

Do your part to prevent water pollution in our creeks and ocean!

- ⊗ If a spill does occur, **never** allow any wastewater to enter any street, storm drain inlet, ditch, pond, creek or the environment. Have a spill kit available to contain the wastes. Dispose of spent materials properly. If the spill is too big to handle and enters the street or storm drain, contact Stormwater Management at (805) 781-7530 for help.
- ✓ **Use products that are biodegradable or pyrethrum-based.**
- ✓ Discharge wastes from equipment cleaning to a sink.
- ✓ **Conserve water!** Unused water may be directed to landscape as long as it doesn't contain any pollutants or soaps.

BENEFITS OF DISCHARGING TO THE SANITARY SEWER

- ✓ It is the environmentally friendly option.
- ✓ There are **no fees**. Surcharges apply only if the waste water has a higher pollutant strength than domestic wastes.
- ✓ There are no permits required. The only requirement is that the discharge meets the general and specific prohibitions of the Municipal Code. Always, check with the Utilities Department at (805) 781-7425 before discharging into the sanitary sewer system.
- ✓ With no discharges to the environment, you won't have to deal with citizen inquiries or concerns about illegal or threatened discharges.

REMEMBER, YOU ARE THE SOLUTION TO STORM WATER POLLUTION!

EMERGENCIES OR SPILLS

To report a discharge or spill of **OTHER LIQUID MATERIALS** call (805) 781-7530 or 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) immediately call the City of San Luis Obispo Utilities Department at (805) 781-7215 or (805) 781-7220.

For **OTHER EMERGENCIES**, call 911.

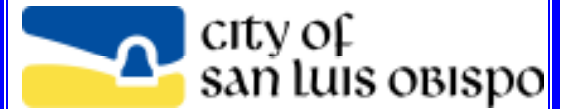
The tips contained in this brochure provide useful information to help prevent water pollution from pet grooming activities. If you have other suggestions, please contact us electronically via: <http://www.slocity.org/publicworks>, then stormwater.



More Information Call

(805) 781-7530, or visit

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



Best Management Practices for The Mobile Pet Grooming Service Industry Help Prevent Water Pollution!



Washing and grooming activities can pollute waterways if not properly managed. The City of San Luis Obispo is committed to improving the water quality and reducing the amount of pollutants that enter our precious waterways. So please follow the useful tips outlined in this brochure to help prevent water pollution caused by pet grooming.

More Information Call

(805) 781-7530



Pollution Prevention Tips



STORM DRAINS VS SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM

STORM DRAINAGE SYSTEM

The storm inlets (the grates located in streets) discharge to our local creeks and the ocean. These are designed to carry rain water away from our homes and streets. They are not connected to the wastewater treatment plant and there is no treatment of pollutants. A discharge of any type to the storm drainage system would be the same as discharging to our local creeks and ocean.

⊘ **Never** discharge wastes to the street or any storm drain inlet.

SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM

Sanitary sewers carry wastewater from homes and businesses (toilets, tubs, sinks, etc.) to the wastewater treatment plant where the pollutants are removed through a multi-step process to produce a very clean form of water, called "Reclaimed." Harmful wastes that can cause sewer blockages or disrupt the treatment plant are prohibited by local municipal code.

DID YOU KNOW THAT washing and grooming activities can pollute waterways if

not properly managed. Wastewater containing soaps, chemicals (flea dip residues or equipment cleaning solutions), fur, sediment and other wastes can enter our creeks and ocean if discharged to the [storm drainage system](#). Water quality may be affected - some wastes are toxic - others have a "nutrient load" that can upset the ecosystem by causing algal blooms.

BUT I DON'T OFFER FLEA DIPS

Most mobile pet groomers do not offer flea dips. But, did you know that flea dips are pesticides and residues that can stay on coats for several days after treatment? If a pet is washed soon after treatment, these chemicals can be detected in the wastewater.

BUT MY SOAPS ARE NON- TOXIC & BIODEGRADABLE

It's great to use nontoxic and biodegradable products on pets in lieu of harmful chemicals. However, the term "nontoxic" means it is not harmful to the user or pet. It **doesn't mean it is safe for the environment**. "Biodegradable" means that they are *eventually* broken down (decomposed) by bacteria in the environment. However, this **does not mean it doesn't affect the environment**.

The end product is considered a "**nutrient load**" on the creeks and ocean and can cause an imbalance in the ecosystem. You wouldn't pour those products in the creek or ocean, so don't pour them down the storm drains.

WHAT YOU CAN DO – BMPS

Check with customers about access to the sanitary sewer on site for disposal of wastewater. Contact the City of San Luis Obispo at (805) 781-7215 or (805) 781-7425 for discharge requirements and restrictions.

- ✓ Remove any fur or sediment from the wastes to avoid clogged drains. Use a strainer in the drain and empty all solids and sediment to the trash.
- ✓ Educate yourself and your staff about local, state and federal regulations on waste disposal.
- ⊘ **Never** discharge to a street or storm drain inlet.
- ✓ Avoid spills and leaks:
 1. maintain equipment/use equipment that is adequately sized for the job;
 2. keep soaps and chemicals in closed containers and in secondary containment.
- ✓ Control powders and air born sprays to ensure they don't land on a surface where rain will wash them into the storm drainage system.