

September 1999



Alameda Countywide
Clean Water Program
A Consortium of Local Agencies

Restaurants

In response to recent Federal and State water quality regulations and requirements, municipalities in Alameda County have joined to form the Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program (ACCWP).

The ACCWP consists of the Cities of Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Newark, Oakland, Piedmont, Pleasanton, San Leandro, Union City, Alameda County, the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, and Zone 7 of the District.

The Goal of the ACCWP is to control discharges of pollutants to municipal storm drain systems (and local creeks and the San Francisco Bay). The ACCWP encourages using Best Management Practices to effectively eliminate illegal discharges and connections.

The Storm Drain System was built to collect and transport rain to prevent flooding in urban areas. Anything that flows or is discharged into the storm drain system goes directly into local creeks or San Francisco Bay without any treatment.

The Sanitary Sewer System collects and transports sanitary wastes from interior building plumbing systems to the wastewater treatment plant where the wastewater is treated.

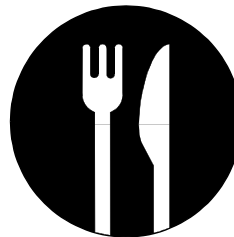
Best Management Practices (BMPs) are methods and practices such as good housekeeping, spill prevention, or treatment measures to prevent or minimize pollutant discharges to municipal storm drain systems.

Illegal Discharges or Illicit Connections discharge non-storm water to municipal storm drain systems and contribute to water pollution.

Urban Runoff is rain and any other water that passes through and out of developed areas (streets, parking lots, roof tops, etc.) into the storm drain system and eventually to creeks and other waters.

Keeping pollutants out of our storm drain system protects our local creeks, reservoirs, and the San Francisco Bay. Materials swept, blown, or washed into the storm drains end up in these open waters where they degrade water quality and harm aquatic life. In general, wastewater discharged to the storm drains is illegal.

In addition to reviewing their own practices, municipalities participating in the Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program (ACCWP) have instituted a business education campaign and inspection program. Inspectors work with contractors and businesses to identify and control potential discharge of pollutants to the storm drain system. *Property and business owners are responsible for their contractors' practices.*



All restaurants can conduct common-sense practices that require modest changes to routine operations or maintenance practices to reduce or eliminate their contribution to stormwater pollution. The table on the reverse side of this page identifies activities restaurants can adopt to control or eliminate urban runoff pollution.

If you need additional information concerning stormwater pollution and its prevention, contact your local program representatives at **1-888-BAY-WISE**.

Best Management Practices

Follow these BMPs to control pollutant discharges. The objectives are: 1) to keep pollutants from contacting rain, and 2) to keep pollutants from being dumped or poured into the storm drains. The goal is "only rain in the storm drain."

Activities

Best Management Practices

Pavement Cleaning

- Sweep parking lots and other paved areas periodically to remove debris. Dispose of debris in the garbage.
- If outdoor pavement cleaning with detergent is required, collect washwater and dispose of in indoor sinks or drains for discharge to the sanitary sewer. Contact your local wastewater treatment plant.

Equipment Cleaning (dumpsters, floor mats, exhaust filters, etc.)

- Discharge washwater to the sanitary sewer. Contact your local wastewater treatment plant.
- If outdoor cleaning is required, collect washwater and dispose of in indoor sinks or drains for discharge to the sanitary sewer. Contact your local wastewater treatment plant.

Spill Cleanup in Outdoor Areas

- Have spill containment kits ready in case of a spill and store kits in convenient locations.
- Clean up any spills immediately using rags, cat litter, or any other type of absorbent in your spill kit.
- If you must mop up a spill, dispose of mop/washwater in indoor sinks for discharge to the sanitary sewer.

Grease Handling and Disposal

- Store grease in separate, covered containers. Recycle grease or dispose of at an appropriate landfill.

Waste Disposal

- Inspect dumpsters periodically. Have the leasing company repair or replace leaky dumpsters.
- Cover dumpsters and other waste containers to prevent stormwater from entering the container.
- Never dispose of waste products, such as food wastes, to storm drains.
- Use all paints, pesticides, cleaners, and other products or dispose as hazardous waste.

Litter Control

- Provide an adequate number of trash receptacles for your customers and employees.
- Pick up litter and other wastes daily from outside areas including storm drain inlet grates.

Landscaping

- Minimize use of pesticides and fertilizers, and do not apply in wet weather.
- Do not blow, rake, or sweep yard waste into the street or gutter. Compost yard waste or place in trash.

Training

- Train employees regularly on what to do in the event of a spill.
- Designate a person responsible for effective implementation of BMPs.
- Stencil inlets to discourage illegal dumping.

