county of san diego

yard drainage

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 creeks, lakes, and beaches, directly affects them and their families.

We're Here To Help.

Yard drainage systems such as French drains, weeping tiles, and sub-surface drains are intended to carry stormwater from your property to the road or street. However, they **are not meant to carry water from other sources** such as irrigation runoff or wash water from your property. This additional water from these activities may carry pollutants like pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers into our waterways, and excess ponded water may also create a breeding ground for mosquitos. The **County of San Diego Watershed Protection Program** supports residents in their efforts to prevent pollution and water waste by offering these **important tips for preventing non-stormwater** from entering yard drains.

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 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?

- **Redirect sprinkler heads** away from your yard drain.
- **Use dry methods** such as sweeping to clean your yard and patio.
- **Hose down items** such as patio furniture **away** from your yard drain.
- **Temporarily cover your yard drain** with a bowl or mat when watering.
- **Water in short cycles** to allow water to absorb into the soil.
- **Avoid application of fertilizers** and pesticides prior to rainfall.

Thank you for doing your part to protect our waterways.

Call Us For More Information.

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www.sandiegocounty.gov/dpw/watersheds.html

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