

What's the difference? Sanitary Sewer vs. Storm Drain System

The water that drains down a sink or toilet in a home or business flows to the sanitary sewer and is treated by the City of San Diego at a wastewater treatment plant.

The storm drain system, on the other hand, is designed to carry rainwater from City streets and driveways to prevent flooding. This water does not receive any treatment. It flows directly to creeks and rivers – and eventually to San Diego Bay!

Unfortunately, as rainfall flows over the ground it picks up debris and pollutants and deposits them into our water bodies.



Certain industrial businesses require coverage under the General Industrial Permit. For more information go to the State of California's Stormwater website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/industrial.shtml

Who can you contact?

REPORT ILLEGAL DUMPING

City of National City
(619) 336-4389
(Toll Free After Hours Hotline)
County Storm Water Hotline
(888) 846-0800

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) DISPOSAL

South Bay Regional HHW Drop-Off Site
1800 Maxwell Road
Chula Vista, CA
Call (619) 691-5122 for information

RECYCLING

EDCO: (619) 466-8855
<http://www.edcodisposal.com/services/nationalcity/index.html>

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

National City Storm Water Program
(619) 336-4580

Look on the web!

CITY OF NATIONAL CITY

<http://www.ci.national-city.ca.us/>

USED OIL RECYCLING CENTERS

www.ciwmb.ca.gov/UsedOil/

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/

PROJECT CLEAN WATER

www.projectcleanwater.org

SAN DIEGO COASTKEEPER

www.sdcoastkeeper.org

STATE OF CALIFORNIA STORM WATER PROGRAM

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/np/s/

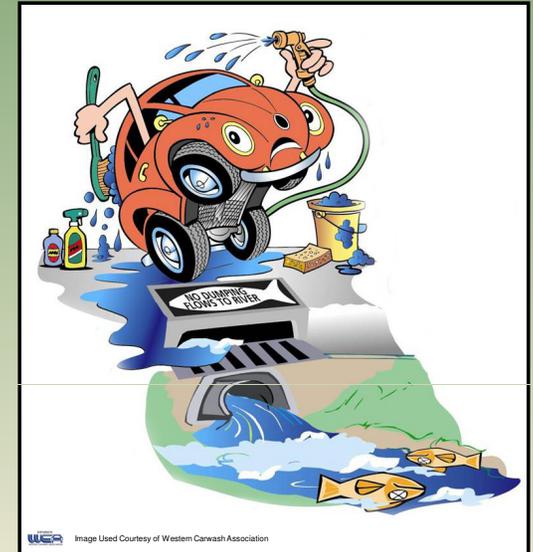
US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

www.epa.gov/OWOW/NPS/

CITY OF NATIONAL CITY

Preventing Urban Runoff Pollution

A Guide for Commercial and
Industrial Businesses



Urban storm water runoff is the **largest contributor to water pollution** in San Diego County.

Your business is **required** to prevent urban runoff pollution by implementing **Best Management Practices (BMPs)**.

The City will be conducting inspections to ensure that BMPs are being used and water quality is protected.



Pollutants of Concern

Water that enters the City of National City storm drain system eventually flows into San Diego Bay. The following lists several main pollutants of concern for San Diego Bay.

- ❖ Sediments
- ❖ Metals (copper, zinc)
- ❖ Pesticides (diazinon)
- ❖ Bacteria and Viruses

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are required to be used at all industrial and commercial businesses, where applicable, to reduce urban runoff pollution in our streams and waterways.



Maintenance & Good Housekeeping

- ❖ Major cleaning of exterior surfaces (such as power washing) must include capturing all wash water and disposing of it into the sanitary sewer in compliance with local regulations. Wash water is not allowed to enter the street gutter or storm drains.
- ❖ Regularly sweep exterior paved areas. **Do Not use a hose!** Place debris in the dumpsters.
- ❖ If you must use water for cleaning, use a mop and bucket. Dispose of wash water into the sanitary sewer (sink or toilet).
- ❖ Regularly inspect and maintain storm drain inlets and surface drains on your property.

Landscaping

- ❖ Time sprinklers to avoid over watering and aim them to avoid causing runoff.
- ❖ Minimize use of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers, which are harmful to animals downstream.
- ❖ Hand pull weeds instead of using herbicides
- ❖ Do not use pesticides that eliminate beneficial insects
- ❖ Only irrigate during early morning or late evening to avoid evaporation.



Outdoor Material Storage

- ❖ Store all material indoors or under a covered area not exposed to rain. Include secondary containment for liquid materials.
- ❖ Have a spill response kit (dry absorbent, rags, and/or hydrophobic mops are useful) available to clean up potential spills.
- ❖ Keep lids closed on all outdoor storage containers and ensure containers are labeled.



Unacceptable



Acceptable

Waste Management

- ❖ Keep all outdoor garbage and dumpster areas free of trash, sediment and debris.
- ❖ Keep lids closed on dumpsters and trash cans and never wash down dumpsters.
- ❖ Fix any leaks in garbage cans or dumpsters.
- ❖ Schedule extra pick-ups when regular waste collection does not meet demand.

Vehicle & Equipment Washing and Maintenance

- ❖ Wash vehicles at a commercial car wash when possible. (Commercial car washes drain to the sanitary sewer and not to the storm drain).
- ❖ Wash vehicles over a pervious (absorbent) surface such as dirt, gravel or grass to prevent runoff.
- ❖ Minimize the use of soap and water.
- ❖ Car wash water is not allowed to enter storm drains. Wash water must be collected and disposed of to a pervious area (such as landscaping) or to the sanitary sewer system if allowed by local sewer agency.
- ❖ Perform all vehicle maintenance indoors when possible.
- ❖ Use drip pans to collect fluids from leaky vehicles
- ❖ Clean up spills with a spill kit and properly dispose of the used kit contents.



Unacceptable



Acceptable

Loading Areas & Operations

- ❖ Load and unload in designated areas.
- ❖ Regularly sweep loading and unloading areas; do not hose them down.
- ❖ If possible, cover loading areas.
- ❖ Divert rain water away from all loading and unloading areas.
- ❖ Check shipments and trucks for leaks and spills.
- ❖ Clean up spills/leaks immediately and dispose of them properly.