



Water wise

Leave it to the water conservationists to create an oasis in the desert of environmentally responsible shopping. Bay Area Clean Water Agencies have planted a cute little seal — “Our Water, Our World” — on shelves containing gardening and pest control products that are less toxic and more friendly for our waterways.

These are the products that typically run off into storm drains once the rains start, meaning they end up in creeks and rivers and ultimately the bay and the ocean. Not everyone has the time to research products and study labels, so the seal makes it easy to choose prudently.

Nearly 200 Bay Area stores are participating, including Sloat Centers, Cole Hardware, Orchard Supply Hardware and Home Depot. Displays near the products include fact sheets on attacking pests with minimal risk to environment, pets and people. www.ourwaterourworld.org.