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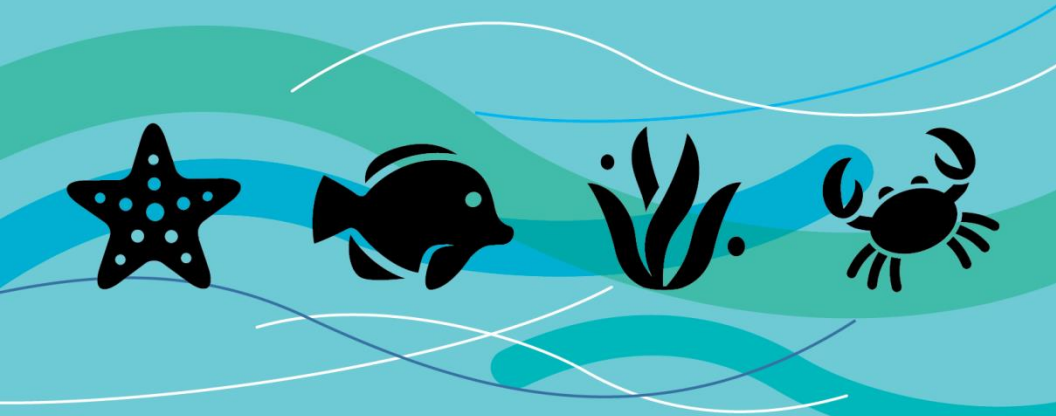
watershed protection ordinance



2019

GUIDANCE HANDBOOK

To Reduce Water Pollution



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

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The purpose of this Guidance Handbook is to supplement the Watershed Protection Ordinance (WPO). The handbook includes recommendations for selecting Best Management Practices (BMPs) that prevent pollutants from entering the County's Stormwater System (roads, streets, storm drains).

In San Diego County, water that enters the Stormwater System is not filtered or treated before it ultimately reaches our local bodies of water. These include creeks, rivers, lakes, reservoirs, and the ocean. It is important to select appropriate BMPs that are described in this handbook in order to prevent pollution from entering the storm system and local waterways. All sources of pollution are prohibited from leaving your property and entering the streets or storm drains. Only rainwater is allowed in the streets and storm drains.

This guidance handbook includes a variety of BMPs including those related to materials storage, site layout, maintenance, and spill response. It is organized by the common pollutant-generating activities across two different sectors. These sections are color-coded for ease of reference:

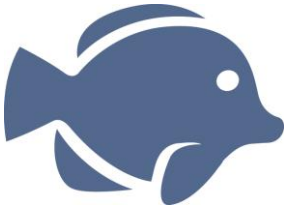
Industrial, commercial, municipal activities (orange)

Residential activities (teal).

We hope you find this Guidance Handbook to be a useful supplement to the Watershed Protection Ordinance (WPO). There are numerous other documents and resources that may be used as guidance for stormwater best management practice selection. For additional information see:

www.sandiegocounty.gov/dpw/watersheds.html

http://www.projectcleanwater.org/





Management of Material, Equipment, and Waste

Materials Management

Materials Loading and Unloading

Site Layout

- Load and unload materials only in designated areas.
- Keep materials away from storm drain inlets or water bodies where possible. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies near the loading and unloading areas.

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Regularly inspect loading and unloading areas and remove accumulations of debris, litter, waste, or other materials.



Designated loading dock is kept clean.

Photo: University of California, San Diego.



Spill kits that are readily accessible.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Use spill kits for loading and unloading areas.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d), 67.808(a)(5); (a)(7)(A)(D); (a)(9).

Storage of Materials

Site Layout

- Create a curb or barrier along the perimeter of material storage areas to prevent materials from coming in contact with stormwater.
- Store materials away from storm drain inlets and water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies near material storage areas.

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Store materials indoors or within areas divided by berms, curbs, or other barriers.
- Elevate and cover (e.g., install overhead covers or use tarps) materials stored outside that have the potential to contribute pollutants to the stormwater system or nearby bodies of water.
- Regularly inspect material containers for leaks, spills, or compromised structural integrity.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used such as material containers, berms, curbs, or other barriers. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.



Drums are elevated off the ground and under cover.

Photo: Printers' National Environmental Assistance Center (PNEAC)

*Please check with local zoning regulations and Building Departments before constructing overhead cover.



Drums are elevated off the ground and stored inside a storage container.

Photo: U.S. EPA

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Use spill kits for loading and unloading areas.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806 (a)(b)(d); 67.808(a)(5); (a)(7)(A)(B)(C)(E); (a)(9).

Liquid Container Storage

Site Layout

- Locate all liquid handling, storage, and disposal areas away from storm drains or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.
- Handle and store all liquids in contained, covered areas, and indoors.



Inlet protection to prevent a spill from entering a storm drain.

Photo: U.S.EPA

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Store liquids using secondary containment methods such as berms, spill pallets, over-pack containers, etc.
- Label all liquid containers according to applicable local, state, and federal regulations and follow applicable regulation instructions for storage and handling.
- Regularly inspect liquid containers and secondary containment for leaks, spills, and structural integrity.
- Clean and maintain containers and secondary containment as necessary.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used such as material containers, berms, curbs, or other barriers. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.



Spill containment for temporary liquid container storage.

Photo: San Diego County

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.



A spill is contained by securing the area to prevent runoff into the storm drain.

Photo: San Diego County

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d); 67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(6); (a)(7)(A)(E); (a)(9).

Waste Handling, Storage, and Disposal

Hazardous Waste

Site Layout

- Locate all hazardous waste handling, storage, and disposal areas away from storm drains or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.
- Store hazardous waste indoors or under cover.

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Elevate and cover hazardous waste storage areas (e.g., install overhead covers or use tarps).
- Store hazardous waste using secondary containment methods (e.g., berm, spill pallet, over pack container).



Drums with waste are elevated off the ground and stored under cover.

Photo: Michael Baker International

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Label all hazardous waste containers according to applicable local, state, and federal regulations and follow applicable regulation instructions for storage and handling.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used such as material containers, berms, curbs, or other barriers. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.
- Regularly inspect hazardous waste containers and secondary containment for leaks, spills, and structural integrity.
- Clean and maintain hazardous waste containers and secondary containment as necessary.



Auto batteries are elevated off the ground and stored under cover.

Photo: New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Maintain spill materials and equipment and keep them readily accessible.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 7.806(a)(b)(d); 67.808(a)(5); (a)(7)(B)(A)(E); (a)(9).

Solid Waste

Site Layout

- Locate all solid waste handling, storage, and disposal areas away from storm drains or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.
- Store solid waste indoors or under cover.
- Enclose or berm solid waste storage areas.



Solid waste is emptied and the lids on the dumpsters are closed.

Photo: County of San Diego

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Keep solid waste containers (trash cans, dumpster, metal bins, etc.) covered with lids when not in use.
- Prevent overflowing containers by ensuring regular emptying and pick up of waste.
- Regularly inspect solid waste containers for structural integrity. Clean and maintain containers and secondary containment as necessary.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used such as material containers, berms, curbs, or other barriers. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Use dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean solid waste debris and dispose of according to local laws and regulations.
- Maintain spill response materials and equipment and keep them readily accessible.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d); 67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A)(C)(E); (a)(9)



Food Grease and Oil

Site Layout

- Locate all oil and grease handling, storage, and disposal areas away from storm drains or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.
- Store oil and grease indoors or under cover.
- Enclose or berm oil and grease storage areas.

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Keep oil and grease containers within secondary containment (berm, spill pallet, over pack container, etc.).
- Use covers on all oil and grease containers (drums, metal bins, etc.) and keep closed when not in use.
- Have oil and grease drums, bins, etc., emptied or picked up regularly to prevent overflowing.
- Properly label all oil and grease containers.



Cleaning a restaurant grease trap.

Photo: County of San Diego

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Properly maintain any BMPs used such as material containers, berms, curbs, or other barriers. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.
- Regularly inspect oil and grease containers and secondary containment for leaks, spills, and structural integrity.
- Clean and maintain containers and secondary containment as necessary.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Use dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean oil and grease spills and dispose of according to local laws and regulations.
- Ensure adequate spill response is available when the grease trap is being pumped out.
- Maintain spill response materials and equipment and keep them readily accessible.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A)(C)(E) ;(a)(9).

Pet Waste and Manure

Site Layout

- Locate all pet waste and manure handling, storage, and disposal areas away from storm drains or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.
- Store pet waste and manure under cover.



Manure is stored under cover.

Photo: County of San Diego

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Separate pet waste and manure storage areas from waterways using vegetated buffers or pasture to act as a natural filter.
- Divert contaminated runoff water from pet waste and manure areas away from waterways to vegetated buffer areas.
- Store pet waste and manure in sturdy, insect-resistant, seepage-free units that have an impervious bottom (e.g., plastic garbage cans with lids, fly-tight wooden or concrete storage sheds, pits or trenches lined with an impermeable layer or composters) to prevent leaching or runoff.
- Have pet waste and manure containers and storage areas emptied or picked up regularly to prevent overflowing.

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Have pet waste and manure containers and storage areas emptied or picked up regularly to prevent overflowing.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used such as material containers, berms, curbs, or other barriers. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.
- Regularly inspect pet waste and manure containers for compromised structural integrity. Repair and clean up as necessary.
- Cover pet waste and manure during windy and rainy conditions.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Use dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean up pet waste and manure spills. Dispose of according to local laws and regulations.
- If wet methods are used to clean pet waste, rinse or wash only in bermed wash rack areas that are equipped with permitted connections to the sanitary sewer or approved septic system.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A)(C)(E) ;(a)(9).

Liquid Waste

Site Layout

- Locate all liquid handling, storage, and disposal areas away from storm drains or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.
- Store liquids elevated off the ground.
- Store liquids indoors and under cover.



Liquid storage containers are elevated off the ground and stored under cover with secondary containment.

Photo: County of San Diego

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Never rinse off liquid containers or dispose of any liquids into storm drains or water bodies.
- Rinse or wash containers only in bermed wash rack areas or sinks that have permitted connections to the sanitary sewer.
- Wash or rinse water may be directed to a landscaped location only if it does not drain to the stormwater system or to a water body.
- Never discharge backwash wastewater to the stormwater system or bodies of water.
- Backwash waste water may be drained to the sanitary sewer or a holding tank.

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Backwash wastewater may be drained to a landscaped location only if it does not drain to the stormwater system or to a water body.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used such as material containers, berms, curbs, or other barriers. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.
- Regularly inspect liquid containers and secondary containment for leaks, spills, and structural integrity.
- Clean and maintain containers and secondary containment as necessary.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Clean up small spills with absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping or vacuuming. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(6) ;(a)(7)(A)(E) ;(a)(9).

Sanitary Waste

Site Layout

- Locate all outdoor sanitary waste handling, storage, and disposal areas away from storm drains or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.



Portable toilets with emergency collection trays.

Photo: County of San Diego

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Ensure portable toilets are in good condition when they leave the storage headquarters.
- Keep all portable toilets with secondary containment whenever possible (berm, tray for portable toilets, etc.).
- Keep portable toilet doors and lids closed when not in use.
- Regularly inspect portable toilets for compromised structural integrity. Repair and cleanup as necessary.
- Regularly dispose of sanitary waste in portable toilets to prevent overflow.
- Pump out portable toilets using methods that prevent the release of sewage to the stormwater system such as a certified septic hauler, a vacuum pump truck, etc.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(6) ;(a)(7)(A) ;(a)(9).



Green Waste

Site Layout

- Locate all green waste handling, storage, and disposal areas away from storm drains or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.
- Store green waste under cover.
- Enclose or create berms around green waste storage areas where possible.
- Use bags, tarps, or drop clothes underneath temporary stockpiles to ease removal of green waste.



Green waste is disposed in a designated container and the lid will be closed after the work has been completed.

Photo: County of San Diego

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Keep all green waste containers (trash cans, dumpster, bins, etc.) covered when not in use.
- Have green waste bins and containers emptied or picked up regularly to prevent overflowing.

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Properly maintain any BMPs used such as material containers, berms, curbs, or other barriers. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.
- Regularly inspect green waste containers for compromised structural integrity. Repair and clean up as necessary.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A)(C)(E) ;(a)(9).

Recyclable and Reusable Materials

Site Layout

- Locate all recyclable and reusable materials handling, storage, and disposal areas away from storm drains or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.
- Store recyclable and reusable materials under cover.
- Enclose or berm storage areas for recyclable and reusable materials.



Recyclable materials are stored in a closed container.

Photo: County of San Diego

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Keep all containers for recyclable and reusable materials containers (trash cans, dumpster, bins, etc.) covered when not in use.
- Properly label all containers for recyclable and reusable materials. Follow label instructions for storage and handling.

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Have containers for recyclable and reusable materials emptied or picked up regularly to prevent overflowing.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used such as material containers, berms, curbs, or other barriers. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.
- Inspect containers and secondary containment for leaks, spills and structural integrity. Clean and maintain containers and secondary containment as necessary.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A)(C)(E) ;(a)(9).

General Operations and Activities

Vehicle and Equipment: Repair, Maintenance, and Service

Vehicle and Equipment Repair

Site Layout

- Perform vehicle and equipment maintenance in areas away from storm drain inlets or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.
- Perform all vehicle and equipment maintenance indoors. If conducted outdoors perform under cover and in a fully contained area.



A temporary drip pan is placed under a vehicle.

Photo: County of San Diego

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Place drip pans under vehicles and equipment during repair.
- Do not leave drip pans or other open containers containing fluids lying around. Regularly transfer fluids for recycling or proper disposal.
- Dispose of old parts and repair materials according to local laws and regulations.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used such as material containers, berms, curbs, or other barriers. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.
- Perform preventative maintenance on operational vehicles, equipment, and parts.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A) ;(a)(8) ;(a)(9).

Changing Vehicle Fluids

Site Layout

- Change vehicle fluids in areas that are away from storm drain inlets or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.
- Perform all changing of vehicle fluids indoors. If conducted outdoors perform under cover and in a fully contained area.



The used oil is collected in a drip pan and then the oil is properly recycled.

Photo: Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Services

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Place drip pans under vehicles and equipment during the changing of vehicle fluids.
- Do not leave drip pans or other open containers containing fluids lying around. Regularly transfer fluids for recycling or proper disposal.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used such as material containers, berms, curbs, or other barriers. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A) ;(a)(8) ;(a)(9).



Parts Replacement and Repair

Site Layout

- Perform parts replacement and repairs in areas away from storm drain inlets or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.
- Perform parts replacement and repairs indoors. If conducted outdoors perform under cover and in a fully contained area.



Waste fluids from parts replacement are captured and transferred regularly.

Photo: County of San Diego

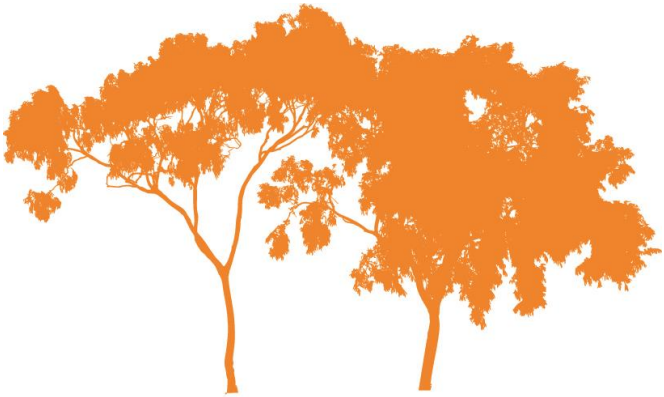
Site Storage and Maintenance

- Place drip pans under equipment and appliances when performing parts replacement and repairs.
- Do not leave drip pans or other open containers containing fluids lying around. Regularly transfer fluids for recycling or disposal according to local laws and regulations.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used such as material containers, berms, curbs, or other barriers. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A) ;(a)(8) ;(a)(9).



Parts Replacement and Repair

Site Layout

- Store vehicles away from storm drain inlets and water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies near material storage areas.



The storm drain inlet in the parking area is protected.

Photo: Michael Baker International

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Elevate and cover all outdoor vehicle, equipment, and parts storage areas (e.g. install overhead covers or use tarps).
- Drain liquids and remove batteries from non-operational vehicles and equipment as soon as possible.
- Drip pans or other methods of spill containment should be used to prevent the discharge of liquids to the stormwater system or bodies of water.
- Promptly arrange for proper disposal of non-operational vehicles, equipment, and parts.



A vehicle in disrepair is covered to prevent contact with stormwater.

Photo: County of San Diego

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A)(E) ;(a)(8) ;(a)(9).

Outdoor Storage of Parts and Equipment

Site Layout

- Store equipment and parts away from storm drain inlets and water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies near material storage areas.
- Elevate and cover all outdoor vehicle equipment and parts storage areas (e.g., install overhead covers or use tarps).

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Place drip pans under equipment and parts that may contain liquids.
- Drain liquids and remove batteries from non-operational vehicles and equipment as soon as possible.
- Promptly arrange for proper disposal of non-operational equipment and parts according to local laws and regulations.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A)(E) ;(a)(8) ;(a)(9).



Vehicle and Equipment Fueling

Site Layout

- Perform vehicle and equipment fueling in areas away from storm drain inlets or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.
- Perform all fueling activities under cover and in designated areas with secondary containment.



A covered fueling station is kept clean

Photo: University of California, San Diego

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Post signs instructing employees to “clean up small fuel spills”, to “avoid ‘topping off’ fuel tanks when filling”, and to “dispose of waste and absorbent materials in proper containers”.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used such as material containers, berms, curbs, or other barriers. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.
- Regularly inspect all piping, valves, and hoses to avoid leaks.
- Regularly inspect fueling areas for leaks and clean up appropriately.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A)(E) ;(a)(8) ;(a)(9).



Washing and Cleaning Activities

Vehicle Washing

Site Layout

- Wash vehicles in areas located away from storm drain inlets or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.
- Perform all vehicle washing activities in a designated bermed area or where wash water is captured or diverted. Capture and diversion methods may include: a dead-end sump, holding tank, oil/water separator, other treatment control BMP, or permitted sanitary sewer connection.
- Where wash water can evaporate in a dead-end sump, regularly clean out solids to prevent overflow from occurring.
- Perform any cleaning using solvents in self-contained units indoors.
- Recycle used solvents.

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Reuse or dispose of all wash water from cleaning activities according to local laws and regulations.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used such as material containers, berms, curbs, or other barriers. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.



A dedicated car wash area is covered and bermed and drains to the sanitary sewer

Photo: U.S. EPA

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(6) ;(a)(7)(A) ;(a)(8) ;(a)(9).

Equipment Washing

Site Layout

- Wash equipment in areas away from storm drain inlets or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.
- Wash equipment only in a designated bermed area or where wash water is captured or diverted. Capture and diversion methods may include: a dead-end sump, holding tank, oil/water separator, other treatment control BMP, or permitted sanitary sewer connection.
- Where wash water can evaporate in a sump, regularly clean out solids to prevent overflow from occurring.
- Perform any cleaning using solvents in self-contained units indoors.
- Recycle used solvents.



Equipment is washed in a designated wash area where the wash water is contained.

Photo: Oregon DEO Northwest Region



A wash area is designated and bermed.

Photo: County of San Diego

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Keep equipment clean to avoid oil, grease and trash buildup.
- Reuse or dispose of all wash water from cleaning activities according to local laws and regulations.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used such as material containers, berms, curbs, or other barriers. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(6) ;(a)(7)(A) ;(a)(8) ;(a)(9).

Floors, Mats, and Surfaces

Site Layout

- Wash floors, mats, and surfaces only in a designated bermed area or where wash water is captured or diverted. Capture and diversion methods may include: a dead-end sump, holding tank, oil/water separator, mop sink, other treatment control BMP, or permitted sanitary sewer connection.

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Keep floors, mats, and surfaces clean to avoid oil, grease, and trash buildup.
- Use dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean floors, mats, and surfaces.
- Reuse or properly dispose of all wash water from cleaning activities.



Water from a mop and bucket is emptied in the mop sink.

Photo: County of San Diego

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A) ;(a)(6).



Animal Grooming and Washing

Site Layout

- Locate animal grooming and washing areas away from storm drain inlets or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.
- Wash animals only in designated bermed areas or where wash water is captured or diverted. Capture and diversion methods may include: a dead-end sump, holding tank, oil/water separator, other treatment control BMP, or permitted sanitary sewer connection.
- Where wash water can evaporate in a sump, regularly clean out solids to prevent overflow from occurring.
- Wash water should be directed to an approved septic system or sanitary sewer system.
- Wash or rinse water may be directed to a landscaped location if the landscaped location does not drain to the stormwater system or a body of water.



A designated animal wash area is located away from storm drain inlets and bodies of water.

Photo: County of San Diego

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Regularly sweep and clean animal grooming and washing areas
- Collect and dispose of droppings, uneaten food, and other potential stormwater pollutants according to local laws and regulations.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A) ;(a)(6) ;(a)(9).

General Outdoor Areas and Activities

Building and Grounds Maintenance

Landscaping Activities

Site Layout

- Properly maintain any BMPs used to protect storm drain inlets/water bodies or that provide cover or containment. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.



A slope is protected with mulch, staked in fiber rolls, and a vegetated buffer.

Photo: Michael Baker International

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Prevent spills, leaks, and over-application of chemical products during grounds keeping activities.
- Prevent over-irrigation of landscaped areas.
- Contain overspray from pesticide, herbicide, and fertilizer application activities. Do not spray during windy conditions.
- Do not apply insecticides within 100 feet of water bodies.
- Properly maintain vegetation.
- Regularly remove animal waste.
- Protect hillsides and areas prone to erosion (e.g. use fiber rolls, silt fences).
- Regularly collect and dispose of litter, debris, organic matter (leaves, cut grass, etc.), and other materials.

Spill Response

- Active work areas should be cleaned daily using dry clean-up methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking.
- Wet clean-up methods, such as hosing, should only be used if precautions have been taken to prevent the discharge of wash water or other materials to the stormwater system or water bodies.
- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A) ;(a)(9)(B).

Pesticides, Herbicides, and Fertilizers

Site Layout

- Conduct pesticide formulation activities under cover or indoors.
- Perform pesticide or other chemical product formulation activities in areas located away from storm drain inlets or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.



Pesticides are stored in a secure enclosure.

Photo: County of San Diego

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Keep product containers in good condition, securely closed when not in use, and stored in a manner that protects them from contact with stormwater.
- Use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices and other non-chemical pest control methods (e.g., traps, sticky tape, hot-wire lamps).
- Pesticides, fertilizers, and other chemical products should be used and disposed of in accordance with label instructions, material safety data sheet(s), and applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Consider weather conditions and irrigation schedules prior to the outdoor application of fertilizers and pesticides.
- Do not apply fertilizers or pesticides during windy conditions or prior to irrigation and rainfall.
- Use appropriate methods (e.g., timed application, combination slow-release and constant liquid fertilizer) to reduce excessive fertilization.
- Apply surface dressings in several smaller applications instead of one large application. This allows the chemicals to work in and to avoid excess materials being carried offsite by runoff.
- Use low volume watering methods (e.g., drip-, sub-, and pulse-irrigation) to minimize over irrigation.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.

Spill Response

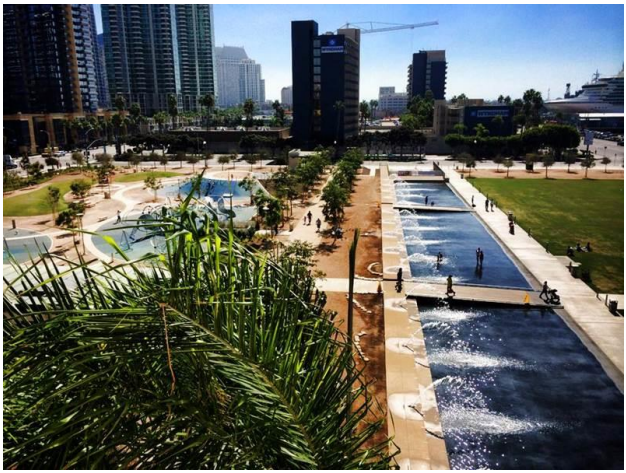
- Active work areas should be cleaned daily using dry clean-up methods, such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking.
- Wet clean-up methods, such as hosing, should only be used if precautions have been taken to prevent the discharge of wash water or other materials to the stormwater system or water bodies.
- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A)(E) ;(a)(9).

Pool, Spa, and Fountain Maintenance

Site Layout

- Store pool, spa and fountain chemicals indoors or under cover.
- Locate all handling, storage, and disposal areas away from storm drains or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.



An interactive fountain is clean and maintained.

Photo: County of San Diego

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Do not rinse off liquid containers or dispose of any liquids into storm drains or water bodies. Rinse and wash containers only in bermed wash rack areas or sinks with permitted connections to the sanitary sewer.
- Pool, spa, and fountain water may be directed to a landscaped location only if it does not drain to the stormwater system or a body of water.

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Never discharge backwash wastewater to the stormwater system or to water bodies. Backwash wastewater may be disposed of to the sanitary sewer or to a holding tank.
- Backwash wastewater may be drained to a landscaped location only if it does not drain to the stormwater system or a body of water.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(6) ;(a)(7)(A) ;(a)(9)

Paved Areas



A blue filter insert is placed in the storm drain to collect dirt and debris.

Photo: County of San Diego

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Protect storm drains (e.g. use sand bags, filter inserts, absorbent berms, rubber mats) in or near sidewalks, paved areas, parking lots, roads, and driveways.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.
- Regularly inspect storm drains and remove debris, saturated absorbent berms, damaged sand bags, or inserts as necessary.
- Keep paved areas clean by removing accumulation of debris, trash, sediment, etc.
- Keep paved areas maintained by fixing cracks, holes, etc.
- Place drip pans under leaking vehicles.



The storm drain inlet is protected while cleaning the pavement.

Photo: University of California, San Diego

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A) ;(a)(9).

Break and Public Areas

Site Layout

- Locate break and public areas under cover or indoors.



A break area is under cover and routinely cleaned and maintained.

Photo: County of San Diego

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Maintain and clean break and public areas.
- Place recyclables containers away from storm drains and water bodies.
- Provide sufficient solid waste and recycling containers at convenient locations.
- Properly label all waste and recycling containers.
- Keep all waste and recycling containers covered when not in use.
- Have waste and recycling containers emptied or picked up regularly to prevent overflowing.

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Repair or replace waste and recycling containers that have compromised structural integrity. Clean up any resulting debris or leaks.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used such as berms, curbs, or other barriers. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A)(C)(E) ;(a)(9).

Pressure Washing

Site Layout

- Conduct pressure washing under a covered area.
- Pressure washing should not be conducted during windy or rainy weather.
- Perform all pressure washing activities away from storm drain inlets or water bodies. If not possible, fully protect inlets or water bodies.
- Perform all pressure washing activities only in designated bermed areas or where wash water is captured or diverted. Capture and diversion methods may include: a dead-end sump, holding tank, oil/water separator, other treatment control BMP, or permitted sanitary sewer connection.
- Where wash water can evaporate in a sump, regularly clean out solids to prevent overflow from occurring.



Wash water is collected with a wet vacuum and absorbent socks.

Photo: County of San Diego

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Keep all cleaning supplies, within secondary containment.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(6) ;(a)(7)(A)(E) ;(a)(9).



Fire Sprinkler Testing and Maintenance

Site Layout

- Fire sprinkler testing and maintenance water should be directed to an approved septic system or sanitary sewer system.
- Test water may be directed to a landscaped location if the landscaped location does not drain to the stormwater system or a body of water.



A fire sprinkler filter BMP is filtering the rust and other pollutants during testing.

Photo: County of San Diego

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Vacuum up standing water before storm drain inlet protection is removed.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used such as berms, curbs, or other barriers. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(6) ;(a)(7)(A) ;(a)(9).

Erodible Surfaces and Construction Areas

Site Layout

- Avoid conducting construction activities on erodible surfaces during windy or rainy weather to reduce potential aerial dispersion and erosion of sediment.
- Direct runoff from erodible surfaces and areas under construction away or down slope from storm drains or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.



A dirt stockpile is covered with a tarp, protected with fiber rolls, and a silt fence.

Photo: Michael Baker International

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Contain all debris and sediment from erodible surfaces and areas under construction.
- Cover and contain all stockpiles when not in use.
- Reduce dust and particulates by reducing vehicle speed on unpaved areas and by lightly watering roads, trails, and construction areas.

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Use wood mulch, erosion control mats and blankets, silt fences, fiber rolls, sand or gravel bags to prevent erosion and sediment transport.
- Protect existing vegetation from construction activities.
- Re-vegetate barren areas to reduce erodible surfaces.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A) ;(a)(9)(A)(B).

Rooftops



A wet vacuum and absorbent socks are used to collect wash water from the roof.

Photo: County of San Diego

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Direct roof downspouts and any wash water from rooftops toward pervious areas, such as landscapes.
- Avoid storing potential contaminants on rooftops.
- Keep rooftops and downspouts clean and maintained.
- Contain and properly dispose of debris from cleaning or repairs.
- Regularly remove dirt, debris, and waste from rooftops and downspouts.

Spill Response

- Consider creating a spill response plan.
- Train employees in the proper methods for spill clean-up.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A) ;(a)(9)(D).



Storm Drain Systems



Stenciling is used to identify the storm drain.

Photo: County of San Diego

Site Storage and Maintenance

- Regularly remove accumulated trash, debris, and vegetated debris from channels and storm drain inlets.
- Properly maintain any BMPs used. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.
- Prevent discharges during BMP cleaning and maintenance.
- Prevent illicit discharges and connections into the stormwater system and bodies of water. Illicit connections should be removed as soon as possible.
- Stencil storm drain inlets and post signs prohibiting illegal discharges or dumping. Name the appropriate receiving water body on all signage.
- Properly store and dispose of waste from cleaning activities.
- Regularly inspect storm drains for debris or evidence of illegal dumping or connections.

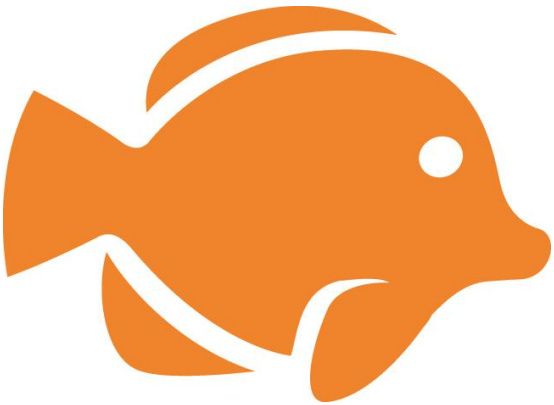
Site Storage and Maintenance

- Properly maintain any BMPs used. Replace or upgrade BMPs as necessary.
- Inspect drainage inserts before the rainy season and after rain events for sediment buildup. Repair any structural damage.

Spill Response

- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- For other spill response information refer to the Spill Section at the back of this handbook.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Sections 67.806(a)(b)(d);67.808(a)(5) ;(a)(7)(A)(C)(E) ;(a)(9).



General Residential Activities

Boats and Vehicles

Repair and Maintenance of Motor Vehicles and Boats

- Maintain vehicles and boats away from storm drain inlets or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.
- Perform all vehicle or boat maintenance and repair indoors, especially during rain. If conducted outdoors, perform under cover and in a fully contained area preventing runoff and run-on.
- Place drip pans under vehicles or equipment during repair and storage.
- Do not leave drip pans or open containers containing fluids lying around. Regularly transfer fluids for recycling or proper disposal.
- Ensure that runoff from degreasing or pressure washing of engines and other parts is contained and properly disposed of in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Store automotive or boat materials and associated wastes indoors, under cover, or in secure and watertight containers.
- Materials and equipment necessary for spill response to vehicle fluids and boat bilge water should be maintained and kept readily accessible.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods to cleanup spills. Properly dispose of the used materials promptly.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Section 67.807(a).

Motor Vehicle Washing

- Wash vehicles only in a designated bermed area or in a manner such that wash water is captured or diverted to lawns, gravel areas, or the sanitary sewer.
- Store any cleaning solvents or engine degreasers in self-contained units indoors. Recycle any used solvents.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods to clean up spills. Properly dispose of the used materials promptly.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Section 67.807(b).

Motor Vehicle Parking

- Store vehicles away from storm drain inlets and water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies near or down slope from vehicle parking areas.
- Elevate and cover all outdoor vehicle, equipment, and parts storage areas (e.g., install overhead covers or use tarps).
- Use drip pans or other methods of spill containment to prevent the discharge of liquids to storm drains and water bodies.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods to clean up oil and grease spills. Properly dispose of the used materials promptly.

*Please check with local zoning regulations and Building Departments before constructing overhead cover.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Section 67.807(c).

Outdoor Activities

Management of Pesticides, Herbicides, and Fertilizer



Homeowner using a pesticide granule applicator.

Photo: Michael Baker International

- Prevent spills, leaks, and over-application of chemical products during landscaping and grounds keeping activities.
- Consider weather conditions and irrigation schedules prior to the outdoor application of fertilizers and pesticides.
- Do not apply fertilizers or pesticides during windy conditions or prior to irrigation and rainfall.
- Keep product containers in good condition, securely closed when not in use, and stored in a manner that protects them from contact with stormwater.

- Use and dispose of pesticides, fertilizers, and other chemical products in accordance with label instructions, Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS), and applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
- Maintain spill response materials and equipment and keep them readily accessible.
- Clean up spills with absorbent materials and dry methods (e.g., sweeping). Properly dispose of the used materials.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Section 67.807(d).



Home Care and Maintenance



Homeowner using a tarp underneath the leaves to make it easier to remove the green waste.

Photo: Michael Baker International

- Use bags, tarps or drop clothes underneath temporary stockpiles to ease removal of green and solid waste from the generating areas.
- Store green and solid waste indoors and under cover.
- Use covers on all green and solid waste containers (trash cans, dumpsters, metal bins, etc.) and keep closed when not in use.
- Clean painting equipment in a bermed area or sink with permitted connections to the sanitary sewer system.
- Store household hazardous materials in closed and labeled containers. Store them indoors or under cover.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods to clean up hazardous and solid waste spills. Properly dispose of the used materials promptly.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Section 67.807(e).

Manure and Pet Waste Management

- Locate all pet waste or manure handling, storage, and disposal in areas away from storm drains or water bodies. If not possible, protect inlets or water bodies.
- Store pet waste or manure under cover.
- Pet waste or manure storage areas should be separated from waterways with vegetated buffers or pasture that act as a natural filter.
- To prevent leaching and runoff, store pet waste or manure in sturdy, insect-resistant, and seepage-free units with an impervious bottom (such as plastic garbage cans with lids, fly-tight wooden or concrete storage sheds, pits and trenches lined with an impermeable layer, or composters).
- Clean up after small animals (e.g., dogs and cats) at least weekly and dispose of in a covered trash can or flush it down the toilet.
- Clean up after livestock, horses, or other large animals at least 2 times weekly. Compost or dispose of waste in a covered trash can.
- Prevent overflowing pet waste or manure containers and storage areas by ensuring regular pickup of waste and compost material.
- Use dry methods to clean up pet waste or manure spills and debris such as shoveling or sweeping.



Dog owner removing the dog waste with a plastic bag that will be disposed of properly.

Photo: Michael Baker International

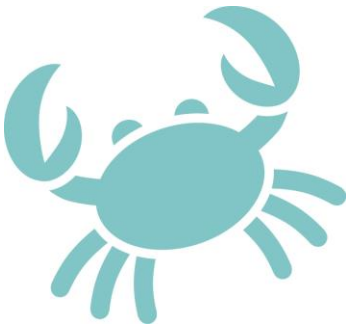
For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Section 67.807(f).

Water-Related Activities

Private Sewer Laterals and On-Site Wastewater Systems

- Clean, maintain, and repair private sewer laterals to prevent seepage and spills.
- Pump out the on-site wastewater system on a regular maintenance schedule.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods to clean up and contain spills from private sewer laterals and on-site wastewater systems.
- Properly and promptly dispose of the used materials from a spill cleanup.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Section 67.807(g).



Irrigation Runoff



A sprinkler head only spraying on a landscaped area

- Adjust sprinklers so they don't spray onto streets and sidewalks.
- Repair leaking or broken sprinklers.
- Water in short cycles (3-5 minutes) to allow water to absorb into the soil.
- Replace thirsty landscapes with drought-tolerant or native plants.
- Add mulch to areas with bare dirt to help absorb water and prevent runoff.
- Hand water plants to ensure each receives the appropriate amount of water.
- Group plants with similar watering needs together and adjust irrigation zones accordingly to prevent over-watering.
- Adjust watering schedules for the rainy season (October – April).
- Water in the mornings or evenings to reduce amount of water required to saturate the soil.

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Section 67. 807(d).

Pool, Spa, and Fountain Management

- Store pool, spa, and fountain chemicals indoors or under cover.
- Rinse and wash liquid containers only in bermed areas or in sinks with permitted connections to the sanitary sewer.
- Drain pool, backwash wastewater, and rinse water to the sanitary sewer. Contact your sewer agency for restriction and limitation requirements.
- Pool, spa, or fountain water may be directed to a storm drain system if:
  - The water is reduced to less than 1 part per million (ppm) chlorine or bromine.
  - The water does not contain other pollutants such as algicides, acid wash, or high levels of salinity.
  - The water does not cause soil erosion.
- Pool, spa, and fountain water may be directed to a landscaped location if the landscaped location does not drain to the stormwater system or a body of water.



Spa water being drained to a landscaped area.

Photo: Michael Baker International

- Never discharge backwash wastewater to the storm drains and water bodies. Backwash wastewater may be disposed of to the sanitary sewer or to a holding tank.
- Backwash wastewater may be drained to a landscaped location if the landscaped location is not accessible to children or pets and does not drain to the stormwater system or a body of water.
- Regularly clean the pool, spa, and fountain, and maintain chemicals at proper levels to prevent algae growth.
- Materials and equipment necessary for spill response should be maintained and kept readily accessible. Persons involved with spill response should be properly trained.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods to clean up spills. Properly dispose of the used materials promptly.



Homeowner using an absorbent material to properly clean up a spill.

Photo: Michael Baker International

For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Ordinance Section 67.808(a)(6)(I)(J)(K).



Video Resources

Storm Drains are Not Sewers
English- https://youtu.be/5kDL2EF42ko
Spanish- https://youtu.be/Q71be40_6S8

Hazardous Waste Disposal
https://youtu.be/8cBHZQTZ2Ac?list=UU49Dqql8Pbh5mOy_Isg0q7Q

Contain and Clean up Spills
https://youtu.be/HA3gdWNpVoU?list=UU49Dqql8Pbh5mOy_Isg0q7Q

Landscape Erosion Control
https://youtu.be/_l8LgNJZigs?list=UU49Dqql8Pbh5mOy_Isg0q7Q

Irrigation Repair
https://youtu.be/M3YfX5_HqYg?list=UU49Dqql8Pbh5mOy_Isg0q7Q

Irrigation Controllers and Timers
https://youtu.be/h9hO9z8rtRY?list=UU49Dqql8Pbh5mOy_Isg0q7Q

Draining Pools and Spas
https://youtu.be/9Wd5yAozP-Q?list=UU49Dqql8Pbh5mOy_Isg0q7Q

Green Pools
https://youtu.be/mKW5UU_qzbc?list=UU49Dqql8Pbh5mOy_Isg0q7Q

Full List of Videos
https://www.youtube.com/user/projectcleanwaterwpp/videos



Spills

- Use spill kits to clean up spills.
- Maintain spill response materials and equipment and keep them readily accessible.
- Use absorbent materials and dry methods such as sweeping, wiping, vacuuming, or raking to clean small spills. Dispose of materials in the appropriate waste container.
- Promptly clean up larger spills and leaks. Dispose of the generated waste in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Significant spills that have the potential to discharge contaminants directly to the stormwater system or bodies of water should be safely contained then reported to the appropriate County agencies:
    - **Hazardous Materials** spills that have potential offsite consequences should be directed to the County of San Diego, Department of Environmental Health at (858) 505-6673 during working hours. After hours call 911.
    - **Other spills** that have potential offsite consequences should be directed to the Department of Public Works, Watershed Protection Program at (888) 846-0800.

Absorbents – Are materials that pick up and retain liquid causing the material to swell. Examples of absorbents are rags, kitty litter, or sand. After applying the absorbent, wait for the material to absorb the liquid and then sweep up the material for proper disposal.

Berm – A flat strip of land, raised bank, or terrace that creates a border

Best Management Practices – Activities done to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to stormwater, the stormwater drainage system or receiving waters.

Bilge Water – Dirty water that collects in the inner hull of a boat.

Dry Clean Up Methods – Techniques for cleaning up spills that do not involve the use of water. Common methods are sweeping, wiping, raking, or vacuuming.

Secondary Containment – The containment of liquids in order to prevent pollution of soil and water. Common techniques include the use of spill berms to contain oil-filled equipment, fuel tanks, truck washing decks, or any other places or items that may leak liquids.

Sewer Laterals – The pipe that connects indoor plumbing to the **sewer** main line.

Spill Kit – Confines a spill to a specific area so that it does not leave the property or enter a storm drain.

Spill Pallet – Bundled secondary containment item that is designed to capture spilled liquid.

Sump – A pit or hollow where liquid collects.

Watershed – An area of land which drains all rain that falls within it to a common body of water such as a creek, lake or ocean. All land is part of a watershed.

Watershed Protection Ordinance – The laws and regulations that govern stormwater related activities in the unincorporated areas of the County of San Diego.

