

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

General Construction and Site Supervision

Landscaping, Gardening, and Pool Maintenance

Painting and Application of Solvents and Adhesives

Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application

Roadwork and Paving

Earth-Moving Activities

Heavy Equipment Operation

For more information about the countywide storm drain protection program and additional brochures, call:



Contra Costa
Clean Water Program
255 Glacier Drive
Martinez, CA 94553
1-800-NO DUMPING

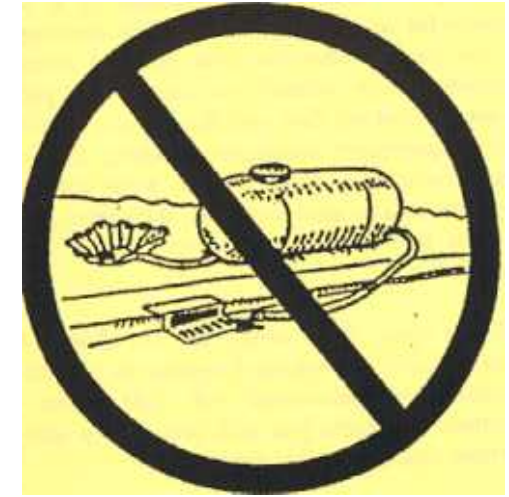
Spill Response Agencies

1. DIAL 911
2. Governor's Office of Emergency Services Warning Center
(800) 852-7550 (24 hours)

Local Pollution Control Agencies

Contra Costa	
Clean Water Program	(925) 313-2360
City of Antioch	(925) 779-7035
City of Brentwood	(925) 516-5348
City of Clayton	(925) 672-6690
City of Concord	(925) 671-3394
Contra Costa County	(925) 313-2238
Town of Danville	(925) 314-3310
City of El Cerrito	(925) 215-4367
City of Hercules	(925) 799-8247
City of Lafayette	(925) 284-1951
City of Martinez	(925) 372-3515
Town of Moraga	(925) 546-7111
City of Orinda	(925) 253-4231
City of Pinole	(510) 724-9010
City of Pittsburg	(925) 439-4963
City of Pleasant Hill	(925) 671-5261
City of Richmond	(510) 412-2001
City of San Pablo	(510) 215-3030
City of San Ramon	(925) 275-2241
City of Walnut Creek	(925) 943-5827

Earth Moving Activities



Best Management Practices for the Construction Industry



**Contra Costa
Clean Water Program**

Storm Drain Pollution Prevention: It's Up to Us

In Contra Costa County, storm drains flow directly to local creeks, San Francisco Bay, and the delta with no treatment. Stormwater pollution is a serious problem for wildlife dependent on our waterways and for the 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; landscaping runoff containing pesticides or weed killers; and materials such as used motor oil, antifreeze, and paint products that people pour or spill into a street or storm drain.

Eighteen cities, the County, and the County Flood Control District have joined together to educate local residents and businesses and fight storm drain pollution. We hope you will join us, by using the practices describe in this pamphlet.

Who should use this brochure?

Bulldozer, Backhoe, and Grading Machine Operators

Dump Truck Drivers

Site Supervisors

General Contractors

Home Builders

Developers



Storm Drain Pollution from Earth-moving Activities

Soil excavation and grading operations loosen large amounts of soil that can flow or blow into storm drains if handled improperly. Soil erodes due to a combination of decreased soil stability, increased runoff, and increased flow velocity. Some of the most effective erosion control practices reduce the amount of runoff crossing a site *and* slow the flow with check dams and roughened ground surfaces.

What Can You Do?

During Construction

- ❑ Remove existing vegetation only when absolutely necessary.
- ❑ Consider planting *temporary* vegetation or implement other appropriate erosion controls on slopes where construction is not immediately planned.
- ❑ Protect downslope drainage courses, streams, and storm drains with silt fences or other controls to intercept and slow the flow of sediment-laden discharges.
- ❑ Use check dams or ditches to divert runoff around excavations.
- ❑ Cover stockpiles and excavated soil with secured tarps or plastic sheeting.
- ❑ Stockpile erosion controls during the wet season.

General Business Practices

- ❑ Schedule excavation and grading work for dry weather.
- ❑ Perform major equipment repairs away from the job site.
- ❑ When refueling or vehicle/equipment maintenance must be done on site, designate a location away from storm drains.
- ❑ Do not use diesel oil to lubricate equipment or parts.

Detecting contaminated soil or groundwater

It is essential that all contractors and subcontractors involved in excavation and grading know what to look for in detecting contaminated soil or groundwater. See *Blueprint for a Clean Bay*, a construction best management practices guide available from Contra Costa Clean Water Program, for details.

Watch for any of these conditions:

- ✓ Unusual soil conditions, discoloration, or odor
- ✓ Abandoned underground tanks
- ✓ Abandoned wells
- ✓ Buried barrels, debris, or trash

If contamination is suspected, call the appropriate local agency for further guidance (see reverse).