

Even though you may live miles from Monterey Bay, you may be polluting bay waters without knowing it.



Before you pour anything on the ground or street, down a gutter or storm drain, stop and think!



The leading cause of oil spills in the ocean is **NOT** from tanker accidents, it's from **CITIZENS!** Nationwide every year 350 million gallons of oil is discarded in storm drains, waterways, and soils. This is **30** times greater than the largest tanker spill!



URBAN

RUNOFF (storm drain pollution) is caused by motor oil, antifreeze, paints, chemicals that are poured or washed down neighborhood storm drains. Everything that goes down the storm drain flows directly into creeks, waterways and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Unlike the water that goes down the drains in kitchens and bathrooms, storm drain water is **NOT** cleansed by sewage treatment plants.

On a rainy day have you ever wondered what happens to ...

- Motor oil on roads, highways, parking lots, driveways, and in storm drains?
- Old antifreeze discard from washing cars?
- Trash and grime from parking lots, sidewalks and streets?
- Fertilizers and pesticides from lawns and gardens?
- Bare soil on hillsides?
- Pet waste from lawns, streets, and sidewalks?

Storm drains flow directly into creeks...

Storm drains are not connected to household sewer systems. Storm drain pollutants (urban runoff) flow directly into waterways and oceans without treatment.

Who is Responsible for Urban Runoff?

Answer : Everyone!



Information Sources

For local motor oil collection centers, household hazardous waste disposal locations, or recycling center nearest you or throughout California, call the free California Environmental Hotline at: (800) CLEAN-UP or visit www.CLEANUP.org

Please do not mix used motor oil with antifreeze, transmission fluid, gasoline, or other contaminants.

Other Helpful Contacts:

City of Carmel	(831) 624-3543
City of Del Rey Oaks	(831) 394-8511
City of Marina	(831) 884-1212
City of Monterey	(831) 646-3921
City of Pacific Grove	(831) 648-5722
City of Salinas	(831) 424-5520
City of Sand City	(831) 373-1333
City of Santa Cruz	(831) 420-5160
City of Seaside	(831) 899-6825
City of Watsonville	(831) 768-3133
Marin County	(415) 499-7868
Monterey County	(831) 384-5313
Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	(831) 647-4201

Monterey Bay is the nation's largest Marine Sanctuary, encompassing over 3,500 square miles along the Central California Coast from Marin County near San Francisco southward to Cambria in San Luis Obispo County. The Sanctuary protects many habitats, ranging from sand flats along the shoreline to the nation's most extensive kelp forests and one of the world's largest underwater canyons. Surrounding wetlands provide nursery grounds for juvenile fish, help protect against flooding and improve water quality by filtering out harmful pollutants. Nutrient-rich currents nourish the area, supporting a productive and diverse marine ecosystem where countless species, many of them threatened or endangered, make their homes.



Did you know that dumping one quart of motor oil down a storm drain can pollute 250,000 gallons of water?



...and through the sloughs and waterways to Monterey Bay.

Automotive

Recycle used motor oil (for free) by taking it to an auto parts store, hazardous waste collection site or using curbside recycling pickup. When changing your car's oil, prevent spills by placing cardboard under the oil pan. Use absorbent material such as kitty litter to clean up spills. Never pour used motor oil down storm drains, on the ground, or driveways. Call recycling numbers on back.

Recycle your car's antifreeze. Call the recycling numbers listed on the back. Never rain antifreeze directly onto the ground or street. It is poisonous to pets and wildlife which are attracted to its sweet smell and taste.

Wash cars on unpaved surfaces, or at a commercial car wash. Leftover soapy water should be poured down household sink or toilet (to be treated by a sewage plant), not the driveway, gutter, street, or storm drain which lead directly to the bay without treatment.

Inspect and maintain your car regularly to prevent leakage of oil, antifreeze, and other toxic fluids. Use a drip tray to catch leaks where your car is parked.

Reduce automobile pollution by car-pooling, walking, riding your bike, or using public transportation.

Household & Home Maintenance

Keep as much of your property landscaped as possible. Planted areas absorb more rainwater and help water percolate into the ground. Bare soil promotes water runoff. As an alternative to concrete driveways, use paving bricks, which help reduce runoff.

Take unwanted chemicals like paint and pesticides to your local hazardous waste collection site. Use non-toxic household products, if possible. When using toxic products follow directions carefully and use sparingly. Properly store toxic products away from children. Never dump chemicals down storm drains, ditches, gutters, or waterways. Call the recycling numbers listed on the back.

Rinse paint brushes in the sink when using water-based latex paint. Avoid using oil-based latex paint. Recycle paint thinner by pouring a small amount into a sealable glass jar, cleaning brushes, and allowing paint solids to settle. Then pour clean paint thinner back into its original container. Dispose of unused paint, varnishes and solvents at the household hazardous waste collection site. Call recycling numbers on back.

Control erosion at construction sites, by preventing dirt and debris from entering gutters and storm drains. Use hay bales as a silt fence to prevent runoff. When pouring concrete, keep runoff away from storm drains and waterways as it is harmful to fish.

Lawn & Garden

Use non-toxic alternatives to pesticides and organic gardening techniques when possible. Plant native California species which need less water than imported varieties. Use herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. Follow label instructions carefully. Do not apply products if rain is forecast. Never dump chemicals in ditches, gutters, storm drains, or waterways. Never use motor oil to kill weeds along fences and in yards. Motor oil poured in soil contaminates water. Take unwanted toxic products to local hazardous waste collection sites. Call the recycling numbers on back.

Sweep driveways, patios, and sidewalks rather than hosing them down into the gutters and storm drains. Put lawn clippings and leaves in a compost pile or garbage can.

Water only your garden and lawn, not your driveways and sidewalks. Divert garden hoses and rain spouts away from paved surfaces to reduce water runoff from entering storm drains. Consider using a rain barrel to collect water for flower bed and lawn watering.

Pick up all pet waste regularly and dispose of in the trash can, not down the storm drain. Cat waste disposed of in the toilet can harm sea otters.

Monterey Bay Begins on Your Street!



HELP PREVENT POLLUTION OF MONTEREY BAY WATERS



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Urban Runoff?
Answer: Everyone!!!