



county of san diego

Our Carlsbad Watershed

Watersheds are land areas that drain water through streams, lakes and rivers to a common low point – usually the ocean.

The Carlsbad Watershed is 1 of 11 watersheds within San Diego County. The Carlsbad Watershed begins east of Escondido near Lake Wohlford and drains all the way to the Pacific Ocean in Oceanside, Carlsbad, Encinitas, and Solana Beach. If you live within this watershed, actions you take at your home and within your community can help improve the water quality in our rivers, lakes, and ocean.

Carlsbad Watershed Map



We rely on our watershed more than you might think.

Whenever we walk along Buena Vista Lagoon, boat at San Marcos Lake, fish at Batiquitos Lagoon, or simply take a sip of water, we are using our watershed's resources.

We Can Protect Our Watersheds with Just a Few Steps!

The water that flows through our watershed picks up pollutants like nutrients, bacteria, and trash, which can contaminate our waterways. **The top priority in the Carlsbad Watershed is preventing nutrient pollution, like fertilizer for example.** As residents, it is up to us to keep it clean. Every individual action can add up to big changes.

You can help protect our watershed by taking these simple actions to prevent pollution:



Nutrients | *nitrogen and phosphorous*

- Use less fertilizer and pesticides – most plants need less than what they are given.
- Sweep up leaf litter and plant debris. Be sure to dispose it in a designated container.



Bacteria | *found in waste and sewage*

- Keep your yard free of pet waste. Carry bags when walking your pet and properly dispose of their waste in designated containers.
- Take care of your sewer or septic system. Report sewage leaks or spills immediately to 858-505-6657.
- Properly dispose of RV sewage at a designated dump station.



Trash | *including green waste*

- Throw all trash away in designated containers and keep the lids closed.
- Visit <https://wastefreesd.org/> to find out how to dispose or recycle specific items.

The County of San Diego and its partners also work together to keep our watersheds healthy.

If you would like to learn more about these efforts in the Carlsbad Watershed, visit www.projectcleanwater.org/carlsbad-wma/

Call Us For More Information or to Report Pollution. 1-888-846-0800
watersheds@sdcounty.ca.gov ■ www.sandiegocounty.gov/stormwater