

KEEP IT CLEAN

POLLUTION PREVENTION FOR SPECIAL EVENTS

The Pretreatment Program implements laws that control discharges to the South County Regional Waste Water Treatment Plant (SCRWA). **The Gilroy Chemical Control Inspectors** inspect and enforce these laws in both **Morgan Hill and Gilroy**. In Gilroy they also inspect Hazardous Materials and Hazardous Waste Sites for the CUPA and Fire Code Programs.

In response to Federal and State regulations the cities of Morgan Hill and Gilroy are implementing a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program.

The Goal of the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program is to control discharges of pollutants to the municipal storm drain system.

Storm Water 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 the Monterey Bay. Storm water has been found to carry many pollutants to the creeks and bay. When excessive runoff occurs it also takes significant amounts of dirt and debris into these creeks and lakes as well.

The Municipal 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 and into Monterey 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. It is then pumped into ponds where it evaporates or soaks into the ground. The SCRWA treatment plant even makes recycled water used at golf courses and parks. **It is important to keep materials out of the treatment plant that will harm it or cause pollution to get into the ponds or recycled water.**

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.



STORM WATER
RUNOFF GOES INTO
MONTEREY
BAY WHICH IS HOME
TO WILDLIFE,
INCLUDING THE SEA
OTTER

Keeping pollutants out of our storm drain system protects our local creeks, and the Monterey Bay. Materials, event dirt, poured, swept, blown, or washed into the storm drains can block or clog the lines or degrade water quality and harm aquatic life. They also can create bacteria that make our beaches and creeks unsafe for swimming and recreation. **In general, any wastewater discharged to the storm drains is illegal.**

FOLLOW THESE RULES:

- **Portable toilets** shall be provided and serviced by a company licensed by the County Health Department and that they discharge the waste under an account to the South County Regional Waste Water Authority Treatment Facility (SCRWA).
- **Waste water** generated by cooking or cleanup activities shall be collected and discharged to either:
 1. A gray water tank provided and serviced by the portable toilet company, or
 2. An on-site grease interceptor (via a 3 compartment wash sink in the kitchen).
- **Grease** waste shall be taken by a licensed tallow hauler. Do not pour grease into a sink or toilet or storm drain.
- **If Animals Are Present**, All Animal Wastes Shall Be Picked Up And Disposed Of In The Trash.
- **Storage and use of chemicals** shall be done away from drains. Make sure that such use is in conformance local requirements. Notify the Fire Department of Chemical Spills to the Storm Drain by Dialing the City Dispatcher at 408-846-0350.
- **Do not hose or wash down** parking or outdoor areas with soap. Instead sweep up trash and debris. Use spot spraying of detergent and then use absorbent or a mop to remove the residue. Use tarps, drip pans or absorbent in areas where liquids may spill to prevent having to clean up spills.
- **Never** Dispose of Wastes Into the Storm Drain.
- **Provide** Trash and Recycling Containers. Contact Recology at 408-847-5700 and ask for the Recycle Coordinator to arrange for trash & recycling containers for your event.

For more information on pollution prevention contact the Chemical Control Program @ 408-846-0439