



South County Waterways ARE CLOSER THAN YOU THINK.

Find the activities in the picture above that contribute to water pollution and those that protect water.

Help prevent storm drain and groundwater pollution and protect creeks, rivers, and the Monterey Bay by following the suggestions below.

AUTOMOTIVE



RECYCLE used motor oil (for free) by taking it to a hazardous waste collection site/event or using curbside-recycling pickup. When changing your car's oil collect drips by placing cardboard under the oil pan. Use kitty litter for cleanup and dispose in the garbage. Never pour used motor oil down storm drains, on the ground, or driveways. Call recycling numbers on the back.



RECYCLE your car's antifreeze. Call the recycling numbers listed on the back. Never drain antifreeze directly onto the ground or street. It is poisonous to pets and wildlife which are attracted to its sweet smell and taste.



WASH cars at a commercial car wash or on unpaved surfaces. Pour leftover soapy water down a household sink or toilet but not the driveway, gutter, street, or storm drain which lead directly to waterways.



INSPECT and maintain your car regularly to prevent leakage of oil, antifreeze, and other toxic fluids into stormdrains. Use a drip tray to catch leaks where your car is parked.



REDUCE automotive pollution by carpooling, walking, riding your bike or using public transportation.

HOUSEHOLD & HOME MAINTENANCE



SCRAPE IT, CAN IT, TRASH IT. Inside your home, fats, oil and grease (FOG) is the leading cause of sewer overflows and costly backup repairs. Pour used cooking oil and grease into a resealable container and place in the garbage.



KEEP as much of your property landscaped as possible. Planted areas absorb more rainwater which percolates into the ground. Bare soil causes sediments to flow into storm drains.



TAKE unwanted chemicals like paint and pesticides to your local hazardous waste collection site. Use non-toxic products whenever possible. When storing and using toxic products follow directions carefully and use sparingly. Never dump chemicals down storm drains, ditches, gutters, or waterways. Call the recycling numbers listed on the back.



RINSE only paint brushes used with latex paint in the sink, NOT oil-based paints. Avoid using oil-based paint. Take unused paint, varnishes, and solvents to the household hazardous waste collection site. Call recycling numbers listed on the back.



CONTROL erosion at construction sites by preventing dirt and debris from entering gutters and storm drains. Use hay bales as a filter to prevent soil runoff. When pouring concrete, keep runoff away from storm drains and waterways, as it is very toxic (or deadly) to fish.

LAWN & GARDEN



USE non-toxic or organic alternatives for pesticides, fertilizers, and herbicides. Follow label instructions carefully. If rain is forecast, do not apply. Motor oil poured on soil and weeds pollutes water. Never dump chemicals in ditches, gutters, storm drains or waterways. Take unwanted chemicals to a hazardous waste collection site. Plant native species which need little water and attract pollinators which help your garden thrive..



SWEEP driveways, patios, and sidewalks rather than hosing them down into the gutters and storm drains. Compost lawn clippings and leaves or place in yard waste bin.



WATER your garden and lawn, not your driveway or sidewalk. Divert garden hoses and rain spouts away from paved areas to reduce water runoff into storm drains. Artificial turf or native groundcovers also save water. Conserve water supplies and reduce runoff with rain collection.



PICK pet waste to prevent water pollution. Do not dispose it in a storm drain. When outdoors, take bagged pet waste to the nearest trash bin. Do not leave it behind. Remember, Always Bag It and Bin It.

IF YOU SEE PAINT, CEMENT, MOTOR OIL, ANTIFREEZE OR OTHER HAZARDOUS MATERIALS FLOWING INTO OR BEING DUMPED INTO A STORM DRAIN, IMMEDIATELY CALL 911 TO REPORT IT.

Only rain belongs in gutters and storm drains



Have you ever wondered what happens to...

- motor oil on roads, highways, parking lots, driveways, and in storm drains?
- old antifreeze discarded in street gutters?
- detergent from washing cards on the street?
- litter and cigarette butts and grime from parking lots, sidewalks and streets?
- fertilizers and pesticides from lawns and bare gardens?
- pet waste from lawns, streets, and sidewalks?
- soil on hillsides?

Storm drains are not connected to household sewer systems. Storm drain pollutants (urban runoff) flow directly into rivers, waterways and to the Monterey Bay without treatment.

Even though you may live miles from Monterey Bay, you may be polluting ocean waters without knowing it. The land and sea are connected.

STORM DRAIN POLLUTION

(urban runoff) is caused by motor oil, antifreeze, paints, fertilizers, pesticides, trash, and household chemicals that are poured or washed down neighborhood storm drains. Everything that goes down the storm drain flows directly into rivers, waterways, and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Unlike the water that goes down the drains in kitchens and bathrooms, storm drain water is NOT cleaned by sewage treatment plants.



The land and sea are connected.



MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY, in the Pacific Ocean is the nation's largest Marine Sanctuary, encompassing over 5,300 square miles along the Central California coast from Marin County near San Francisco southward to Cambria in San Luis Obispo County. Like a national underwater park, the Sanctuary protects many habitats, ranging from sand flats along the shoreline to the nation's most extensive kelp forests and one of the world's largest underwater canyons. Surrounding wetlands provide nursery grounds for juvenile fish, help protect against flooding and improve water quality by filtering out harmful pollutants. Nutrient-rich currents nourish the area, supporting a productive and diverse marine ecosystem where countless species make their homes, many of them threatened or endangered. The Sanctuary is often called the "Serengeti of the Sea" with some of the best wildlife viewing in the world.

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SAFE DISPOSAL OPTIONS

Dispose of used motor oil at local auto stores. Find full service collection centers near you.

Earth911.com

Contact your waste hauler for used motor oil curbside collection. See below.

OTHER HELPFUL CONTACTS

WATER & SEWER SERVICES

- City of Gonzales (831) 675-5000
- City of Greenfield (831) 674-2635
- City of King City..... (831) 385-3281
- City of Soledad..... (831) 223-5009

TRASH, RECYCLING, ORGANICS, HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW)

Monterey County Health Department
(Unincorporated MC) Department of Recycling,
Resource, and Recovery co.monterey.ca.us
(831) 755-4500

- Salinas Valley Recycles..... SalinasValleyRecycles.org
- Madison Lane Recycling, Transfer
Station & HHW (831) 424-5520
- Johnson Canyon Landfill..... (831) 675-2165
- Jolon Rd. Transfer Station..... (831) 385-0353

WASTE HAULERS & RECYCLERS FOR SOUTH MONTEREY COUNTY

- Waste Management..... (800) 321-8226
MontereyCounty.wm.com
- Tri-Cities Disposal & Recycling (888) 678-6798
Tri-CitiesDisposal.com

LEARN MORE:

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
MontereyBay.noaa.gov

What Goes Where?
WhatGoesWhere.info

FREE Salinas Valley Recycles Eco Hero storm water
pollution prevention assembly program
EcoHerosShow@gmail.com (831) 775-3000

**Clean Water
BEGINS ON YOUR STREET**



**HELP PREVENT POLLUTION
OF SOUTH COUNTY WATERS**