

Preventing Pollution: It's Up to Us

In the Santa Clara Valley, storm drains transport water directly to local creeks and San Francisco Bay, without treatment. Stormwater pollution is a serious problem for wildlife dependent on our waterways and for people who live near polluted streams or baylands. Some common sources of this pollution include spilled oil, fuel, and fluids from vehicles and heavy equipment; construction debris; sediment created by erosion, landscaping runoff containing pesticides or weed killers; and materials such as used motor oil, antifreeze, and paint products that people pour or spill into streets or storm drains.

Thirteen valley municipalities have joined together with Santa Clara County and the Santa Clara Valley Water District to educate local residents and businesses and fight stormwater pollution. Join us, by following the practices described in this pamphlet.

Doing the Job Right

Site Planning and Preventive Vehicle Maintenance

- Designate one area of the construction site, well away from streams or storm drain inlets, for auto and equipment parking, refueling, and routine vehicle and equipment maintenance. Contain the area with berms, sand bags, or other barriers.

Stormwater Pollution from Heavy Equipment on Construction Sites

Poorly maintained vehicles and heavy equipment that leak fuel, oil, antifreeze or other fluids on the construction site are common sources of storm drain pollution. Prevent spills and leaks by isolating equipment from runoff channels, and by watching for leaks and other maintenance problems. Remove construction equipment from the site as soon as possible.

- Maintain all vehicles and heavy equipment. Inspect frequently for and repair leaks.
- Perform major maintenance, repair jobs, and vehicle and equipment washing off site where cleanup is easier.
- If you must drain and replace motor oil, radiator coolant, or other fluids on site, use drip pans or drop cloths to catch drips and spills. Collect all spent fluids, store in separate containers, and properly dispose as hazardous waste (recycle whenever possible).
- Do not use diesel oil to lubricate equipment parts, or clean equipment. Use only water for any onsite cleaning.
- Cover exposed fifth wheel hitches and other oily or greasy equipment during rain events.

Spill Cleanup

- Clean up spills immediately when they happen.
- Never hose down "dirty" pavement or impermeable surfaces where fluids have spilled. Use dry cleanup methods (absorbent materials, cat litter, and/or rags) whenever possible and properly dispose of absorbent materials.
- Sweep up spilled dry materials immediately. Never attempt to "wash them away" with water, or bury them.
- Use as little water as possible for dust control. Ensure water used doesn't leave silt or discharge to storm drains.
- Clean up spills on dirt areas by digging up and properly disposing of contaminated soil.
- Report significant spills to the appropriate local spill response agencies immediately. (See reverse side of brochure for telephone numbers.)
- If the spill poses a significant hazard to human health and safety, property or the environment, you must also report it to the State Office of Emergency Services (see reverse).



Small Business Hazardous Waste Disposal Program

Businesses that generate less than 27 gallons or 220 pounds of hazardous waste per month are eligible to use Santa Clara County's Small Business Hazardous Waste Disposal Program. Call (408) 299-7300 for a quote, more information or guidance on disposal.

Palo Alto operates a similar program, with monthly collection, for small businesses. Call the City of Palo Alto, (650) 496-6980, or Greenfield Services Corporation, 1-800-433-5060 for information or to schedule an appointment.

This brochure is one in a series of pamphlets describing storm drain pollution prevention measures for specific types of construction industry activities. Other pamphlets include:

Home Repair and Remodeling

General Construction and Site Supervision

Landscaping, Gardening, and Pool Maintenance

Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application

Painting and Application of Solvents and Adhesives

Roadwork and Paving



**Santa Clara Valley
Urban Runoff
Pollution Prevention Program**

Earth-Moving Activities and Dewatering Activities

For additional brochures, call **1-800-794-2482**.

Spill Response Agencies:

1. In the City of Santa Clara, call (408) 984-3080.
2. In the City of Palo Alto, call (650) 329-2413.
3. In the City of San Jose, dial 9-1-1 if hazardous materials enter the storm drain system. For non-hazardous spills, call (408) 945-3000.
4. In other cities, **DIAL 9-1-1**
5. State Office of Emergency Services Warning Center (24 hours). **1-800-852-7550**
6. Santa Clara County Environmental Health Services.(408) 299-6930

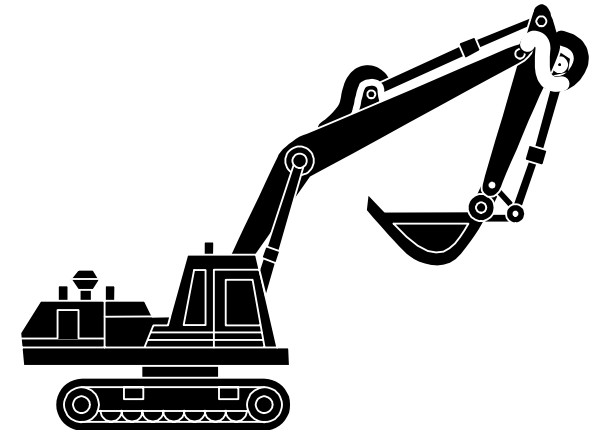
Local Pollution Control Agencies

- County of Santa Clara
Pollution Prevention Program. . . .(408) 441-1195
- County of Santa Clara Integrated Waste Management Program. (408) 441-1198
- County of Santa Clara District Attorney
Environmental Crimes Hotline. . . (408) 299-TIPS
- Santa Clara County
Recycling Hotline. 1-800-533-8414
- Santa Clara Valley Water
District. (408) 265-2600
- Santa Clara Valley Water
District Pollution Hotline. 1-888-510-5151
- San Jose/Santa Clara Water
Pollution Control Plant. (408) 945-3000
*Serving Campbell, Cupertino, Los Gatos,
Milpitas, Monte Sereno, San Jose, Santa
Clara, Saratoga*
- Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant
Serving Sunnyvale. (408) 730-7270
- Regional Water Quality
Control Plant.(650) 329-2598
*Serving East Palo Alto Sanitary District, Los
Altos, Los Altos Hills, Mountain View, Palo
Alto, Stanford*
- Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Francisco Bay Region. (510) 622-2300

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Heavy Equipment Operation

Best Management Practices for the Construction Industry



Who should use this brochure?

- Vehicle and equipment operators
- Site supervisors
- General contractors
- Home builders
- Developers