

# Ocean Pollution Prevention: It's Up to Us!

Hermosa Beach has two drainage systems – the sewers and the storm drains. The sewer system takes waste from homes and businesses to a treatment plant before discharging to the ocean. The storm drain system is designed to prevent flooding by carrying excess rainwater away from city streets out to the ocean.

Rain water mixed with urban pollutants may create stormwater pollution. Urban runoff pollution may also flow to the ocean through the storm drain system. The pollutants include: oil and other automotive fluids, paint and construction debris, yard and pet wastes, pesticides and litter.

Urban runoff pollution contaminates the ocean, closes beaches, harms aquatic life and increases the risk of inland flooding by clogging gutters and catch basins.

In Hermosa Beach, there are many miles of pipes that would take similar pollutants straight to the ocean. Each day many gallons of polluted urban runoff enter the ocean untreated, leaving toxic chemicals in our surf and tons of trash on our beaches.

This pamphlet has been put together to inform you how to prevent ocean pollution from "stormwater" or "urban runoff."

These Best Management Practices (BMPs) will help ensure a cleaner ocean and city.



## Spill Response Agencies:

City of Hermosa Beach  
Department of Public Works  
(310) 318-0212

City of Hermosa Beach  
Police Department  
(310) 318-0317

Hermosa Beach Fire Department  
(310) 376-2479



## Recycling & Hazardous Waste Disposal:

City of Hermosa Beach  
Department of Public Works  
(310) 318-0212

Los Angeles County Sanitation District  
(562) 699-7411  
[www.lacsd.org](http://www.lacsd.org)

## To Report Illegal Dumping:

City of Hermosa Beach  
Department of Public Works  
(310) 318-0212

Los Angeles County  
Department of Public Works  
(888) CLEANLA

## To Report a Clogged Catch Basin:

City of Hermosa Beach  
Department of Public Works  
(310) 318-0212

Los Angeles County  
Department of Public Works  
(626) 458-HELP

This brochure is one of a series of pamphlets regarding storm drain pollution prevention measures. Other pamphlets include:



Food Service Industry

Painting

Automotive Maintenance & Car Care

General Construction & Site Supervision

Heavy Equipment & Earth-Moving Activities

Landscaping, Gardening & Pest Control

Home Repair & Remodeling

Roadwork & Paving



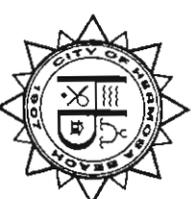
For more information about storm drain pollution prevention or additional brochures, call:

City of Hermosa Beach  
Department of Public Works  
(310) 318-0212

<http://hermosabch.org/>

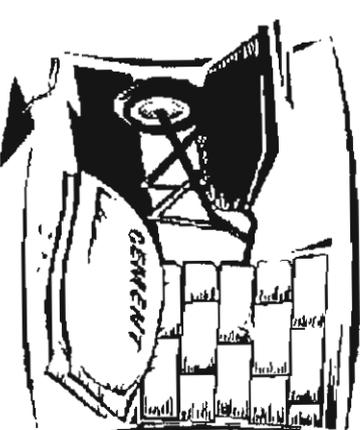
or visit

[www.888cleanla.com](http://www.888cleanla.com)



John L. Hunter and Associates  
Fish Concern & Water Restoration BMP brochure 9/2000

# Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs)



Fresh

## Concrete & Mortar Application

- Masons and Bricklayers
- Sidewalk Construction Crews
- Patio Construction Workers
- Construction Inspectors
- Home Builders
- Developers
- Do-It-Yourselfers

## Concrete & Mortar Application Problems

Fresh concrete and mortar activities are frequent sources of urban runoff pollution. Materials and wastes blown or washed into a street, gutter or storm drain, have a direct impact on the ocean.

Sediment is the most common pollutant washed from worksites, creating multiple problems once it enters the ocean. Sediment clogs the gills of fish, blocks light transmission and increases ocean water temperature, all of which harm sea life and disrupt the food chain upon which both fish and people depend.

Sediment also carries with it other worksite pollutants such as cement wash, gravel, asphalt, pesticides, cleaning solvents, motor oil, grease and fuel. Thus, poorly maintained equipment and vehicles leaking fuel and oil at the worksite also contribute to ocean pollution.



## Solutions

Best Management Practices (BMP) such as handling, storing, and disposing of materials properly can prevent pollutants from entering the storm drains.

## General Business Practices

Following are some general practices to follow:

- ✓ Schedule projects for dry weather periods.
- ✓ Keep materials out of the rain. Store both dry and wet materials under cover, protected from rainfall and runoff. Also, protect dry materials from the wind.

- ✓ Secure open bags of cement to keep the wind from blowing cement powder into streets, gutters, storm drains, rainfall and runoff.



## Cleaning Up

Some suggested clean up methods are listed below:

- ✓ When cleaning up after driveway or sidewalk construction, prevent washwater and debris from entering the street or storm drain.

- ✓ Wash out concrete mixers and equipment only in designated wash-out areas. Use a wet/dry vacuum to pick up water from concrete curing operations.

- ✓ Recycle cement wash water by pumping it back into cement mixers for reuse.

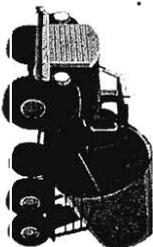
- ✓ Never dispose of cement washout into driveways, streets, gutters, storm drains or drainage ditches.

## During Construction

Place erosion controls (i.e., berms or temporary vegetation) down-slope to capture runoff carrying mortar or cement before it reaches the storm drain.



Do not order or mix up more fresh concrete or cement than you will use.



Set up and operate small mixers on tarps or heavy drop cloths.

When breaking up paving (cement or asphalt), be sure to pick up all the pieces. Recycle them at a crushing company. Use the referral numbers listed in this pamphlet.



Dispose of small amounts of excess dry concrete, grout and mortar in the trash.

Never bury waste material. Recycle or dispose of it properly. Contact the L.A. County Sanitation District for more information or instruction at (562) 699-7411.



## Handling Materials & Wastes

- ✓ Practice Source Reduction~ minimize waste when ordering materials. Order only the amounts needed to complete the job.

- ✓ Use recycled and recyclable materials whenever possible.

- ✓ Recycle broken asphalt, concrete, wood, and cleared vegetation. Unrecyclable materials must be taken to an appropriate landfill or disposed of properly. Call the numbers listed in this pamphlet for disposal information.

## Disposal Options

Use a crushing company like those listed below to recycle cement, asphalt and porcelain rather than taking them to a landfill.

### Dan Copp Crushing

Anaheim  
(714) 777-6400

### Alexander's

Carson  
(310) 835-0247

### RJ Noble

Santa Ana  
(714) 637-1550

### Hansen Aggregates

South Gate  
(800) 300-6120

