## *Preventing water pollution at your commercial/industrial site*

Clean beaches and healthy creeks, rivers, bays and ocean are important to Orange County. However, many landscape and building maintenance activities can lead to water pollution if you're not careful. Paint, chemicals, plant clippings and other materials can be blown or washed into storm drains that flow to the ocean. Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), water in storm drains is not treated before entering our waterways.

You would never pour soap or fertilizers into the ocean, so why would you let them enter the storm drains? Follow these easy tips to help prevent water pollution.

Some types of industrial facilities are required to obtain coverage under the State General Industrial Permit. For more information visit: **www.swrcb.ca.gov/stormwater/industrial.html**

For more information, please call the **Orange County Stormwater Program** at **1-877-89-SPILL** (1-877-897-7455) or visit **www.ocwatersheds.com**

To report a spill, call the **Orange County 24-Hour Water Pollution Problem Reporting Hotline** at **1-877-89-SPILL** (1-877-897-7455).

**For emergencies, dial 911.**

RECYCLE USED OIL

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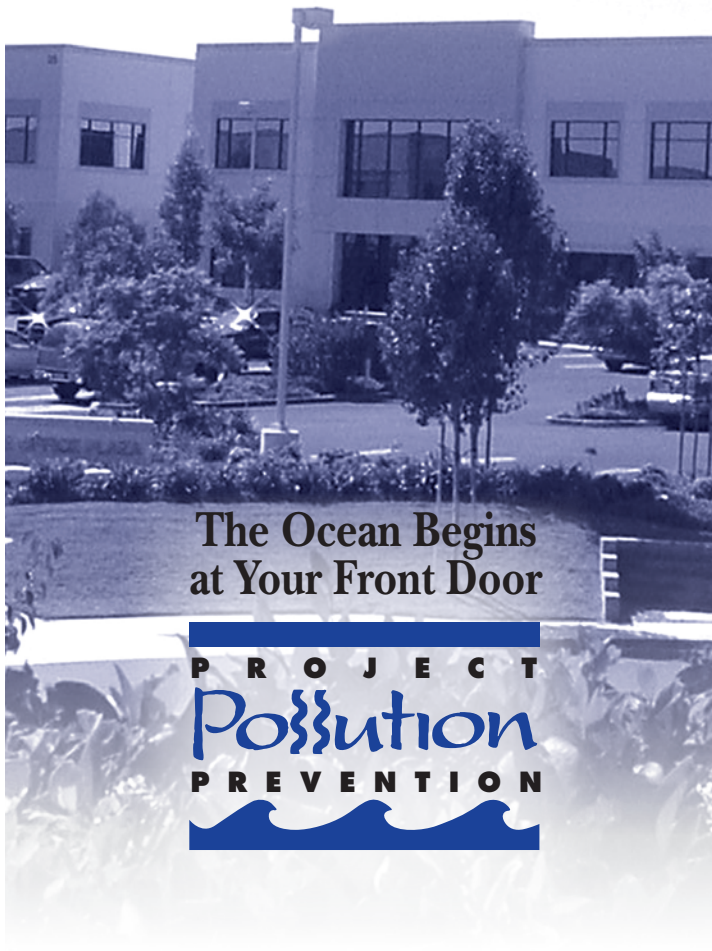
Help Prevent Ocean Pollution:

# Proper Maintenance Practices for Your Business



**The Ocean Begins at Your Front Door**

PROJECT Pollution PREVENTION

# Proper Maintenance Practices for your Business

## *Landscape Maintenance*

- Compost grass clippings, leaves, sticks and other vegetation, or dispose of it at a permitted landfill or in green waste containers. Do not dispose of these materials in the street, gutter or storm drain.
- Irrigate slowly and inspect the system for leaks, overspraying and runoff. Adjust automatic timers to avoid overwatering.
- Follow label directions for the use and disposal of fertilizers and pesticides.
- Do not apply pesticides or fertilizers if rain is expected within 48 hours or if wind speeds are above 5 mph.
- Do not spray pesticides within 100 feet of waterways.
- Fertilizers should be worked into the soil rather than dumped onto the surface.
- If fertilizer is spilled on the pavement or sidewalk, sweep it up immediately and place it back in the container.

## *Building Maintenance*

- Never allow washwater, sweepings or sediment to enter the storm drain.
- Sweep up dry spills and use cat litter, towels or similar materials to absorb wet spills. Dispose of it in the trash.
- If you wash your building, sidewalk or parking lot, you **must** contain the water. Use a shop vac to collect the water and contact your city or sanitation agency for proper disposal information. Do not let water enter the street, gutter or storm drain.
- Use drop cloths underneath outdoor painting, scraping, and sandblasting work, and properly dispose of materials in the trash.
- Use a ground cloth or oversized tub for mixing paint and cleaning tools.
- Use a damp mop or broom to clean floors.
- Cover dumpsters to keep insects, animals, rainwater and sand from entering. Keep the area around the dumpster clear of trash and debris. Do not overfill the dumpster.
- Call your trash hauler to replace leaking dumpsters.
- Do not dump any toxic substance or liquid waste on the pavement, the ground, or near a storm drain. Even materials that seem harmless such as latex paint or biodegradable cleaners can damage the environment.

**NEVER DISPOSE OF ANYTHING IN THE STORM DRAIN.**

- Recycle paints, solvents and other materials. For more information about recycling and collection centers, visit **www.oclandfills.com**.
- Store materials indoors or under cover and away from storm drains.
- Use a construction and demolition recycling company to recycle lumber, paper, cardboard, metals, masonry, carpet, plastic, pipes, drywall, rocks, dirt, and green waste. For a listing of construction and demolition recycling locations in your area, visit **www.ciwmb.ca.gov/recycle.**
- Properly label materials. Familiarize employees with Material Safety Data Sheets.

PROJECT Pollution PREVENTION