



county of san diego

soil & sediment



Let's All Do Our Part!

Most residents are concerned about keeping our waterways clean. In fact, surveys conducted across San Diego County show that **more than 50% of residents** believe that pollution of our beaches, lakes, and creeks directly affects them and their families.

We're Here To Help.

Although they are natural substances, soil and dirt that enter the storm drain system can cause problems for our waterways by filling in streams and blocking sunlight that organisms need to live. The **County of San Diego Watershed Protection Program** supports residents in their efforts to prevent pollution by offering these important **tips for preventing soil and sediment from entering the storm drain system.**



Water that is released to the streets, gutters, and storm drains in San Diego County IS NOT TREATED before it reaches our local creeks, rivers, and the ocean. **All sources of pollution, including soil and sediment, are prohibited from leaving your property and entering streets or storm drains. Only rainwater is allowed in the streets and storm drains.**

What Can You Do To Keep Our Waterways Clean?

- **Plant trees, shrubs, or ground cover on slopes** to help keep topsoil in place.
- **Use mulch** to hold water in the soil and prevent erosion of exposed soil patches.
- **Plan grading** or terracing projects during the dry season if possible (typically May – September).
- **Cover stockpiles** of soil, dirt, and gravel.
- **Use drought-tolerant or native plants** to reduce water use.

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

Call Us For More Information.

1-888-846-0800

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www.sandiegocounty.gov/stormwater