

# What's Cookin' ?

## *Eating and Drinking Establishments: Stormwater Best Management Practices*



### **PROGRAM AUTHORITY:**

Do you know what responsibilities the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB) have regarding storm drain water? The SWRCB is responsible for protecting the quality of water in California and allocating water rights. The RWQCB staff monitors and enforces laws that protect the quality of water in California. The federal Clean Water Act requires various industrial facilities, commercial businesses, construction sites and urban areas to control the amount of pollutants entering their storm drain systems. The County of San Joaquin and the Cities within the County are responsible for managing stormwater within their respective jurisdictions.



## **DID YOU KNOW...?**

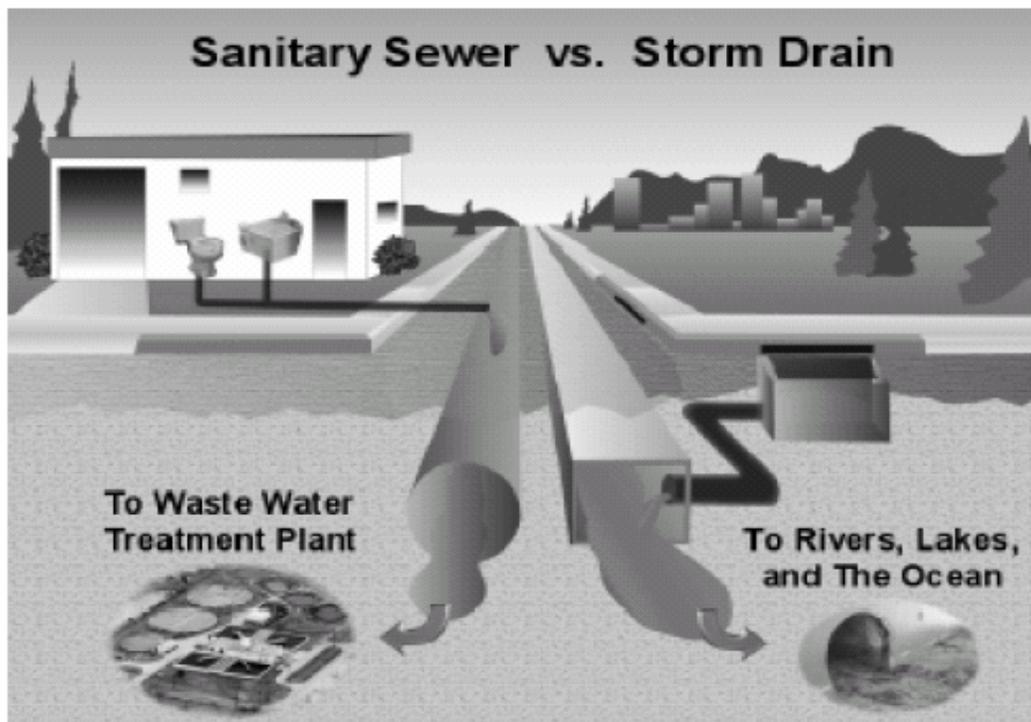
**...a sewer system and a storm drain system are not the same?**

These two systems are completely different. The water that goes down a sink, tub or toilet in a home or business flows to a wastewater treatment plant where it is treated and filtered. Water that flows down driveways and streets and into a gutter goes untreated into a storm drain which flows directly to a lake, river or the ocean. Some people think that this water goes to our local wastewater treatment plant to be cleaned.

### **They are mistaken!**

Materials that are spilled, dumped, or poured onto these surfaces can enter the storm drain system and eventually travel to our sloughs, canals, creeks and eventually the Delta without being treated. Polluted water harms plants and animals and can cause disease. It causes our beaches to close and can make our fish unsafe to eat.

To keep our water clean, it is very important that all water used in business activities be directed only to drains that lead to the sanitary sewer.



*Waste water from toilets, kitchen sinks, mop sinks, dishwashers, kitchen floor sinks and drains goes to a treatment plant.*



## What is Causing Stormwater Pollution?

...there are many types of pollutants which enter storm drains?

Some common contaminants include grease, oil, janitorial and other cleaning agents, organic material (leaves and lawn trimmings), fertilizers and pesticides.

...the effects of the storm drain pollutants on our water can be harmful?

These pollutants can have harmful effects on drinking water supplies, recreational use, and wildlife. Some very popular beaches and fishing holes have been closed because of contaminated storm water.

...there are ways you can prevent storm water pollution?

By reading this pamphlet and educating yourself on what causes storm water pollution you are on the right path to preventing it. Share this knowledge with others.

## Our streams and rivers are being polluted!



*A storm drain outlet that empties directly into a local stream.*

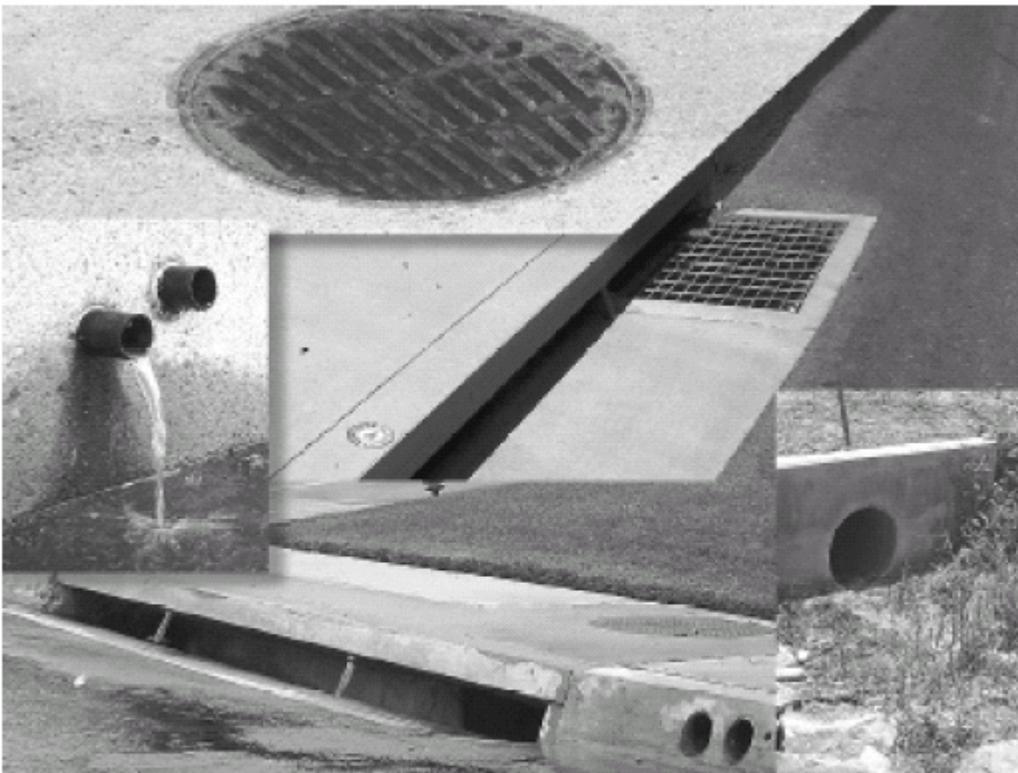


## What can your business do to keep our water clean?

The County of San Joaquin and the cities within it have adopted stormwater ordinances to protect our water resources. These ordinances require your eating and drinking establishments to:

1. Prohibit pollutants from entering the storm drain system
2. Use Best Management Practices (BMPs)

As a business owner or operator, you are legally responsible to comply with these stormwater ordinances. Failure to comply with these ordinances could result in citations and fines.



*The storm drain system includes parking lots, sidewalks, streets, gutters, and drainage channels.*



## Best Management Practices and Your Business

Best Management Practices, commonly called BMPs, are actions you can take to prevent or reduce pollutants from leaving your eating and drinking establishment.

A key type of BMP is “pollution prevention”. Pollution prevention methods help to limit the amount of pollutants that are produced, thus eliminating the need to manage or remove them. Pollution prevention BMPs can help your business run more efficiently and can save you money.

## Inspect Your Business

This is a good way to make sure that your eating and drinking establishment complies with stormwater requirements.

- ✓ Inspect inside and outside areas of your business.
- ✓ Make sure that all pipes inside your business are connected to the sewer system.
- ✓ Locate and mark storm drain openings on a map and post it in a common work area. Show your employees where the openings are located.
- ✓ Review your current practices and look for areas where you can improve.
- ✓ Inspect grease traps or interceptors regularly.
- ✓ Record any changes that you make to help prevent stormwater pollution.
- ✓ Good record keeping is your key to compliance.



## Inform Your Employees

Employees are more likely to respond to training when they understand the impact of their daily activities on water quality.

- ✓ Hold staff meetings to discuss the importance of keeping our water clean.
- ✓ Train all employees on stormwater BMPs and pollution prevention.
- ✓ Have your employees read and review this guide and sign and date the training log
- ✓ Record other training sessions and include date, instructor, and attendees.
- ✓ Keep training records on site.
- ✓ Provide regular refresher trainings.
- ✓ Post BMPs and pollution prevention tips around your business.
- ✓ Teach employees on the proper use of spill clean-up materials.



*Keep good training records  
and self-inspection checklists*



## Cleaning and Disposal

Cleaning products and food waste can pollute our waterways if they are not handled and disposed of properly.

### Spill Prevention and Clean Up

It is always best to prevent spills, but be prepared when they occur.

- ✓ Routinely maintain all equipment and fix all leaks.
- ✓ Keep spill clean-up materials handy such as near dumpsters, grease bins, and unloading areas.
- ✓ Use dry methods for spill clean up such as rags, absorbents, brooms, and vacuums.
- ✓ If a final rinse is needed, collect the rinse water using a mop or a wet vacuum. Pour the rinse water into a mop sink or a floor drain connected to the sewer.
- ✓ Clean up the used absorbent and place in the trash.
- ✓ Report any spill that cannot be cleaned up or contained before entering the storm drain.

*Pour all wash water to the sewer and not to the storm drain system.*





## Inside Areas

- ✓ Sweep and mop floors daily.
- ✓ Wash floor mats, kitchen mats, filters, and garbage cans in a mop sink, janitors sink, or near the kitchen floor drain.
- ✓ Never clean equipment outside where water may flow to an unprotected storm drain.
- ✓ If floor mats are too big to clean indoors, contract with a mat-cleaning service or clean them in an area that drains to the sewer.
- ✓ Pour rinse water containing soap, bleach, and disinfectants to a mop sink or sewer.

## Outside Eating Areas

- ✓ Sweep or vacuum litter and food waste daily.
- ✓ Cover storm drain openings before wet cleaning, such as pressure washing.
- ✓ Contain and collect all wash water and dispose of it properly. Contact your local sewer agency for discharge requirements.



*Wash floor mats in an area that drains to a sewer and not to the storm drain system.*



## Grease Management

Grease can collect in the sewer lines and create sewer blockages that cause sewage spills into the storm drain system.

- ✓ Install a grease trap or interceptor whenever possible or as required by a municipal sewer agency.
- ✓ Regularly clean grease traps and interceptors.
- ✓ Contract with a grease hauler to regularly service and empty your grease waste.
- ✓ Grease storage area should be regularly cleaned and inspected.
- ✓ Make sure grease bins are always tightly closed.
- ✓ Store grease bins on level ground and secure to prevent bins from tipping over.



*Collect bulk grease in containers and contract with a firm for recycling.*



## Dumpster and Unloading Areas

Liquid and solid waste from leaking trash containers and unloading areas can flow into storm drains.

- ✓ Sweep up food particles, cigarette butts, and litter around dumpsters and unloading areas regularly.
- ✓ Put trash and debris in tied plastic bags before placing into the dumpsters.
- ✓ Dispose of liquid waste into the sanitary sewer.
- ✓ Keep dumpster lids closed and locked to prevent illegal dumping.
- ✓ Do not hose out dumpsters.
- ✓ Call your solid waste hauler when dumpsters are leaking, need cleaning, or repair.



*Use dry methods for cleaning up spills and leaks such as rags, absorbents, brooms, and vacuums.*



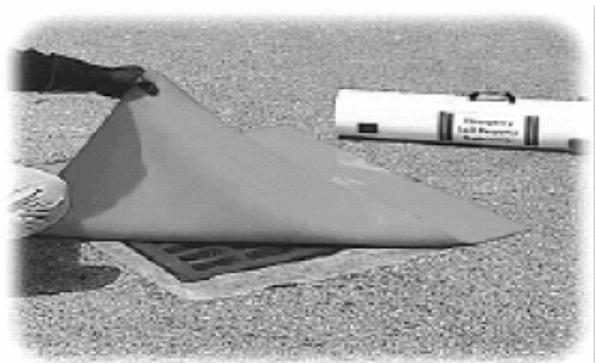
## Grounds

Customers are more likely to use a trash can if your property is kept neat and clean.

- ✓ Routinely sweep and clean parking lots and paved areas around your eating and drinking establishment.
- ✓ Provide trash cans with lids in your parking lot to discourage littering.
- ✓ Post "No Dumping or Littering" signs around your property.
- ✓ Sweep up dirt, leaves, and clippings on walkways, street, and gutters.
- ✓ Apply pesticides and fertilizers according to label instructions and do not apply before a rain event. Try using less toxic alternatives.
- ✓ Adjust sprinkler heads properly to avoid over-watering and runoff.
- ✓ Clean the rooftops of your buildings at least once before the rainy season.
- ✓ Cover any materials stored outside and on the roof.



*Prevent waste water from entering storm drains by using plastic sheeting or other storm drain type covers.*





## Recycling and Pollution Prevention

Conserve water. Eating and drinking establishments in San Joaquin County use millions of gallons of water each day for daily activities.

- ❑ Use proper storage and “first-in, first-out” for food materials.
- ❑ Post water conservation signs around faucets.
- ❑ Purchase recycled products or products with a high-recycled material content.
- ❑ Contact your local solid waste hauler for recycling options and bins.
- ❑ Start a recycling program and make sure recycling bins are easily accessible to employees.



*Paper, cardboard, glass, aluminum, tin, and #1 and #2 plastics can easily be recycled.*



<b><i>Self-inspection Checklist</i></b>	<b>Done</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Employees have reviewed this guide and have been trained on stormwater BMPs.</b>		
<b>Employees have been shown how to properly use spill clean-up materials.</b>		
<b>Spill clean-up materials are readily available around your business in case of a spill.</b>		
<b>Storm drain openings have been located and marked.</b>		
<b>“No littering” signs and pollution prevention tips have been posted.</b>		
<b>Brooms, vacuums, and rags are available and are used instead of wet cleaning methods.</b>		
<b>Storm drain openings are protected and wash water is collected if water is used outside.</b>		
<b>Wash water from filters, garbage cans, kitchen and floor mats drain only to the sewer.</b>		
<b>All wash water and rinse water are drained to the sewer.</b>		
<b>All indoor drains, sinks, dishwashers, and food equipment drain to the sewer.</b>		



<b><i>Self-inspection Checklist</i></b>	<b>Done</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Grease traps / interceptors are installed as required by sewer agency and serviced regularly.</b>		
<b>Grease bins are kept tightly closed and regularly serviced by a licensed grease hauler.</b>		
<b>Dumpsters and grease bins do not leak and are in good shape.</b>		
<b>Dumpster and other waste containers are kept closed when not in use.</b>		
<b>Dumpster and grease bin areas, parking lots, and drives are cleaned regularly using dry methods.</b>		
<b>Recycling program has been established and recycling bins are accessible.</b>		
<b>Material stockpiled outside and on the roof are properly covered.</b>		
<b>Hired landscapers and contractors are familiar with stormwater regulations.</b>		
<b>Irrigation system is properly adjusted to prevent over-watering and runoff.</b>		
<b>Storm drains are kept free of trash, leaves, and dirt.</b>		





# SMALL BUSINESS HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL



If your business generates small amounts of hazardous waste (HW), you may have a problem. It is expensive and difficult to dispose of these chemicals, such as paint, motor oil, solvents, and acids. Legally, they don't belong in the trash, in the storm drain or down the sewer system; they are hazardous waste and they must be specially managed and documented.

Most businesses that generate less than 27 gallons or 220 lbs per month of HW are known as "Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators" or CESQG. The most common businesses in this group are painters, printers, artists, builders, labs, property managers, vehicle repair shops, vehicle body shops, garden contractors, restaurants, and pest control companies. It is your responsibility to know your local, state, and federal regulations regarding the storage, disposal, and transportation of HW.

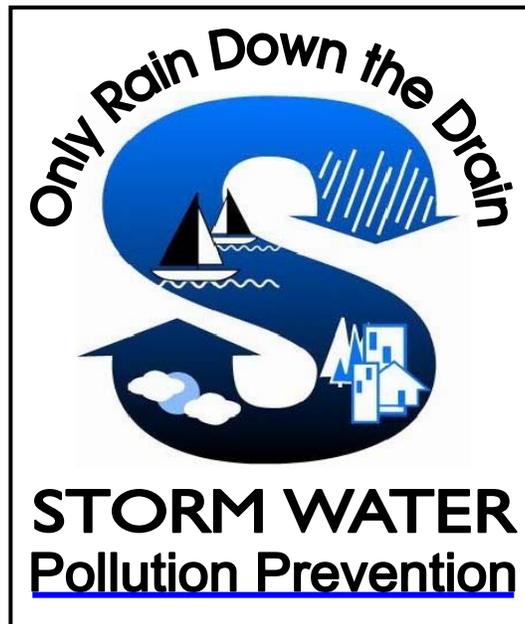
In August 2003, a permanent Household Hazardous Waste Consolidation Facility (PHHWCF) was built by San Joaquin County for its businesses and residents. The facility is open Thursday through Saturday each week from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. By appointment only, this program offers businesses an affordable alternative for HW disposal. Prior registration is required. Fees for the drop-off program depend on the type and amount of HW. In San Joaquin County, you may call for an appointment at 1-877-747-9699. Schedules are made on a first come first serve basis. You will be asked about the types and amounts of waste generated to determine if you qualify for the program. If you are a CESQG, then an appointment will be scheduled for you.



The PHHWCF is located at 7850 South R. A. Bridgeford Street, Stockton, California 95206. You may also contact the Household Hazardous Waste Program – San Joaquin County Department of Public Works – Solid Waste Division at (209) 468-3066.

# How to Reach Us

**LATHROP** – (209) 858-2860, EXT. 328  
**LODI** – (209) 368-5735  
**MANTECA** – (209) 239-2839  
**RIPON** – (209) 599-2108  
**SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY** - (209) 468-2179 OR (209) 468-3073  
**STOCKTON** – (209) 937-8791  
**TRACY** – (209) 831-4420



**To report illegal dumping into storm drains call:**

**LATHROP – (209) 858-2860, Ext. 328**  
After hours or Weekends – (209) 992-0028  
**LODI – (209) 368-5735**  
**MANTECA – (209) 239-8460**  
After hours or Weekends – (209) 239-8410  
**RIPON – (209) 599-2108**  
After hours or Weekends – (209) 599-2102  
**SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY - (209) 468-3055**  
After hours or Weekends - (209) 468-4401  
**STOCKTON – (209) 937-8791**  
After hours or Weekends – (209) 937-8341  
**TRACY – (209) 831-4420**  
After hours and Weekends – (209) 835-4550

The County of San Joaquin and the Cities of Lathrop, Lodi, Manteca, Ripon, Stockton and Tracy gratefully acknowledges the City and County of Santa Barbara for the original format.