

Waste Disposal: What Goes Where?

Recycle:

- ❑ Plant material/tree branches, leaves, etc.
- ❑ Wood, broken asphalt, and concrete
- ❑ Water-based paints
- ❑ Used motor oil
- ❑ Antifreeze



Take to a household hazardous waste drop-off event:

- ❑ Unused garden and household chemicals
- ❑ Leftover paint
- ❑ Used solvents
- ❑ Paint stripping residue and rags
- ❑ Used antifreeze

Construction materials & equipment reuse and exchange

CALMAX
Sacramento
(916) 255-2369
Bi-monthly listing of available and wanted materials

Urban Ore, Inc.
1333 Sixth Street, Berkeley
(510) 559-4460
Building materials exchange

Recycling - Buy and sell building materials, concrete, asphalt, yard waste

Contra Costa County Recycling Hotline
1-800-750-4096

Dispose as trash:

- ❑ Construction debris from small projects
- ❑ Dry, empty paint cans, spent brushes, rags, and drop cloths
- ❑ Small amounts of dry mortar, grout, etc.

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

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 described in this pamphlet.

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



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

Home Repair and Remodeling



General Construction
Landscaping/Foundation Work
Painting and Paint Cleanup
Masonry and Tile Work

Best Management Practices for the Construction Industry



Contra Costa
Clean Water Program

Storm Drain Pollution Prevention: It's Up to Us

Painting and Paint Cleanup

All paints, solvents, and adhesives contain chemicals that are harmful to aquatic animals and other wildlife in our creeks and Bay. Toxic chemicals may come from liquid or solid products or from cleaning residues on rags. It is especially important not to clean brushes or painting equipment (buckets, pans, hoses, etc.) in an area where paint or paint cleanup wash water can flow to a gutter, street, or storm drain.

Paint Cleanup

- ❑ Never clean brushes or rinse paint containers into a street, gutter, storm drain, or stream.
- ❑ For water-based paints, paint out brushes to the extent possible, and rinse to the sanitary sewer.
- ❑ For oil-based paints, paint out brushes to the extent possible, filter and reuse thinners and solvents. Dispose of excess liquids and residue as hazardous waste. For information on the proper disposal of hazardous waste, call 1-800 NO DUMPING.

Who should use this brochure?

This brochure is for homeowners, and do-it-yourself remodelers who have access to residential household hazardous waste disposal programs. Contractors and other professionals should refer to the Contra Costa Clean Water Program's other publications in this series of brochures, and to *Blueprint for a Clean Bay*, a manual of best management practices for construction-related industries.

Keep waterway protection in mind whenever you or people you hire work on your house or property. The property owner is ultimately responsible for correcting any pollution problems caused by construction activities. Penalties may be more severe if storm drain contamination is not reported promptly.

General construction

- ❑ Keep all construction debris away from the street, gutter, and storm drain.
- ❑ During cleanup, check the street and gutters for refuse or debris. Look around the corner or downstream for material that may have already traveled away from your property.
- ❑ If you or your contractor keep a dumpster at your site, be sure it is securely covered with a lid or tarp when not in use.
- ❑ Paint the inside of galvanized rain gutters to reduce corrosion.

Paint Removal

- ❑ Chemical paint stripping residue, including saturated rags, is a hazardous waste and should be taken to a household hazardous waste collection event.
- ❑ Chips and dust from marine paints or paints containing lead or tributyl tin are hazardous wastes. Sweep up and save for disposal at a household hazardous waste event or facility (see reverse).

Reuse/Recycle Leftover Paints Whenever Possible

- ❑ Recycle excess water-based paint, or use it up. Dispose of excess liquid, including sludges, at a household hazardous waste facility.
- ❑ Reuse leftover oil-based paint. Dispose of excess liquid, including sludges, at a household hazardous waste event or facility.

In Contra Costa County, storm drains flow directly to local creeks, San Francisco Bay, and the delta with no treatment. Storm water pollution is a serious problem for wildlife dependent on our waterways and for the people who live near polluted streams and baylands. Home remodeling, repair, and construction activities often involve materials and wastes that are toxic to the environment when they reach a storm drain or creek. Paint products, concrete, mortar, and landscaping runoff containing weed killers or pesticides are common sources of concern. Proper handling and use of these materials is essential to protect the health of the Bay.

Landscaping/Foundation Work

- ❑ Intensive gardening, landscaping, and all excavation projects such as foundation repair or pool construction expose soils and increase the likelihood that garden chemicals and earth will wash into the storm drains. Be careful to control erosion and minimize runoff to all driveways, gutters, and storm drains.
- ❑ Schedule grading and excavation projects for dry weather.
- ❑ Cover excavated material and stockpiles of asphalt, sand, etc., with plastic tarps during the rainy season.
- ❑ Replant as soon as possible, with temporary vegetation such as annual grass seed if necessary. Revegetation provides excellent erosion control.
- ❑ Take care not to over-apply pesticides. Rinse empty containers, and apply rinse-water as you would use the product. Dispose of empty rinsed containers in the trash.
- ❑ Dispose of unused pesticides at a household hazardous waste event or facility.
- ❑ Do not blow or rake leaves, etc., into street, unless you are piling them for recycling.

Concrete/Masonry/Tile Work

- ❑ Don't mix up more fresh concrete or cement than you will use in a day.
- ❑ Cover and protect bags of cement and plaster after they are open. Be sure to keep wind-blown cement powder away from gutters, storm drains, rainfall, and runoff.
- ❑ Wash down exposed aggregate concrete only when wash water can flow onto a dirt area, or be collected, pumped, and disposed of properly. Make sure runoff does not reach gutters or storm drains.
- ❑ Never wash excess material from bricklaying or patio or driveway construction into a street or storm drain. Empty mixing container onto a dirt area, or allow material to dry and put in trash.
- ❑ Dispose of small amount of excess dry concrete, grout, and mortar in the trash. Call your local refuse hauler for weight and size limits.
- ❑ Collect and reuse excess gravel and sand.
- ❑ Never hose down driveways, sidewalk, or streets.