



# Painting and Coating Activities

The *County of San Diego Watershed Protection Program* supports businesses in their efforts to prevent pollution by offering these important Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs).

- ! Water that is released into the streets, gutters, and storm drains in San Diego County is not treated before it reaches our local creeks, rivers, and the ocean. *These tips for painting and coating will help keep our waterways clean.*

## Painting

- ▣ Identify whether the paint contains lead\*.
- ▣ Work within an enclosed area whenever possible.
- ▣ Use drip pans and drop cloths to catch spills.
- ▣ Store all paint-related materials under cover and in a contained area.
- ▣ Keep containers in good condition and cover them when not in use.

## Cleaning

- ▣ Dispose of waste paints, solvents and thinners as hazardous waste.
- ▣ Clean up work areas daily, including removing all paint chips and dust. Use dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking.
- ▣ Water may only be used if it can be contained and disposed of according to all applicable laws and regulations. When using wet cleaning methods, cover nearby storm drain inlets.
- ▣ Rinse out paintbrushes or equipment only to the sanitary sewer such as a sink and never to an impervious surface such as a driveway or curb gutter.

*\* Surfaces painted before 1978 may contain lead-based paint. State law and some local ordinances regulate the removal and disposal of lead-based paint. It is your responsibility to determine whether the paint contains lead, prior to removal and disposal. Contact the County of San Diego at (858) 694-2888, and ask to speak with an Industrial Hygienist, for lead-based paint removal and disposal requirements.*

- ! Releasing pollutants directly or indirectly into the storm drain system or waterways is a violation of the County's Watershed Protection Ordinance (WPO). *Your business is required to comply with the WPO and the following minimum BMPs.*

we can  
**protect our  
waterways**

with just  
a few steps.

**thank you**  
for doing your part  
to protect our  
waterways.



For more information, call the Stormwater Hotline at **(888) 846-0800** or visit [www.sandiegocounty.gov/dpw/watersheds.html](http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/dpw/watersheds.html) for the WPO.