



### **Spill Response Agencies**

City of Garden Grove Fire Department  
(714) 741-5600  
or if there is an emergency dial 911

City of Garden Grove Environmental Compliance  
Division (714) 741-5375

Orange County Resources and Development  
Management Department (714) 567-6363

### **Household Hazardous Waste Disposal**

City of Garden Grove Department of Public Works  
(714) 741-5375

### **Report Illegal Dumping**

City of Garden Grove Environmental Compliance  
Division (714) 741-5375

### **To Report a Clogged Catch Basin**

City of Garden Grove Department of Public Works  
(714) 711-5375

For more information about storm drain protection  
or additional brochures, please call the City of  
Garden Grove Public Works Department at (714)  
741-5375.

This brochure is one of a series of  
pamphlets describing storm drain  
protection measures.

Pamphlets include:

- Painting
- Food Service Industry
- Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application
- General Construction and Site Supervision
- Heavy Equipment and Earth Moving Activities
- Landscaping, Gardening and Pest Control
- Home Repair and Remodeling
- Automotive Maintenance and Car Care
- Roadwork and Paving.



**GARDEN GROVE**

Published by:  
City of Garden Grove  
Public Works Department  
Environmental Compliance Division

**Preventing  
Storm Water Pollution  
During**

# **Maintenance Practices for Your Business**



A guide for:

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- Commercial Businesses
  - Industrial Businesses
  - Property Management Companies
  - Commercial and Industrial Property Owners

## Ocean Pollution Prevention: It's Up To Us

Garden Grove has two drainage systems; sewers and 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 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, which takes water and debris straight from the streets to the ocean. Each day 100 million gallons of polluted urban runoff enter the ocean untreated, leaving toxic chemicals in our surf and tons of trash on our beaches. 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 city and ocean.

## Business Maintenance Problems:

Common business maintenance practices include outdoor area washing, outdoor storage of materials and routine parking lot cleaning. All of these activities can contribute to urban runoff and ocean pollution if not conducted or managed properly. Materials and wastes blown or washed into a street, gutter or storm drain have direct impacts on the ocean.

Pollution from parking lots and outdoor area washing include sediment, oil, litter, pesticides and heavy metals. Sediment can clog the gills of fish, block light transmission and increase ocean water temperatures, all of which harm sea life, disrupting

the food chain upon which both fish and people depend.

## Solutions:

### Keep Work Areas Clean

- Handling, storing and disposing of materials properly can prevent pollutants from entering the storm drains.

### Cleaning Outdoor Areas

- If you wash your building, sidewalk or parking lot, you must contain the water. Use a shop vac to collect the water and contact the Garden Grove Sanitary District at (714) 741-5090 for proper disposal information. Do not allow the wash water to enter the street, gutter or storm drain.
- Use a damp mop, broom or scrub brush to clean floors and sidewalks.

### Landscape Maintenance

- Compost grass clippings, leaves and sticks. Do not sweep or hose vegetative clippings to the street, gutter or storm drain.
- Irrigate slowly and inspect the irrigation system for leaks, overspray and runoff. Report problems to the property management.
- Do not apply fertilizers or pesticides within 100 feet of waterways or if rain is expected within 48 hours.

### Handling Materials & Wastes

- Do not dump any toxic substance or liquid waste on the pavement, ground or near a storm drain. Even materials that seem harmless such as latex paint or biodegradable cleaners can damage the environment.
- Call your trash hauler to replace leaking dumpsters or dumpsters missing lids.
- Keep dumpster lids closed. This prevents litter and trash from blowing out of the dumpster and rainwater from entering the dumpster.

- Keep the area around the dumpster clear of trash and debris. Do not overfill the dumpster.

### Material Storage

- Store materials indoors or undercover and away from storm drains.
- Properly label materials and wastes. Educate employees with Material Safety Data Sheets.
- Place all 55 gallon drums on secondary containment pallets or in a bermed area.

### Spills

- Do not hose down or use water on spills.
- Use dry cleaning methods to clean up dry spills, such as sweeping or mopping.
- Use cat litter, towels or rags to absorb wet spills. Dispose of all non-hazardous waste into the trash and hazardous waste appropriately.
- Prepare and use spill clean up kits in areas where hazardous or liquid wastes are stored. Include safety equipment and clean up materials appropriate to the type and quantity of material that could spill. Pour cat litter, sawdust or cornmeal on spills.

### Employee & Customer Education

- Educate your employees. Include water quality training in new employee orientation and conduct annual review sessions.
- Educate your customers. Raise both employee and customer awareness by stenciling storm drains near the work place with the stencil: "No Dumping: This Drains to the Ocean."

### Recycle

- Recycle all paper wastes, ink cartridges, glass and aluminum. Request recycle dumpsters from the property management.
- Recycle paints, solvents and other materials. For more information about recycling and collection centers, visit [www.oilandfills.com](http://www.oilandfills.com)