

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

Clean beaches and healthy creeks, streams, and ocean are important to San Luis Obispo County.



However, many common household activities can lead to water pollution if you're not careful.

Litter, oil, chemicals and other substances that are left on your yard or driveway can be blown or washed into storm drains that flow to the ocean. Over-

watering your lawn and washing your car can also flush materials into the storm drains. Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), water in storm drains is not treated.

You would never pour soap, fertilizers or oil into the ocean, so don't let them enter streets, gutters or storm drains. Follow the easy tips in this brochure to help prevent water pollution.

REMEMBER, YOU ARE THE SOLUTION TO STORM WATER POLLUTION!

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EMERGENCIES OR SPILLS!

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

For **OTHER EMERGENCIES** call 911.

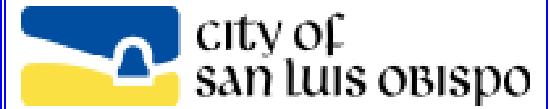
The tips contained in this brochure provide useful information to help prevent water pollution while performing everyday household activities. If you have other suggestions, please contact us electronically via: <http://www.slocity.org/publicworks.then.stormwater>.



More Information Call

(805) 781-7530

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



Residential Storm Water Pollution Prevention!

The City of San Luis Obispo's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program includes a combination of educational and regulatory measures to discourage practices that can lead to the pollution of our local waterways and watershed. This pamphlet provides useful tips to prevent activities that can lead to water pollution.

Litter, oil, chemicals and other substances left on your yard or driveway can be blown or washed into storm drains that flow to our local creeks and then the ocean. Over-watering your lawn and washing your car can also flush materials into the storm drains. Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), water in storm drains is not treated.

Please follow the easy tips in this brochure to help prevent water pollution.

More Information Call

(805) 781-7530



Pollution Prevention Tips



Household Activities!

- ⊗ **Do not rinse spills with water!**
Sweep outdoor spills and dispose of in the trash. For wet spills like oil, apply cat litter or another absorbent material, then sweep and bring to a household hazardous waste collection center (“HHWCC”).
- ✓ Securely cover trash cans at all times.
- ✓ Store household hazardous waste in closed, labeled containers inside or under cover.
- ⊗ **Do not** hose down your driveway, sidewalk or patio. Sweep up debris and dispose of in trash.
- ✓ Always pick up after your pet. Properly dispose of all pet waste via your weekly refuse collection service via the black trash container.
- ✓ Bathe pets indoors or have them professionally groomed.

Gardening Activities!

- ✓ Follow directions on pesticides and fertilizers, (measure, **do not** estimate amounts) and **do not** use if rain is predicted within 48 hours.
- ✓ Follow a recommended irrigation schedule for watering turf and garden. If water flows off the landscape area onto the driveway or sidewalk, then the irrigation is exceeding the water absorbing capacity of the landscape area. **Solution** - split the irrigation cycle in half and run in 2 sessions about 1 hour apart. For a irrigation schedule designed specifically for SLO go to: <http://www.slocity.org/utilities>.

- ✓ Use natural alternatives to pest management. There are many alternative choices to pest management that are less toxic to people, beneficial insects, pets and the environment. For more details go to www.ourwaterourworld.org
- ✓ Cultivate garden often to manage weeds.

Washing/Maintaining Your Car!

- ✓ When possible, take car to a commercial car wash that recycles its’ water.
- ✓ Choose soaps, cleaners, or detergents labeled non-toxic, phosphate free or biodegradable. Vegetable and citrus-based products are typically safest for the environment, but even these should not be allowed to enter the storm drain.
- ✓ Shake floor mats into a trash can or vacuum to clean.
- ✓ **Do not** use acid-based wheel cleaners and “hose off” engine degreasers at home. They can be used at a commercial facility, which can properly capture and process the wash water.
- ✓ **Do not dump wash water onto your** driveway, sidewalk, street, gutter or storm drain. Excess wash water should be disposed of in the sanitary sewers (through a sink or toilet) or onto an absorbent surface like your lawn.
- ✓ Use a nozzle to turn off water when not actively washing down your automobile.
- ✓ Monitor vehicles for leaks and place pans under leaks. Keep your car well maintained to stop and prevent leaks.
- ✓ Use cat litter or other absorbents and sweep to remove any materials

- deposited by vehicles. Collect sweepings and dispose of at a HHWCC.
- ✓ Perform car repair/maintenance under a covered area and use drip pans or plastic sheeting to keep spills and waste material from reaching storm drains.

Never pour oil or antifreeze in the street, gutter or storm drains. Recycle these substances at a service station, HHWCC, or used oil recycling center. For residential curbside collection of used motor oil/filters call San Luis Garbage Co. at (805) 543-0875.

Household Hazardous Waste

Household Hazardous Waste (“HHW”) and Universal Waste (“UW”) materials **can not** be disposed of via general refuse. HHW or UW materials must be properly disposed of at: **Cold Canyon Landfill’s HHWCC** off Hwy 227, San Luis Obispo. Hours of operation: Friday & Saturday 11:00am – 3:00pm; (805) 782-8530. Some common HHW & UW include:

- ☠ Automotive Batteries & Fluids
- ☠ Cleaners (i.e. chemicals)
- ☠ Electronics (computers, printers, etc)
- ☠ Fluorescent Light Bulbs
- ☠ Lawn / Garden Herbicides/Pesticides
- ☠ Miscellaneous Care Products
- ☠ Monitors (PC& TV)
- ☠ Paint & Paint Related Products
- ☠ Shoe Polish Products

A more detailed list and how to properly dispose of both HHW and UW materials can be found at <http://www.inma.com/tabbaq.html>.