

Supermarkets and Grocery Stores Stormwater Best Management Practices



www.flowstobay.org

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Storm Drain Pollution Prevention

In San Mateo County, all storm drains flow directly to creeks and to either San Francisco Bay or the Pacific Ocean with no treatment. Some common sources of stormwater pollution include waste or washwater generated by grocery stores and supermarkets containing materials such as food, oil, grease, detergents, and degreasers.

All municipalities in San Mateo County have joined together to educate local residents and businesses to fight stormwater pollution. Join us, and avoid penalties for noncompliance, by following the Best Management Practices (BMPs) described in this pamphlet.

Maintenance Practices

- Maintain equipment regularly. Check for leaks or stains. Fix leaks.
- Capture leaks and drips during maintenance activities with a drip pan.
- If equipment is stored outdoors, store under a roof or tarp during the rain.



Dumpsters and Compactors

- Drain liquid food wastes to the sanitary sewer and place only solid wastes in the dumpster or compactor.
- Keep dumpster lids closed to keep out rainwater.
- Control litter. Make sure waste is contained in dumpsters/compactors and sweep those areas regularly.
- If others are putting trash in or around your bins, contact your City's Stormwater Coordinator or local police department.
- Inspect areas for leaks, stains and litter regularly.
- Route leaks and other wastewaters from dumpsters and compactors to the sanitary sewer system.
- Immediately replace leaking dumpsters and compactors.

Spill Control

- Develop spill procedures for different types of spills (e.g., garbage, liquid food waste, fuel, etc.)
- Train employees on spill cleanup procedures.
- Use absorbents (such as rags, absorbent mats or cat litter) to pick up greasy or oily spills.
- Keep cleanup kits in well-marked, easily accessible areas.
- Dry sweep or vacuum all litter, debris, or saturated absorbent.
- If you mop up a spill, dispose of mop washwater in indoor sink/drain for discharge to the sanitary sewer.

Proper Storage and Disposal

- ❑ Store products containing toxic substances (cleaners, solvents, detergents) indoors or in a covered, spill containment area, to prevent exposure of these materials to stormwater.
- ❑ Dispose of all unwanted toxic materials through a hazardous waste hauler. These items cannot be disposed of in the trash.
- ❑ Recycle fluorescent lamps, batteries and electronics.
- ❑ Use non-toxic cleaning products whenever possible.
- ❑ Recycle oil and grease wastes. Never dump them down the storm drain, on the ground, or into sinks.
- ❑ Collect grease in containers and contact a grease removal/recycling company to haul them away. Go to <http://www.calfog.org/Hauler.html> for a list of grease haulers. Secondary containment for grease bins is recommended.
- ❑ Do not store grease waste near storm drains.

Visit www.baywise.org and enter your zip code to find the nearest recycling or household hazardous waste collection center or call **1-800 CLEAN UP**

Small Business Hazardous Waste Disposal Program

Businesses that generate less than 27 gallons or 220 pounds of hazardous waste per month are eligible to use San Mateo County's Very Small Quantity Generator Program. Call (650) 655-6217 for a quote, more information or guidance on disposal.

Cleaning and Washing Activities

- ❑ Clean equipment (including carts, floor mats, garbage cans, and tray racks) in a designated wash area that prevents discharge to the storm drains.
- ❑ The best place to clean equipment is a wash pad with a sanitary sewer connection. If your facility does not have a wash pad, you can create a designated wash area that prevents washwater from discharging to storm drains.
 - ✓ Create a collection area with booms or take advantage of a low spot to keep washwater contained.
 - ✓ Block flow to storm drains with an impervious barrier such as sandbags or booms, OR
 - ✓ Seal the storm drain with plugs or rubber mats.
 - ✓ Pump collected washwater to the sanitary sewer (e.g., mop sink or sewer cleanout).
- ❑ Discharge washwaters to the sanitary sewer system when cleaning flat surfaces (e.g., loading dock, store, windows, parking areas, driveways, etc.). Minimize amount of washwater used.
 - ✓ Sweep area before washing.
 - ✓ If wet cleaning is required, block the storm drain or contain all washwaters, and discharge to the sanitary sewer system.
 - ✓ If no soap is used, washwaters from the following types of surfaces may be discharged to landscaping after screening the washwater to catch debris: sidewalks, plazas, building surfaces, decks, etc. without loose paint. Dispose of debris in the trash.

Remember, your facility is responsible for the actions of contractors you hire. Ask your contractor if they have received training for surface cleaners from the Bay Area Stormwater Management Association of Agencies (BASMAA). Be sure you know how your contractor will be cleaning your equipment and disposing of washwater. Cleaning activities that occur after hours must adhere to these BMPs.

For More Information...

For stormwater pollution prevention information and additional brochures visit the San Mateo Countywide Pollution Prevention Program's web site at www.flowstobay.org or contact local stormwater programs (see list below).

Town of Atherton	(650) 752-0541
City of Belmont	(650) 595-7425
City of Brisbane	(415) 508-2130
City of Burlingame	(650) 558-7230
Town of Colma	(650) 757-8888
City of Daly City	(650) 991-8200
City of East Palo Alto	(650) 853-3189
City of Foster City	(650) 286-3270
City of Half Moon Bay	(650) 726-8260
Town of Hillsborough	(650) 375-7411
City of Menlo Park	(650) 330-6740
City of Millbrae	(650) 259-2339
City of Pacifica	(650) 738-3767
Town of Portola Valley	(650) 851-1700
City of Redwood City	(650) 780-7464
City of San Bruno	(650) 616-7160
City of San Carlos	(650) 802-4361
City of San Mateo	(650) 522-7350
City of S. San Francisco	(650) 829-3848
Town of Woodside	(650) 851-6790
County of San Mateo	(650) 363-4305



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