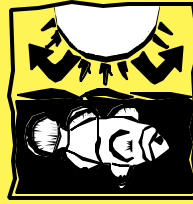
Urban runoff pollution contaminates the ocean, closes beaches, harms aquatic life and increases the risk of inland flooding by clogging gutters and catch basins.

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

General Construction Problems

Construction sites are common sources of urban runoff pollution. Materials and wastes blown or washed into a street, gutter or storm drain flow directly to 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 aquatic creatures. They also disturb the food chain upon which both fish and people depend on.



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

As a contractor, site supervisor, owner or operator of a site, *you may be held responsible for the environmental damage caused by your subcontractors or employees.*

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.

1 General Business Practices

- **Keep pollutants off exposed surfaces.** Place trash cans and recycling receptacles around the site.
- **Cover and maintain dumpsters.** Check frequently for leaks. Place dumpsters under a roof or cover with tarps or plastic sheeting.



Never clean a dumpster by hosing it down on-site!

- **Keep materials out of the rain.** Cover exposed piles of soil or construction materials with plastic sheeting or temporary roofs.
- **Designate one area** for auto parking, vehicle refueling and routine equipment maintenance. The designated area should be well away from gutters or storm drains. Make all major repairs off-site.
- **Make sure portable toilets are in good working order.** Check frequently for leaks.
- **Use as little water as possible** for dust control.

2 Cleaning Up

- **Clean up leaks, drips and other spills immediately.** This will prevent contaminated soil or residue on paved surfaces.
- **Never hose down “dirty” pavement or surfaces where materials have spilled.** Use dry cleanup methods whenever possible.



3 Advanced Planning to Prevent Pollution

An erosion control program, worked out before construction begins, prevents or minimizes most erosion and sedimentation problems.

- **Train your employees and subcontractors.** Make these pamphlets available to everyone working on site. Inform subcontractors about stormwater requirements and their own responsibilities.



- **Schedule excavation and grading activities** for dry weather periods.
- **Control surface runoff to reduce erosion,** especially during excavation. Use drainage ditches to divert water flow.
- **Use gravel approaches to reduce soil compaction** and limit the tracking of sediments into streets, where truck traffic is frequent.
- **Prevent erosion by planting** fast-growing annual and perennial grasses. These will shield and bind the soil.
- **Do not remove trees or shrubs unnecessarily.** They help decrease erosion.

