

Storm Water Compliance Inspections

The City of Bellflower has developed an inventory of all existing commercial and industrial businesses that are critical sources of stormwater pollution. The municipal stormwater NPDES permit requires the City to conduct storm water compliance inspections of these industrial and commercial facilities. These site inspections include a walk-through of the facility, evaluation of current storm water best management practices and recommendations for additional measures that may be required to comply with the NPDES permit and the City's stormwater ordinance.



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

The water that drains down a sink or toilet flows to the sanitary sewer and is treated at a wastewater treatment plant. The storm drain, on the other hand, is designed to carry rainwater away from streets, parking lots and driveways to prevent flooding. This water does not receive any treatment and flows directly into our creeks, lagoons and ocean.



For further information contact:

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Best Management Practices For BUSINESSES

Commercial and Industrial



Pollution Prevention Is Up to US!

Did you know that storm drains are NOT connected to sanitary sewer systems or treatment plants? The primary purpose of storm drains is to carry rainwater away from developed areas to prevent flooding. As rainfall flows over the ground, it picks up a variety of pollutants which flow directly to our creeks, lagoons and ocean.

Pollutants of concern include:

- Sediments
- Fertilizers
- Metals
- Detergents
- Pesticides
- Organic Compounds
- Trash and Debris
- Oil and Grease
- Bacteria and Viruses

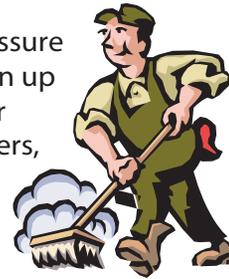


Pollution Prevention Is Up to US!

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are procedures and practices you can implement to prevent pollutants and other hazardous materials from entering our storm drains. Once potential and existing sources of pollution have been identified, the next step is to select proper BMPs to eliminate or reduce storm water pollution. Program staff is available to provide information and assistance in developing BMPs for your business. Each of us can do our part to keep storm water clean. Using BMPs adds up to a pollution solution!

Good Housekeeping

- Instead of using a hose or pressure washing system, try a dry clean up method! Use mops, brooms or wire brushes to clean dumpsters, sidewalks, buildings, equipment, pavement, driveways and other impervious surfaces. Wash water should be disposed to the sanitary sewer, NEVER to the storm drain.
- Minimize the use of cleaning solutions and agents.
- Keep site free of litter and debris. Place trash cans and recycling receptacles around the site to minimize litter.



Preventive Maintenance

- Keep equipment and vehicles in good working condition. Inspect frequently for leaks and repair as needed.
- Gutters, storm drains, catch basins and other storm drainage features should be regularly inspected and cleaned so that pollutants do not accumulate.
- Label storm drains to remind employees that discharge to these drains flows directly to our waterways.

Materials Storage and Handling

- When possible, store materials indoors or under covered areas not exposed to rain. If materials can not be stored under cover, place materials on pallets and cover with a tarp to avoid contact with storm water run-on and run-off.
- Store liquids, hazardous waste and other chemicals in a designated area with secondary containment. Keep outdoor storage areas in good condition.

Waste Management

- Sweep up around dumpsters and other areas frequently to prevent trash from accumulating.
- Place all trash inside dumpsters or containers until it can be hauled away.
- Dumpsters should always be kept closed to prevent rainwater from entering. Never place liquid waste, leaky garbage bags and hazardous waste in a dumpster or trash bin.
- Recycle cans, bottles, newspaper, office paper and cardboard. Call 1-800-CLEANUP for more information about recycling programs in your area.

Vehicle Washing and Cleaning

- Wash company vehicles at a commercial car wash, whenever possible. If vehicles are washed onsite, wash water must be contained and disposed of to the sanitary sewer.

Spill Response

- Use brooms and absorbents such as cat litter or sawdust to clean up small spills. Report significant spills to the Storm Water Protection Program and/or the appropriate spill response agencies immediately.
- Write and keep current a spill response plan. Ensure that employees are trained on the elements of the plan.
- Keep rags, damp mops and absorbents readily accessible. Dispose of waste properly.

Employee Training

- Discuss and distribute information on storm water pollution prevention during employee training sessions and at employee meetings.
- Post good housekeeping tips and reminders on employee bulletin boards.
- Inform subcontractors about the new storm water requirements and their responsibilities.