

## Who should use this brochure?

- Bakeries
- Food Produces Distributors
- Grocery Stores
- Restaurants



## Storm Drain Pollution Prevention: It's Up to Us

Around the Salinas Valley, Storm drains flow directly to local creeks, and streams to the ocean sanctuary without treatment. Storm water pollution is a serious problem for wildlife dependent on clean water and for the people who live near stream or the bay. Some common sources of this pollution include spilled oil, fuel, fluids from vehicles and heavy equipment, construction debris, landscaping runoff containing pesticides or weed killers, and materials such as used motor oil, antifreeze, and paint products that people pour into a street or storm drain.

King City is involved in educating local residents and businesses to fight storm drain pollution. We hope you will join us, by using the practices described in this pamphlet.

## What Can You Do?

### Problems

The by-products of food-related businesses can harm the ocean and sea life if they enter the storm drain system. Food businesses can cause harm by putting food waste in leaky dumpsters, not cleaning up outdoor food or chemical spills, or by washing indoor spills into the storm drain system.

Other routine activities such as cleaning oily vents and operating and maintaining delivery trucks are sources of pollution, unless proper precautions are taken. When it rains, motor oil that has dripped onto parking lots from business and customer vehicles is washed into the ocean via the storm drain system. Oil and grease can clog fish gills and block oxygen from entering the water. Also, toxics found in oven and floor cleaners can, in high concentrations, harm aquatic life.



### Solutions

#### Minimize Wastes

Use non-disposable products. Serve food on ceramic dishware rather than paper, plastic, or Styrofoam and use cloth napkins rather than paper ones. If you must use disposable products, use paper instead of Styrofoam.



#### **Buy the least toxic products available.**

- Look for “non-toxic,” “non-petroleum based,” “free of ammonia, phosphates, dye or perfume,” or “readily biodegradable” on the label.
- Avoid chlorinated compounds, petroleum distillates, phenols, and formaldehyde.
- Use water-based products.
- Look for and used “recycled” and “recyclable” containers.

#### Keep Work Sites Clean

**Cover, repair, or replace leaky dumpsters and compactors**, and/or drain the pavement beneath them to the sewer. Rain can wash oil, grease, and substances into storm drains.

**Wash greasy equipment** such as vents and vehicles in designated wash areas with an appropriate oil/water separator before storing outside. Ensure that designated wash areas are properly connected to the sewer system.

## Recycled Wastes

**Purchase recycled products.** By doing so, you help ensure a use for recyclable materials.

**Recycle** the following materials:

- Food waste (non-greasy, non-animal food waste can be composted)
- Paper and cardboard
- Glass, aluminum and tin containers
- Pallets and drums
- Oil and Grease



**Separate wastes.** Keep you recyclable wastes in separate containers according to the type of material. They are easier to recycle if separated.

**Recycle oil and grease wastes.** Never dump them down storm drains or on the ground. Look in the yellow pages under “Greases” or call one of the disposal numbers listed in this pamphlet.

### Toxic Disposal

Toxic waste includes used cleaners, rags (soaked with solvents, floor cleaners, and detergents) and automotive products (such as antifreeze, brake fluid, radiator flush and used batteries).

For information on disposal call the Monterey Peninsula Waste Management District.

## Employee & Client Education

Employees can help prevent pollution when you include water quality training in employee orientation and reviews.

Promote these Best Management Practices (BMP's):

### ***Storage containers should be regularly inspected and kept in good condition***

- Place materials inside rigid, durable, watertight and rodent-proof container with tight fitting covers.
- Store material inside a building or build a covered area that is paved and designed to prevent runoff from entering storm drains.
- Place plastic sheeting over materials or containers and secure the cover with ties and weighted objects. (Not appropriate for storing liquids.)

**Post BMPs where employees and customers can see them.** Showing customers you protect the ocean is good public relations.

**Explain BMPs to other food businesses** through your merchant associations or Chamber of Commerce.

**Raise both employee and customer awareness** by stenciling storm drains near the workplace with the City's stencil

This Brochure is one of a series of pamphlets describing storm drain protection measures for specific types of maintenance activities.

### Other pamphlets include:

- Landscaping & Gardening
- Painting & Application of Solvents and Adhesives
- Pest Control Tips
- Automotive Maintenance & Car Care

For more information about the storm drain protection program and free educational materials, contact  
City Hall:  
(831) 385-3281



## **Spill Response Agencies**

1. For individual Agency Information  
Dial: (800) CLEANUP
2. County of Monterey  
Department of Environmental Health (831) 755-4511
3. California Department of Toxic Substance Control 1-800-69TOXIC (24 Hours)
4. California State Department of Fish and Game 1-888-DFG-CALTIP (334-2258)
5. Office of emergency Services  
Warning Center (800) 852-7550 (24 Hours)
6. Region Poison Control Center 1-800-222-1222 (24 Hours)
7. DIAL 911 (For emergencies only)

## **Waste Disposal**

8. Monterey Peninsula Waste Management District Recycling & Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program (831) 384-5313

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## **Food Service Industry**

**Best Management Practices  
for the  
Commercial Industry**

