Use Alternative to Water.
To save water and prevent illicit discharges, rely on cleaning methods that do not produce runoff. These include sweeping, bucket and mop, wet/dry vacuuming, and the use of absorbent materials.

Train/Enforce Implementation of BMPs.
Facility personnel should be properly trained in the implementation of BMPs. This can be done through periodic staff meetings or new employee orientation. Once trained, employees should be managed to assure that BMPs are properly implemented.

Annual maintenance of Onsite Storm Inlet, Catch Basin, and Management Equipment.
To properly maintain effective pollution prevention: At least once a year and no later than October 1st, inspect and clean onsite storm drain inlets, catch basins, and storm management equipment.
Label onsite storm drain inlets and catch basins with pollution prevention warnings.

Obtaining an Industrial Waste or Sewer Permit
City of Vernon
Community Services Department
(323) 583-8811 - Extension 217

Recycling & Hazardous Waste Disposal
City of Vernon
Environmental Health Department
(323) 583-8811 - Extension 233

Spill Response Agencies
City of Vernon
Fire Department
911 or (323) 583-4821

To Report Illegal Dumping
City of Vernon
Environmental Health Department
(323) 583-8811 - Extension 233
(M-Th • 7 am - 5:30 pm)

City of Vernon
Fire or Police Departments
911 or (323) 583-4821
Nights & Weekends

To Report A Clogged Catch Basin
City of Vernon
Department of Community Services
(323) 583-8811 - Extension 279

This brochure is one of a series of pamphlets describing runoff pollution prevention measures. Other pamphlets include:
Retail Food Service Industry (Restaurants and Markets)
General Construction & Site Supervision
Painting
Fueling Stations, Auto Repair & Body Shops

For more information about storm drain protection, or additional brochures, PLEASE CALL:
CITY OF VERNON
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM
(323) 583-8811 - Extension 233

City of Vernon
Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program
A Source of Runoff Pollution

Your industrial facility is a potential source of runoff pollution to our rivers and oceans. This is because commercial/industrial businesses usually handle chemicals and/or particulates (e.g., fines and sediment), which can be transported by runoff to water bodies. When pollutant materials stored outdoors or lying on the surface make contact with runoff, they are carried into a component of the storm drain system (this includes streets, alleys, catch basins). In the case of the Los Angeles River, just above the groundwater recharge basin - a source of drinking water for millions of Los Angeles County residents. Runoff also makes its way to the ocean (San Pedro, in this case), where pollutants can threaten aquatic marine life and spoil recreational uses, including fishing, boating, swimming, and surfing.

Your facility may be a source of illicit discharges - non-storm water discharges to the storm drain system that are not exempted under federal or state law (we’ll talk about this in a moment). This includes dumping fluids - wholly or partially containing pollutants - to the municipal storm drain system. Even wash water resulting from outdoor cleaning or maintenance activities is an illicit discharge if it enters any component of the storm drain system. There are, however, a few exceptions, such as runoff from irrigation and landscaping activities. The general rule, however, is to avoid discharging any fluid or material to the storm drain.

Illicit discharges can also enter the storm drain system through illicit connections. These are devices such as floor drains connected to curb outlets, or directly to a catch basin or storm drain that discharge industrial waste or hazardous materials, illicit connections must be eliminated.

Regulated By Law

General Industrial Activity Storm Water Permit

Federal and state law may require your facility to be covered under a General Industrial Activity Storm Water permit (GIASWP). The GIASWP permit requires the preparation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). A SWPPP is a document that identifies actual and potential pollution problems on a site-specific basis. It also identifies appropriate best management practices (BMPs) to mitigate or eliminate such problems. A Monitoring Program Plan (MPP) proposes to conduct (1) visual observations for pollutant discharges and (2) sampling and analysis of storm water runoff. In some cases, this requirement can be waived. The partial listing of industrial facilities typified by Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code that are subject to this regulation:

- Manufacturing Facilities: 2400 - 2499 (except 2434; 2600 (except 2650-2699 and 2670-2679); 2800 (except 2830-2839); 2900 - 2999; 3110 - 3119; 3210 (except 310-3239); 3300 - 3399; 3441; and 3730 - 3739.
- Other Manufacturing Facilities (where industrial materials, equipment or activities are exposed to storm water): 2000 - 2099; 2100 - 2199; 2200 - 2299; 2300 - 2399; 2434; 2500 - 2599; 2650 - 2659; 2670 - 2679; 2700 - 2799; 2830 - 2839; 2850 - 2859; 2860 - 2869; 3000 - 3009; 3110 (except 3110-3119); 3230 - 3239; 3400 - 3499 (except 3441); 3500 - 3599; 3600 - 3699; 3700 - 3799 (except 3730 - 3739); 3800 - 3899; 3900 - 3999; and 4221 - 4225.
- Recyclers: 5015 and 5093.
- Transportation Facilities: 4000 - 4099; 4100 - 4199; 4200 - 4299; 4300 - 4399, 4400 - 4499; 4500 - 4599; and 5171.

Note: If your facility falls under the aforesaid “other manufacturing facilities,” it can be exempted from GIASWP requirements, by either performing pollutant-generating activities indoors and/or by implementing BMPs that prevent storm water contact with exposed pollutants.

City Ordinance

Your facility must also comply with the City’s Runoff Pollution Control Ordinance. The ordinance requires industrial facilities to do three things essentially. First, eliminate illicit discharges. Second, eliminate illicit connections. Third, implement best management practices to reduce or eliminate pollutant discharges. Failure to comply with these requirements, upon conviction, can result in fines and even imprisonment.

Best Management Practices

BM Ps are activities or devices that reduce pollutants in runoff associated with your facility’s operation. BM Ps prevent storm water and non-storm water runoff contact with pollutants. BM Ps also reduce or eliminate pollutants in runoff by either (1) treating them before they enter the storm drain system; or (2) diverting them away from the storm drain system.

- Material Storage: Store materials containing pollutants (chemicals or particulates, including sediment) in a manner that prevents contact with runoff. The easiest way to do this is to store materials indoors. If only outdoor storage is possible, materials should be placed under a roof, tarp, or other device that captures leakage.
- Perfor m Periodic Inspections: Inspect areas where storm water devices (including sediment) to identify potential sources of pollution problems. Inspect for (1) trash and debris (e.g., litter, plastic, etc.) in contact with exposed pollutants.

Note: If your facility falls under the aforesaid “other manufacturing facilities,” it can be exempted from GIASWP requirements, by either performing pollutant-generating activities indoors and/or by implementing BMPs that prevent storm water contact with exposed pollutants.

Prevent Container Leaks:

- Drums and other containers that dispense pollutant materials (lubricants, solvents, etc.) should be placed on a pallet or other device that captures leakage.

Maintain Proper Inventory:

- Excess ordering of materials containing pollutants could pose a problem if they are stored outdoors without proper coverage or containment. To avoid this problem, order only what is actually needed as opposed to "stocking up."

Properly Dispose Hazardous Waste Materials:

- Excess waste, coupled with insufficient indoor space, usually results in outdoor storage. These materials should be stored properly to prevent runoff contact and accidental spillage. They should also be disposed of as often as necessary by a licensed hazardous waste hauler, to prevent improper outdoor storage.

Set Aside Area For Washing/Cleaning Activities:

- Runoff from washing parts, equipment or other items outdoors can enter the storm drain system, resulting in an “illicit discharge.” Designate an area of the facility for this purpose, preferably indoors. Wash water from an industrial facility is usually considered industrial waste, which requires special treatment and discharge to the sewer system. For more information on industrial waste permitting, see panel on where to call.

Trash Management:

- Facility should be kept litter-free. Trash cans should be deployed in areas where litter is generated. They should also be equipped with lids and emptied-out as often as necessary to prevent overflow. Trash bins should be closed to prevent refuse migration.
Excess ordering of materials containing pollutants could pose a problem if they are stored outdoors without proper coverage or containment. To avoid this problem, only order what is actually needed as opposed to “stocking up.”

Handling Materials and Waste Materials
Practice Source Reduction - minimize waste when ordering materials. Order only the amounts needed to complete the job. Use recycled and recyclable materials whenever possible. Never bury waste materials or leave them in the street.

Dispose of all waste properly. Many construction materials, including solvents, water-based paints, vehicle fluids, broken asphalt and concrete, brick, wood, and cleared vegetation can be recycled. Non-recyclable materials must be taken to an appropriate landfill or disposed of as hazardous waste. For disposal information contact the City of Vernon Environmental Health Department.

Disposal Options
Use a crushing company to recycle cement, asphalt, brick, and porcelain rather than taking them to a landfill. For a listing of companies that accept these materials, call the City of Vernon Environmental Health Department.

Trash Management
Facility should be kept litter free. Trash cans should be deployed in areas where litter is generated (i.e. areas where lunch trucks deliver food or where employees take breaks). Trash cans must be equipped with lids and emptied-out as often as necessary to prevent overflow. Trash bins should be closed to prevent refuse migration.

Where to Call

Obtaining a Construction, Plumbing, Mechanical, Electrical, Industrial Waste, or Sewer Permit
City of Vernon
Community Services Department
(323) 583-8811 - Extension 217

Recycling & Hazardous Waste Disposal
City of Vernon
Environmental Health Department
(323) 583-8811 - Extension 233

Spill Response Agencies
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(323) 583-8811 - Extension 279

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(Restaurants and Markets)

Commercial and Industrial Establishments

Painting

Fueling Stations, Auto Repair & Body Shops

For more information about storm drain protection, or additional brochures, PLEASE CALL:

CITY OF VERNON
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM
(323) 583-8811 - Extension 233

General Construction and Site Supervision

Pardon Our Dust!

City of Vernon
Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program
Storm Water & Ocean Pollution Prevention: IT'S UP TO US!

Vernon has two drainage systems - the sewers and the storm drains. The storm drain system (this includes streets, alleys, catch basins), is designed to prevent flooding by carrying excess rainwater away from city streets out to the ocean. In the case of Vernon, stormwater that enters the storm drain system flows into the Los Angeles River, just above the groundwater recharge basin - a source of drinking water for millions of Los Angeles County residents. Because the system contains no filters, it can serve the unintended function of carrying urban pollution to the ocean (San Pedro, in this case). These pollutants can threaten aquatic marine life and spoil recreational uses, including fishing, boating, swimming, and surfing.

This pamphlet tells you how to prevent the contamination of storm water or urban runoff and ocean pollution. Rain, industrial and residential runoff water, mixed with urban pollutants create storm water pollution. The pollutants include paint, concrete, mortar, oil, other automotive fluids, construction debris, litter, silt, and pesticides. The general rule is to avoid discharging any fluid to the storm drain.

General Construction Pollutants

Construction sites are potential sources of a wide range of urban runoff pollution. Materials and wastes blown or washed into a street, gutter, or storm drain eventually discharge into the ocean. Soil and sediment are the most common pollutants from construction sites.

Sediment clogs the gills of fish, blocks light transmission, and increases ocean water temperature. All of these affects harm aquatic creatures and disturb the food chain upon which both fish and people depend.

Sediment also carries with it other work site pollutants such as pesticides; cleaning solvents; cement wash; asphalt; and vehicle fluids like oil, grease, coolant, and fuel. Poorly maintained vehicles, machinery, and heavy equipment that leak onto the ground also contribute to ocean pollution. This pamphlet tells you how to prevent the contamination of storm water or urban runoff and ocean pollution.

General Practices

Store materials containing pollutants (chemicals or particulates, including sediment) in a manner that prevents contact with rainwater or runoff. The easiest way to do this is to store materials inside a storage room or container. If only outdoor storage is possible, materials should be placed under a tarp, or plastic sheeting, and off-the ground, using a pallet or a secondary containment device.

Solutions = Best Management Practices (BMPs)

BMPs that include the proper handling, storage, and disposal of materials can prevent pollutants from entering the ocean through the storm drain system. BM Ps prevent storm water and non-storm water runoff contact with pollutants. BM Ps also reduce or eliminate pollutants in runoff by either (1) treating them before they enter the storm drain system; or (2) diverting them away from the storm drain system.

Cleaning Up

Clean up leaks, drips, and spills immediately. This will prevent contamination of soil or residue on paved surfaces. Never hose down “dirty” pavement or surfaces. Use dry cleanup methods whenever possible.

Advanced Planning to Prevent Pollution

An erosion control program, carefully planned before construction begins, will prevent or minimize most erosion and sedimentation problems. Train your employees and subcontractors. Make pollution prevention pamphlets and posters available to everyone working on site. Inform subcontractors about stormwater rules and their own responsibilities.

Schedule excavation and grading activities for dry and non-windy periods. Control surface runoff to reduce erosion, especially during excavation. Use drainage ditches to divert water flow. Use gravel approaches or other BM Ps to reduce soil compaction and limit the tracking of sediments into streets, wherever truck traffic is frequent. Prevent erosion by planting fast growing annual and perennial grasses. These will shield and bind the soil.

Do not remove trees or shrubs unnecessarily. They help decrease erosion.

Make sure portable toilets are in good working order. Check frequently for leaks.

Apply water with care for dust control.