A Clean Environment is Important to All of Us!

Did you know that storm drains are NOT connected to sanitary sewer systems and treatment plants? The primary purpose of storm drains is to carry rainwater away from developed areas to prevent flooding. Untreated storm water and the pollutants it carries flow directly into local waterways and the ocean.

In recent years, sources of water pollution like industrial waters from factories have been greatly reduced. However, now the majority of water pollution occurs from things like cars leaking oil, wash water from restaurants, fertilizers from farms, lawns and gardens, failing septic tanks, residential car washing and pet waste washing into the storm drains and into the ocean.

All these sources add up to a pollution problem! But each of us can do small things to help clean up our water too—and that adds up to a pollution solution!

Catch it Before the Catch Basin!

Storm Water HOTline: 1-888-CleanLA
Email: stormwater@citymb.info

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City of Manhattan Beach
Storm Water Protection
Program

Best Management Practices for RESTAURANTS

Storm Water HOTline: 1-888-CleanLA

Best Management Practices

Restaurants contribute to storm water pollution through improper cleaning practices that allow food particles, oil, grease, trash and cleaning products to flow into the street, gutter or storm drain. These discharges pollute our creeks, lagoons and ocean and are prohibited by law. Below are recommended Best Management Practices (BMP's) for Restaurants.

- Sweep, mop or vacuum instead of using a hose to clean outdoor areas.
- Always clean equipment including floor mats, grease filters, grills and garbage cans indoors or in a covered outdoor wash area that is plumbed to the sanitary sewer.

- Clean equipment in a mop sink if possible (never in a food preparation sink). If your restaurant does not have a mop sink, dedicate an indoor cleaning area where there is a drain that is plumbed to the sanitary sewer.

Sweep, mop or vacuum instead of using a hose to clean outdoor areas.

- All mop water from cleaning floors must be disposed of indoors in a mop sink, toilet or other drain that is plumbed to the sanitary sewer.
- Dry sweep pavement areas including "drive-through" areas, parking lots, outdoor eating areas and dumpster or tallow bin areas frequently. If you must use water for cleaning, use a mop & bucket and dispose of wash water in mop sink or floor drain that is plumbed to the sanitary sewer. Allowing wash water to runoff your property is illegal.
- Major cleaning of exterior surfaces must include capturing all wash water and disposing it to the sanitary sewer in compliance with local regulations. Wash water should not be allowed to enter the street gutter or storm drain.
- NEVER pour wash water outside or into a street, gutter or storm drain.
- All wastewater containing oil and grease must be disposed of in a grease trap or interceptor. All concentrated waste oil and grease must be collected in a tallow bin and disposed of by a certified waste grease hauler. NEVER pour grease or oil into a sink, floor drain, storm drain or dumpster.
- Use dry methods for spill cleanup. Rags or absorbents such as cat litter can be used to pick up liquids or grease. Sweep up absorbent, seal in a plastic bag and dispose in the trash.
- Keep outside areas free of trash & debris. Clean outdoor eating areas frequently using dry cleaning methods such as sweeping or vacuuming.
- Never wash down dumpsters or tallow bins with a hose. Check dumpsters regularly for leaks. If a dumpster or tallow bin must be cleaned or repaired, contact the leasing company.