

## For Information:

For information on the Construction Activity General Permit package contact:

State General Permit Information  
(916) 657-1146 or your  
Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)

Santa Ana Region (8)  
California Tower  
3737 Main Street, Suite 500  
Riverside, CA 92501-3339  
(909) 782-4130

San Diego Region (9)  
9771 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., Suite B  
San Diego, CA 92124  
(619) 467-2952

Colorado River Basin Region (7)  
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100  
Palm Desert, CA 92260  
(760) 346-7491

### SPILL RESPONSE AGENCY:

HAZ-MAT: (909) 358-5055

AFTER 5:00 P.M.: (909) 358-5245 OR 911

RECYCLING AND HAZARDOUS WASTE  
DISPOSAL: (909) 358-5055

TO REPORT ILLEGAL DUMPING OR A  
CLOGGED STORM DRAIN: 1-800-506-2555

To order additional brochures or to obtain information  
on other pollution prevention activities,  
call: (909) 955-1111.

The Cities and County of Riverside  
StormWater/CleanWater Protection Program  
**1-800-506-2555**



## Storm Water Clean Water

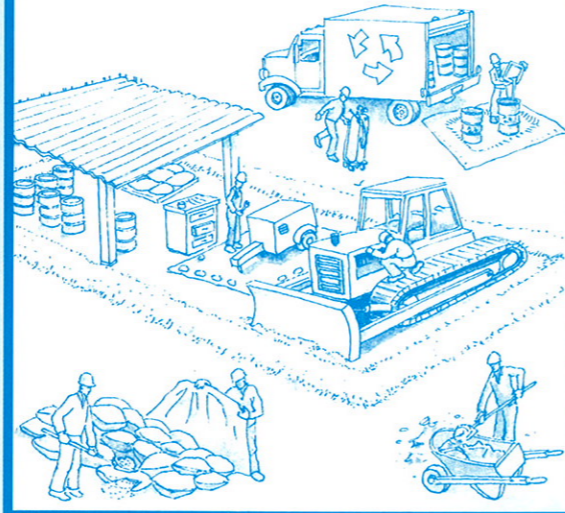
PROTECTION PROGRAM

Riverside County gratefully acknowledges the Santa Clara Valley Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program, Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program and the City of Los Angeles Stormwater Management Division for information provided in this brochure.

# StormWater Pollution

What you should know for...

## GENERAL CONSTRUCTION & SITE SUPERVISION



### Best Management Practices (BMPs) for:

- Developers
- General Contractors
- Home Builders
- Construction Inspectors
- Anyone in the construction business

## StormWater Pollution . . . What You Should Know

Riverside County has two drainage systems - sanitary sewers and storm drains. The storm drain system is designed to help prevent flooding by carrying excess rainwater away from streets. Since the storm drain system does not provide for water treatment, it also serves the *unintended* function of transporting pollutants directly to our waterways.

*Unlike sanitary sewers, storm drains are not connected to a treatment plant - they flow directly to our local streams, rivers and lakes.*

Runoff from construction sites can carry pollutant material into storm drains. Examples of pollutants include oil, fuel, and fluid from vehicles and heavy equipment; construction site debris and dirt; mortar and concrete; paints and solvents; and landscaping runoff containing pesticides or weed killers.

*Stormwater pollution causes as much as 60% of our water pollution problem. It jeopardizes the quality of our waterways and poses a threat to groundwater resources if pollutants percolate through soil.*



## The Cities and County of Riverside StormWater/CleanWater Protection Program

Since preventing pollution is much easier, and less costly, than cleaning up "after the fact," the Cities and County of Riverside StormWater/CleanWater Protection Program informs residents and businesses on pollution prevention activities such as the Best Management Practices (BMPs) described in this pamphlet.

The Cities and County of Riverside have adopted ordinances for stormwater management and discharge control. In accordance with state and federal law, these local stormwater ordinances **prohibit** the discharge of wastes into the storm drain system or local surface waters. This includes discharges from construction sites containing concrete, paint, fuel, automotive fluids, sediment, trash and other materials.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Erosion and sedimentation are two of the most common stormwater pollution problems associated with construction activity. Inadequate erosion and sediment controls often result in sediment discharges from construction sites. Construction vehicles and equipment can also track significant amounts of mud and sediment onto adjacent streets. Control your "site perimeter," the discharge of sediment and pollutants to a street, storm drain or watercourse is **strictly prohibited** by local ordinances and state and federal regulations.

## Stormwater Pollution from Construction Activities

Construction sites are potential sources of stormwater pollution. Materials and wastes that blow or wash into storm drains, gutters, or streets have a direct impact on local rivers and lakes. As an owner, contractor, site supervisor, or operator of a site, you may be held responsible for any environmental damage caused by your subcontractors or employees.



## What Should You Do? Advance Planning to Prevent Pollution

- Identify potential pollutant sources from materials and wastes that will be used and stored on the job site.
- Incorporate stormwater quality measures into the site design process; locate areas for material storage and equipment maintenance away from storm drain inlets or watercourses.
- Schedule excavation, grading, and paving activities for dry weather periods.
- Control the amount of runoff crossing your construction site. Use berms or drainage ditches to direct water flow around the site.
- Inform your employees and subcontractors about stormwater management requirements and their pollution prevention responsibilities.

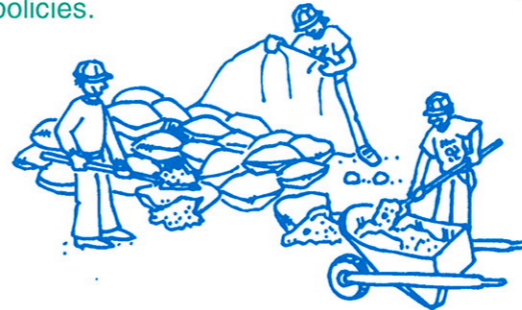
## Best Management Practices

The following Best Management Practices (BMPs) can significantly reduce pollutant discharges from your site. Compliance with stormwater regulations can be as simple as minimizing rainwater contact (covering the source), limiting the area of the source, protecting materials and waste from runoff, and maintaining a "clean" site.

- Designate a specific area of the site for auto parking, vehicle refueling, and routine equipment maintenance. This area should be located away from any streams or storm drain inlets, and bermed and rocked if necessary. Make major repairs off site.
- Keep materials out of the rain - prevent runoff contamination at the source. Cover exposed piles of soil or construction materials with plastic sheeting or temporary roofs. Before it rains, sweep to remove materials from paved surfaces that drain to storm drains.
- Keep work areas clean. Remove trash, litter, and debris on a regular basis.
- Clean up leaks, drips and other spills immediately so they do not pollute the soil or leave residue on paved surfaces that can be washed away when it rains.
- Maintain all vehicles and equipment in good working order. Inspect frequently for leaks and repair promptly.
- Never wash down "dirty" pavement or surfaces where materials have been spilled; use dry cleanup methods whenever possible (absorbent materials, cat litter and/or rags).



- Place dumpsters under roofs or cover with tarps or plastic sheeting. Never clean out a dumpster by washing it down.
- Make sure portable toilets are in good working order and regularly serviced. Check frequently for leaks.
- Use gravel approaches to limit the tracking of sediments into streets, where truck traffic is frequent.
- Prevent erosion by planting fast-growing annual and perennial grasses. These will shield and bind the soil. Do not remove trees or shrubs unnecessarily; they help prevent erosion.
- Control surface runoff to reduce erosion, especially during excavation. Use drainage ditches and dikes to direct water away from active work areas. Consult local drainage policies.



- Practice source reduction by ordering only the amount you need to finish the job.
- Dispose of all waste properly. Many construction materials and wastes, including solvents, water-based paint, vehicle fluids, broken asphalt and concrete, wood, and cleared vegetation can be recycled. Materials that cannot be recycled must be taken to an appropriate landfill or disposed of as hazardous waste. If dirt and sediment accumulates on streets, sweep and collect materials and dispose of properly. Do not wash dirt, sediment or any materials into the stormdrains.

## Storm Water Discharge Permits

### ... what you should know

The State Water Resources Control Board and Regional Water Quality Control Boards administer and enforce the State General Permit for construction activity (Construction Activity General Permit). This permit requires implementation of best management practices to prevent the discharge of pollutants from construction sites.

### Is compliance with the Construction Activity General Permit required for my construction site?

- Yes, if construction will affect five or more acres or is part of a plan of development of five or more acres. A Notice of Intent (NOI) must be filed with the State prior to grading or disturbing soil at the site.

### What is Required by the Permit?

- Eliminate non-storm water discharges to the storm drain system and other waters.
- Prepare and implement a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).
- Periodically inspect the site and update the SWPPP as needed.

### How Do You Obtain a Permit?

- Fill out and mail a Notice of Intent (NOI) to the State Water Resources Control Board. Include the required fee. The NOI is your commitment to comply with the terms and conditions of the Construction Activity General Permit.

**NOTE:** You may obtain a State General Permit packet from the State Board or local Regional Board. Carefully read the instructions. Make sure you fully understand permit conditions and your responsibilities.