

COLLECTION AND STORAGE!

- ✓ Store animal waste in a sturdy, seepage-free unit that is enclosed or under cover.
- ✓ Line waste pits or trenches with an impermeable layer.
- ⊘ **Do not** store manure on-site for more than one week.

USE AND DISPOSAL!

There are several options to choose from to manage equine waste.

- ✓ Compost soiled bedding and manure. For more information see <http://www.slocity.org/utilities/download/compostguide.pdf>.
- ✓ Donate composted material to local greenhouses, nurseries and botanical parks.
- ✓ Transport manure to topsoil companies or composting centers.
- ✓ Dispose of horse waste via your local waste hauler.

FACILITY DESIGN!

If you are constructing or re-building a stable, have your engineer check with the City Building and Planning Department for information about facility design.

REMEMBER, You are the Solution to Stormwater Pollution!

(Rev. 01/01/10)

EMERGENCIES OR SPILLS!

To report a discharge or spill of **OTHER LIQUID MATERIALS** (*Non-sewage*) call the City of San Luis Obispo 24-Hour Water Pollution Problem Reporting Hotline at (805) 783-7876 or visit <http://www.slocity.org/publicworks>, then *stormwater* to contact us electronically.

To report a discharge or spill of **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**, call the City's Hazardous Materials Coordinator at (805) 781-7383 or electronically at kboyle@slocity.org.

To report a discharge or spill of **SEWAGE** (*Known or suspected*); call the City of San Luis Obispo Utilities Department at (805) 781-7220.

For **OTHER EMERGENCIES** call 911.

The tips contained in this brochure provide useful information to help prevent water pollution from Equine Activities. If you have other suggestions, please contact <http://www.slocity.org/publicworks>, then *stormwater*

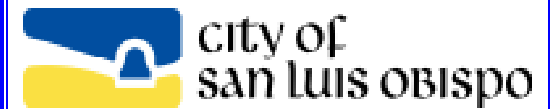


More Information Call

(805) 781-7530

Or visit our website at:

**<http://www.slocity.org/publicworks>,
then *stormwater***



**Best Management
Practices for
Horse Care
Help Prevent Water Pollution!**



The equestrian lifestyle is a great way to live. However, the effects of having horses on one's property can be far reaching and have a deleterious effect upon our local water quality. The useful tips and suggestions outlined in this brochure are intended to help prevent water pollution caused by equestrian activities.

More Information Call

(805) 781-7530



Horse Care & Water Pollution



EQUESTRIAN ACTIVITIES & WATER QUALITY!

How do horse waste and equestrian activities impair water quality?

Although **horse wastes** (manure, urine and soiled bedding) are organic, biodegradable materials, many of their physical, biological and chemical properties (such as sediment, phosphorous, nutrients, and bacteria) **can be detrimental to water quality** and can adversely affect human health and aquatic life in water bodies. Many of the nutrients ingested by horses return to the environment in feces and urine. **When carried by runoff to streams and lakes**, excessive amounts of these same nutrients can stimulate unwanted algae blooms in creeks and streams, causing a decrease in dissolved oxygen in water, which stifles aquatic life.



Some activities, such as heavy grazing or pasture use, remove the soil's vegetative cover and can expose the soil surface. Exposed soil is easily transported by runoff

to streams and creeks, and excessive sediment can fill pools, smother aquatic habitats, and cover food supplies.

Bacteria, such as fecal coliform, are present in horse manure. Fecal coliform is a pollutant of concern in our local creeks and ocean. High levels of fecal coliform are often the causes of local beach closures.



Chemicals used during horse grooming and shelter/living area maintenance may cause adverse health effects to humans and are also toxic to aquatic life.

- ⊘ So, **never** allow horse waste or care products to enter the creeks, streets or storm drains.

GROOMING ALTERNATIVES!

- ✓ Use **less-toxic alternatives for grooming.** Even biodegradable products can be harmful to humans, marine life and the environment.
- ✓ **Follow instructions** on the products and clean up spills.
- ✓ When washing horses, either allow washwater to seep into the ground or

wash in an area that is routed to the sanitary sewer. **Do not** let washwater enter the storm drain or any bodies of water.

- ✓ **Conserve water** by using a spray nozzle with an automatic shut-off.
- ✓ Turn off the water or kink the hose when not in use.

PASTURE MANAGEMENT!

- ✓ Horse holding areas should be swept or shoveled at least once per day. **Never hose down these areas!** The wastes



could end up in a stream or storm drain. ✓ **Paddocks should be cleaned at least twice per week** during the rainy season, and once per week the rest of the year.

GRAZING!

- ✓ Establish healthy and vigorous pastures with at least three inches of leafy material.
- ✓ During heavy rainfall, consider indoor feeding, a practice that keeps manure under a roof and away from runoff.