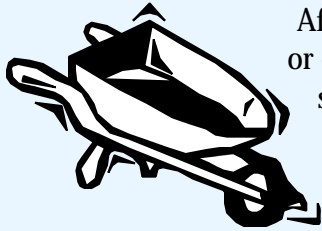


5 Erosion Prevention



After clearing, grading or excavating, exposed soil poses a clear and immediate danger of stormwater pollution.

Re-vegetation (permanent or temporary) is an excellent form of erosion control for any site.

- Avoid excavation and grading activities during wet weather.
- Construct diversion dikes to channel runoff around the site. Line channels with grass or roughened pavement to reduce runoff velocity.
- Cover stockpiles and excavated soil with secured tarps or plastic sheeting.
- Remove existing vegetation only when absolutely necessary. Large projects should be conducted in phases.
- Consider planting temporary vegetation for erosion control on slopes or where construction is not immediately planned.
- Plant permanent vegetation as soon as possible, once excavation and grading activities are complete.



Spill Response Agencies

City of Los Angeles

Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation
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 Sanitation
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 Sanitation
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

General Construction & Site Supervision

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:



www.LAstormwater.org

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

Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs)



Heavy Equipment & Earthmoving Activities

Safe Environmental Habits and Procedures for:

Bulldozer, Backhoe & Gardening Machine Operators

Developers

Dump Truck Drivers

General Contractors

Home Builders

Site Supervisors



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.

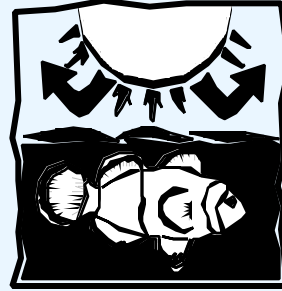
Urban runoff pollution contaminates the ocean, closes beaches, harms aquatic life and increases the risk of inland flooding by clogging gutters and catch basins.

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

Heavy Equipment Operation Problems

Soil excavation and grading operations often contribute to urban runoff pollution. By loosening large amounts of soil and sediment, earthmoving activities can cause sediment to flow into gutters, storm drains and 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, disturbing the food chain upon which both fish and people depend.



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 at the construction site also 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.

1 General Business Practices



- Schedule excavation and grading work for dry weather.
- Use as little water as possible for dust control.

2 Vehicle & Equipment Maintenance

- Maintain all vehicles and heavy equipment. **Inspect frequently for leaks.**
- Conduct all vehicle/equipment maintenance and refueling at one location—**away from storm drains.**
- Perform major maintenance, repair jobs and vehicle/equipment washing off-site.
- Use gravel approaches where truck traffic is frequent to reduce soil compaction and limit the tracking of sediment into streets.

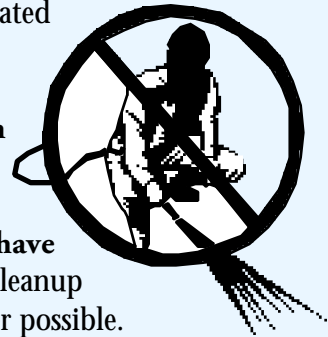


- Use **drip pans or drop cloths to catch drips and spills**, if you drain and replace motor oil, radiator coolant or other fluids on-site. Collect all used fluids, store in separate containers and recycle whenever possible.
- Do not use diesel oil to lubricate equipment or parts.



3 Cleaning Up

- Sweep up dry spilled materials immediately. Never attempt to bury them or “wash them away” with water.
- Clean up spills on dirt areas by digging up and properly disposing of contaminated soil.
- **Report significant spills to the appropriate spill response agencies immediately.** Use the telephone numbers provided on the back of this pamphlet.
- **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.



4 Employee & Client Education

Educate your employees. Include water quality training in new employee orientations and conduct annual review sessions.

Educate your customers. Raise employee and customer awareness by stenciling storm drains near the work place with the City's stencil:

