Guidelines for Home Repairs and Remodeling

General Construction

- Keep all construction debris away from the street, gutter, and storm drain.
- During cleanup, check the street and gutters for sediment, refuse, or debris. Look around the corner or downstream for material that may have already traveled away from your property. Clean and dispose of the material properly.
- Be sure to securely cover any dumpsters or stockpiles at your site with a lid or tarp when they are not in use.
- Place portable toilets away from storm drains. Make sure toilets are in working order. Check frequently for and repair any leaks.

Clean up all spills when they happen. Do not flush spills into storm drains. If construction materials or other wastes get into a gutter, storm drain, or creek, call your local spill response agency or 911 immediately!

Landscaping/Foundation Work

Intensive gardening, landscaping, and all excavation projects such as foundation repair or pool construction expose soils and increase the likelihood that garden chemicals and earth will wash into the storm drains. Be careful to control erosion and minimize runoff to all driveways, gutters, and storm drains.

Concrete, Asphalt, Masonry, and Tile Work

- Don’t mix up more fresh concrete or cement than you need for each project.
- If rain is predicted, cover asphalt mixing equipment with tarps or a simple structure to avoid rain contact.
- Cover and protect bags of cement and plaster after they are open. Be sure to keep wind-blown cement powder away from gutters, storm drains, rainfall, and runoff.
- Wash down exposed aggregate concrete and equipment only when wash water can flow onto a dirt area, or be collected, pumped, and disposed of properly to a process water treatment system. Make sure runoff does not reach gutters or storm drains.
- Properly contain and collect any discarded concrete slurry.
- Never wash excess material from bricklaying or patio or driveway construction into a street or storm drain. Empty mixing container onto a dirt area, or allow material to dry and put in trash.
- Dispose of small amounts of excess dry concrete, grout, and mortar in the trash. Call your local refuse hauler for weight and size limits.
- Collect and reuse excess abrasive gravel and sand. Recycle broken concrete and asphalt.
- Never hose down driveways, sidewalks, or streets. Dry sweep or shovel and collect for proper disposal instead.

Painting

All paints, solvents, and adhesives contain chemicals that are harmful to aquatic animals and other wildlife in our creeks, marshes, and Bay. Toxic chemicals may come from liquid or solid products or from cleaning residues on rags.

Paint Cleanup

- Never clean brushes or painting equipment (buckets, pans, hoses, etc.) in an area where paint or paint cleanup water can flow to a gutter, street, storm drain or stream.
- For water-based paints, (e.g. latex) paint out brushes on scrap material to the extent possible, and rinse into a drain that goes to the sanitary sewer.
- For oil-based paints, paint out brushes to the extent possible before soaking in paint thinner to clean. Filter and reuse thinner and solvents. Dispose of unwanted oil-based paint, used thinner, and paint residue at a hazardous waste collection event.
- When they are thoroughly dry, empty paint cans, spent brushes, rags, and drop cloths may be disposed of as trash. Leave the lids off paint cans so the refuse collector can see that they are empty.
- Dispose of empty aerosol paint cans as household hazardous waste.
Preventing Water Pollution: It’s Up to Us to Do the Job Right

In the San Francisco Bay Area, storm drains transport water directly to local creeks and the Bay without treatment. Storm drain pollution is a serious problem for wildlife and for people who live near polluted waterways. Common sources of this pollution include oil, fuel, and fluids from vehicles and equipment; construction debris; landscaping runoff containing pesticides, fertilizers or weed killers; litter, and materials such as used motor oil, antifreeze, and paint products that people pour or spill into streets or storm drains.

Keep waterway protection in mind whenever work is performed on your property. The property owner is ultimately responsible for correcting any pollution problems caused by construction activities. Penalties may be more severe if storm drain pollution is not reported promptly. Helpful contact information is listed in this brochure.

Who Should Use This Brochure?

This brochure is for homeowners, and do-it-yourself remodelers who have access to residential household hazardous waste disposal programs. Important guidelines are included as a poster on the inside of this pamphlet. Useful phone numbers and contacts are included at right and on the back.

Contractors, subcontractors and other professionals should also contact the stormwater program in their area for other publications (see list on next panel.)

Household Hazardous Waste Recycling & Disposal

Household Hazardous Waste Facilities accept batteries, oil, latex and oil-based paints, antifreeze, automotive fluids, pesticides, cleaners, poisons, solvents and chemicals with no charge to residents.

To locate the program in your community call 1-888-BAYWISE or 1-800-CLEANUP. You can also find information on the web at www.cleanup.org

Construction Materials & Equipment Reuse and Exchange

CALMAX
Sacramento
(916) 255-2369
Bi-monthly listing of available and wanted materials: www.ciwm.ca.gov/CalMAX/

Whole House Building Supply and Salvage
1955 Pulgas Road, East Palo Alto
Warehouse 650-328-8731, Office Tel/Fax 650-856-0634
Quality building materials donated or salvaged from homes and businesses. House salvage sales at homes that are slated for demolition. driftwoodsalvage.co

Urban Ore, Inc.
7th Street at Ashby, Berkeley
(510) 559-4460
(510) 559-4461 for pickups
Building materials exchange, household goods, office furniture.
www.urbanore.citysearch.com

Ohmega Salvage
2407 San Pablo, Berkeley,
510-843-7368
www.ohmegasalvage.com

Building Resources
701 Amador St., San Francisco
415-285-7814
www.buildingresources.org

C&M Diversified Co.
330 N. Montgomery, San Jose
408-294-5185
Doors, filing cabinets, kitchen cabinets, plumbing fixtures, windows

SRDC
125 Seaport Blvd. Redwood City
650-367-7324
Brick, concrete, rock, gravel, plumbing fixtures

Recycling—Buy and sell building materials, concrete, asphalt, yard waste

Look under Recycling Services in the yellow pages of the phone book to find a recycler closest to you. Recycling services can also be found by calling 1-888-BAYWISE or 1-800-CLEANUP. You can also find recycling information on the web at www.cleanup.org

Guidelines:

Open center fold for 11X17 inch poster with stormwater pollution prevention guidelines
Schedule grading and excavation projects for dry weather.

Cover excavated material and stockpiles of asphalt, sand, etc. with plastic tarps during the rainy season.

Replant as soon as possible, with temporary vegetation such as annual grass seed as necessary. Revegetation provides excellent erosion control.

Take care not to over-apply pesticides, and be sure to use up leftover supply. Rinse empty pesticide containers, and use rinsewater as you would use the product. Dispose of empty rinsed containers in the trash.

Dispose of unused pesticide as hazardous waste.

Collect lawn and garden clippings, pruning waste, and tree trimmings.

Do not blow or rake leaves, etc. into the street, or place yard waste in gutters or on dirt shoulders.

Plan your landscape project to drain properly and to allow for infiltration so less water runs off site.

Consider planting native plants. They require less water and fewer pesticides and fertilizers.

Plumb new pools or spas so they can be drained to the sanitary sewer system.

Paint Removal

Buildings constructed before 1978 may have lead paint. Test paint for lead by taking paint scrapings to a local laboratory. If lead is found, paint chips and dust must be disposed of as hazardous waste. Check with the wastewater treatment plant to determine whether you may discharge washwater to the sanitary sewer, or if you must send it off site for disposal as hazardous waste.

Chemical paint stripping residues, including saturated rags, are a hazardous waste and should be taken to a household hazardous waste event.

Chips and dust from marine paints or paints containing lead, mercury or tributyl-tin are hazardous wastes. Sweep up paint chips and properly store for household hazardous waste event.

Reuse or recycle leftover paints when possible.

Use up excess paint or give it to a neighbor, or take it to a household hazardous waste event. Most household hazardous waste collection programs can recycle latex (water-based) paint.

What to Do With the Leftovers?

Recycle:

Plant material: tree branches, leaves, etc.

Wood, broken asphalt, and concrete (check with your local landfill)

Water-based paints

Used motor oil

Antifreeze

Take to a household hazardous waste drop-off event:

Unused garden and household chemicals

Leftover paint

Used solvents

Paint stripping residue and rags

Used antifreeze

Dispose as trash:

Construction debris from small projects

Dry, empty paint cans, spent brushes, rags, and drop cloths

Small amounts of dry mortar, grout, etc.
This brochure is one of a series of pamphlets describing storm drain protection measures for specific types of construction industry activities. Other pamphlets include:

- General Construction and Site Supervision
- Landscaping, Gardening and Pool Maintenance
- Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application
- Roadwork and Paving
- Earth Moving Activities
- Heavy Equipment Operation
- Painting and Application of Solvents and Adhesives
- Dewatering Activities
- Home Repair and Remodeling

For more information from countywide storm drain protection programs, and additional brochures, contact the storm-water program in your area (listed below) or by calling 1-888-BAYWISE.

**Local Stormwater Quality Management Programs**

- Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program
  951 Turner Court, Hayward, CA 94545
  510-670-5543

- Contra Costa Clean Water Program
  255 Glacier Drive, Martinez, CA 94553-4897
  925-313-2360

- Fairfield-Suisun Urban Runoff Management Program
  1010 Chadbourne Road, Fairfield, CA 94585
  707-429-8930

- Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program
  P. O. Box 4186
  San Rafael, CA 94913
  415-499-6528

- San Mateo Countywide Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program
  555 County Center
  Redwood City, CA 94063
  650-599-1406

- Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program
  699 Town & Country Village
  Sunnyvale, CA 94086
  800-794-2482

- Vallejo Sanitation and Flood Control District
  450 Ryder Street, Vallejo, CA 94590
  707-644-8949

- Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA)
  1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400
  Oakland CA 94612
  510-622-2326 or 1-888-BAYWISE

**State Agencies**

- California Regional Water Quality Control Board
  San Francisco Bay Region (510) 622-2300

- Department of Toxic Substances (for questions about hazardous waste, call the Public and Business Liaison Hotline, Regional Duty Officers at (800) 728-6942 or (800) 72TOXIC

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**Home Repair and Remodeling**

**Best Management Practices for Construction Activities**

- Landscaping/Foundation Work
- Painting and Paint Cleanup
- Concrete, Asphalt, Masonry, and Tile Work
- General Construction

**Who should use this brochure?**

- Homeowners
- Do-it-yourself remodelers
- General contractors/Subcontractors

**BASMAA gratefully acknowledges the Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program for the original concept and text of this brochure.**

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