

# Guidelines for Home Repairs and Remodeling

## General Construction

- ❑ Keep all construction debris away from the street, gutter, and storm drain inlets.
- ❑ During cleanup, check the street and gutters for sediment, refuse, or debris. Look around the corner or downstream for material that may have already traveled away from your property. Cleanup and dispose of the material properly.
- ❑ Be sure to securely cover any dumpsters or stockpiles at your site with a lid or tarp when they are not in use.
- ❑ Place portable toilets away from storm drain inlets. Make sure toilets are in working order. Check frequently for, and repair, any leaks.

**Clean up all spills when they happen. Do not flush spills into storm drains. If construction materials or other wastes get into a gutter, storm drain, or creek, call your local spill response agency immediately!**

(See list of local stormwater programs on back of brochure.)



## Concrete, Asphalt, Masonry, and Tile Work

- ❑ All actions should ensure that sand, concrete, grout and silt do not enter the storm drain.
- ❑ Do not mix more fresh concrete or cement than you need for each project.
- ❑ If rain is predicted, cover asphalt-mixing equipment with tarps or a simple structure to avoid rain contact.
- ❑ Cover and protect bags of cement and plaster after they have been opened. Be sure to keep wind-blown cement powder away from gutters, storm drains, rainfall, and runoff.
- ❑ Wash down exposed aggregate concrete and equipment only when wash water can flow onto a dirt area, or be collected, pumped, and disposed of properly to a process water treatment system. Make sure runoff does not reach gutters or storm drains.
- ❑ Properly contain and collect any discarded concrete slurry.
- ❑ Never wash excess material from bricklaying or patio or driveway construction into a street or storm drain. Empty mixing container onto a dirt area, or allow material to dry and put in trash.
- ❑ Dispose of small amounts of excess dry concrete, grout, and mortar in the trash. Call your local refuse hauler for weight and size limits.
- ❑ Collect and reuse excess abrasive gravel and sand. Recycle broken concrete and asphalt.
- ❑ Never hose down driveways, sidewalks, or streets. Dry sweep or shovel and collect for proper disposal instead.

## Painting

All paints, solvents, and adhesives contain chemicals that are harmful to aquatic animals and other wildlife in our creeks, marshes, and Bay. Toxic chemicals may come from liquid or solid products or from cleaning residues on rags.

## Paint Cleanup

- ❑ Never clean brushes or painting equipment (buckets, pans, hoses, etc.) in an area where paint or paint cleanup water can flow to a gutter, street, storm drain or stream.
- ❑ For **water-based paints**, (e.g. latex) paint out brushes on scrap material or newspaper to the extent possible, then rinse brushes into a sink or drain that goes to the sanitary sewer.
- ❑ For **oil-based paints**, paint out brushes to the extent possible before soaking in paint thinner to clean. Filter and reuse thinner and solvents. Dispose of unwanted oil-based paint, used thinner, and paint residue at a hazardous waste collection event. Call the HHW hotline (650) 363-4718 for an appointment, or go to [www.recycleworks.org](http://www.recycleworks.org).
- ❑ When they are thoroughly dry, empty paint cans, spent brushes, rags, and drop cloths may be disposed of as trash. If you decide not to recycle empty paint cans, leave the lids off paint cans so the garbage collector can see that they are empty.
- ❑ You do not have to dispose of empty cans as HHW. You can put them in the garbage. To recycle empty paint cans, bring them to:

San Carlos Transfer Station.  
333 Shoreway Road  
San Carlos, CA 94070  
(650) 592-0255  
**Mon. - Fri. 8:00am – 5:00pm**



## Preventing Water Pollution: You Can Do the Job Right

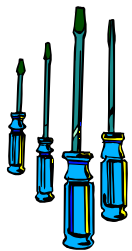
In San Mateo County, storm drains transport water directly to local creeks, lagoons, San Francisco Bay, and the ocean without treatment. Stormwater pollution is a serious problem for wildlife and for people who live near polluted waterways. Common sources of this pollution include: oil, fuel, and fluids from vehicles and equipment; construction debris; landscaping runoff containing pesticides, fertilizers or weed killers; and litter, and materials such as used motor oil, antifreeze, and paint products that people pour or spill into streets or storm drains.

Keep waterway protection in mind whenever work is performed on your property. While the property owner is ultimately responsible for correcting any pollution problems caused by construction activities, both the property owner and general contractor may be liable for any clean-up costs associated with environmental damage caused by such activities. Penalties may be more severe if storm drain pollution is not reported promptly. Helpful contact information is listed on the back of this brochure.

### Who Should Use This Brochure?

This brochure is for **homeowners**, and **do-it-yourself remodelers** who have access to residential household hazardous waste disposal programs. **Contractors, subcontractors** and other professionals should also refer to the San Mateo Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program's other publications (see list on back).

Important guidelines are included as a poster on the inside of this pamphlet, and useful phone numbers and contacts are included at right and on the back.



## Household Hazardous Waste Recycling & Disposal

### Household Hazardous Waste Facilities

San Mateo County operates several facilities that accept hazardous waste, including: paint, varnishes, stains, thinner, motor oil and filters, household cleaners, furniture and metal polishes, pesticides, pool chemicals, photographic chemicals, art and hobby supplies with no charge to residents. Call the HHW Information Line to schedule an appointment at **(650)-363-4718**. To find out more about the Household Hazardous Waste Facilities visit the website:

<http://www.smhealth.org/enviro/toxic/hhw-cllct.html>

The County also operates the VSQG-Very Small Quantity Generator program for businesses that generate less than 27 gallons of hazardous waste month. There is a small fee for disposal. Call the Household Hazardous Waste Coordinator at (650) 363-4957, or fax a list of items to his attention at (650) 599-1071. Also, there are several hazardous waste management companies to call for a listing.

### North State Environmental

Facility is a full-service hazardous waste management company that will accept solids, solvents, special wastes, PCBs, asbestos, paints, lacquers, and thinners and provides packaging of chemical waste as well. On site pick-up is available.

**(650) 588-2838**

90 South Spruce Avenue, Suite C3  
South San Francisco, CA 94080

### Pollution Control Industries (PCI)

11855 White Rock Road  
Rancho Cordova  
(866) 724-2272

### Romic Environmental Technologies Corporation

2081 Bay Road  
East Palo Alto  
(800) ROMIC-4U

## Laboratories That Test For Lead in Water, Soil and Paint

**Cal Coast Laboratories**  
Emeryville  
**(510) 652 -2979**

**Scientific Environmental Laboratories Inc.**  
Palo Alto  
**(650) 856 -6011**

**Sequoia Analytical**  
San Carlos  
(650) 232-9600

### Commercial Recycling

Browning-Ferris Industries (BFI), a private company, provides commercial recycling services. BFI will tailor the pickup frequency and deliver containers appropriately sized for your commercial recycling needs. For more information on recycling options in San Mateo County, call:  
**(650) 637-1411** (Monday - Friday 8:00am-5:00pm)

BFI will pickup up the following materials mixed together:

- Corrugated cardboard
- White paper
- Colored paper
- Manila folders
- Paperboard
- Magazines, phonebooks, mail
- Glass bottles, plastic bottles, and cans
- Newspapers

Are also collected

Additional commercial recycling companies include:

**Coastside Scavenger Company**  
**Pacifica**  
**(650) 355-9000**

**South San Francisco Scavenger Company**  
(650) 589-4020  
**San Bruno Garbage Company**  
(650) 583-8536



## Construction Materials & Equipment Reuse and Exchange

### **CALMAX**

Sacramento

**(916) 255-2369**

Bi-monthly listing of available and wanted materials:

[www.ciwmb.ca.gov/CalMAX/](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/CalMAX/)

### **Caldwell Building Wreckers**

San Francisco

**(415) 550-6777**

Will accept doors, windows, fixtures, sinks, bathtubs, lumber, bricks, marble, tile.

### **Blue Line Transfer Company, Inc.**

South San Francisco

**(650) 589 5511**

Will accept concrete, asphalt, rocks, wood, construction, demolition materials, paint.

### **Whole House Building Supply, East Palo Alto**

Does salvage before demolition, and will take used building materials.

[www.driftwoods salvage.com](http://www.driftwoods salvage.com)

## Recycling—Building materials, concrete, asphalt, yard waste, trimmings, metal

Look under [www.recycleworks.org](http://www.recycleworks.org) or Recycling Services in the yellow pages of the phone book to find a recycler closest to you.

### **South San Francisco Scavenger Company**

[www.ssfs scavenger.com](http://www.ssfs scavenger.com)

**(650) 589-4020**

**Pick up of composting and yard waste available**

### **Zanker Resource Recovery**

[www.z-best.com/zankerrd/](http://www.z-best.com/zankerrd/)

(408) 263-2384

Recycles concrete rubble, wood waste, yard waste, clean and mixed demolition debris, cardboard, gypsum, metal and bulky items.

### **Granite Rock Company**

[www.graniterock.com](http://www.graniterock.com)

**(650) 482-3840**

Accepts asphalt, concrete and rock drop-offs.

### **GreenWaste Recovery**

(650) 568-9900

Accepts mixed-C&D facility drop-offs.

### **Guadalupe Landfill**

**(408) 268-1670**

Accepts all construction material drop-offs.

### **Newby Island Sanitary Landfill**

(408) 432-1234

Accepts wood debris and scraps, yard trimmings.

### **Raisch Company**

(408) 227-9222

Accepts asphalt, brick, bathroom fixtures, concrete, soil and sand drop-offs

### **Timberline**

(650) 574-2310

Accepts mixed C&D construction materials.

### **Call and Haul**

[www.callandhaul.com](http://www.callandhaul.com)

(800) 485-4285

On-call debris loading, sorting, cleanup.

## Landscaping/Foundation Work

Intensive gardening, landscaping, and all excavation projects such as foundation repair or pool construction expose soils and increase the likelihood that garden chemicals and earth will wash into the storm drains. Be careful to control erosion and minimize runoff to all driveways, gutters, and storm drain inlets.

- Schedule grading and excavation projects for dry weather.
- Plan your landscape project to drain properly and to allow for infiltration to minimize water running off site.
- Cover excavated material and stockpiles of asphalt, sand, etc. with plastic tarps during the rainy season.
- Plumb new pools or spas so they can be drained to the sanitary sewer system.
- Replant as soon as possible, with temporary vegetation such as annual grass seed as necessary. Revegetation provides excellent erosion control.
- Consider planting native plants. They require less water and fewer pesticides and fertilizers.
- Do not over-apply pesticides. Rinse empty pesticide containers, and use rinsewater as you would use the product. Dispose of empty rinsed containers in the trash or recycling as appropriate.
- Dispose of unused pesticide as hazardous waste by calling the HHW hotline (650) 363-4718 or give it to someone who can use it up.
- Do not blow or rake leaves, etc. into the street, or place yard trimmings in gutters, on dirt shoulders or along creek banks.
- In areas with curbside pickup of yard trimmings place materials in approved containers. Collect lawn and garden clippings, pruning waste, and tree trimmings.
- Keep plant trimmings separate from trash. Deliver to Transfer Station for recycling.

## Paint Removal

- ❑ Buildings constructed before 1978 may have lead paint. Test paint for lead by taking paint scrapings to a local laboratory (see list in this brochure). If lead is found, paint chips and dust must be disposed of as hazardous waste. Check with the wastewater treatment plant to determine whether you may discharge washwater to the sanitary sewer, or if you must send it off site for disposal as hazardous waste.
- ❑ Chemical **paint stripping** residues, including saturated rags, are considered hazardous waste and should be taken to a household hazardous waste event.

## Reuse or recycle leftover paints when possible.



- ❑ Use up excess paint by painting on newspapers, allow drying, and then placing them in the garbage, or take it to a household hazardous waste event. Latex (water-based) paint can be taken to several locations throughout the county to be recycled. The County's household hazardous waste collection program accepts paint – related material and will recycle or reuse it.

## Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers

### Blue Line Transfer Station

South San Francisco  
[www.ssfscavenger.com](http://www.ssfscavenger.com)  
(650) 589-5511

### San Bruno Transfer Station

San Bruno  
[www.sunsetscavenger.com/sanb\\_transfer.htm](http://www.sunsetscavenger.com/sanb_transfer.htm)  
(650) 583-8536

### BFI Transfer Station

San Carlos  
[www.bfipeninsula.com](http://www.bfipeninsula.com)  
(650) 592-0255

### Pride Paint

San Mateo  
(415) 347-2163  
Redwood City  
(415) 369-2575

### Coastside Scavenger

Pacifica  
(650) 355-9000

### Ocean Shore Co.

Half Moon Bay  
(650) 726-5505

- ❑ Chips and dust from **marine paints or paints containing lead, mercury or tributyl-tin** are hazardous wastes. Properly collect and store paint chips and dust for delivery to a household hazardous waste event.

## What to Do With the Leftovers?

See [www.recycleworks.org](http://www.recycleworks.org) or call (888) 442-2666 for information about recycling. Most construction and demolition material can be recycled or salvaged.

- ❑ Make every structure planned for demolition available for deconstruction, salvage, and recovery prior to demolition. Recover the maximum feasible amount of salvageable designated recyclable and reusable material.
- ❑ Prior to demolition, **Please recycle mercury-containing products such as thermostats and fluorescent lightbulbs.** This can be done at HHW collection events; see [www.recycleworks.org](http://www.recycleworks.org) for a list of dates. These contaminate our waterways if not properly disposed. See [www.recycleworks.org](http://www.recycleworks.org) for locations.
- ❑ Allow plenty of time in scheduling salvage, since collectors' schedules may be busy.
- ❑ Prior to demolition, determine what materials will be the largest components of your project and concentrate on recycling these materials. See [www.recycleworks.org](http://www.recycleworks.org) for collection companies and recycling facilities. Some facilities accept materials mixed together.
- ❑ Use clear signs and specific containers on-site to segregate materials. Untreated wood and yard trimmings should be kept separate from trash. To reduce the occurrence of chipping and grinding machinery, ensure that metal and other materials are not placed in such containers.

## Take to a household hazardous waste drop-off event:

Unused garden and household chemicals  
Leftover paint  
Used solvents  
Paint stripping residue and rags

## Dispose as trash:

Construction debris from small projects

Dry, empty paint cans, spent brushes, rags, and drop cloths  
Small amounts of dry mortar, grout, etc.  
Newspaper with paint on it

The cities within San Mateo County have joined together with the County of San Mateo to create the San Mateo Countywide Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program (STOPPP), whose goal is to reduce pollution of our creeks, bay and ocean. We hope you will join us, by following the practices described in this pamphlet.

This pamphlet is one of the following series of brochures describing storm drain protection measures for specific types of construction industry activities:

- *General Construction and Site Supervision*
- *Landscaping, Gardening and Pool Maintenance*
- *Painting and Application of Solvents and Adhesives*
- *Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application*
- *Roadwork and Paving*
- *Earth-Moving Activities*
- *Heavy Equipment Operation*
- *Dewatering Activities*

Another construction-related brochure is:

- *Conceptual Review Checklist for Stormwater Considerations*

Also available from the STOPPP, *Blueprint for a Clean Bay* is a manual of best management practices for construction-related activities.

For additional brochures, call (650) 599-1406.

The STOPPP gratefully acknowledges the Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program and Fairfield-Suisun Urban Runoff Management Program for the original concept and text of this brochure.



**STOPPP website: [www.flowstobay.org](http://www.flowstobay.org)**

## For Additional Assistance

**Emergency Calls Only: DIAL 9-1-1**

### Non-Emergency Calls

San Mateo County Environmental Health Division for sewage, hazardous materials, septic tank, and groundwater complaints: (650) 363-4305

Governor's Office of Emergency Services Warning Center (24 hours) for questions related to natural and anthropogenic disasters: 1-800-852-7550

### Earth's 911: 1-800-CLEANUP for community-specific environmental information

#### Local Stormwater Programs:

Town of Atherton	(650) 752-0570
City of Belmont	(650) 595-7427
City of Brisbane	(415) 508-2130
City of Burlingame	(650) 558-7230
Town of Colma	(650) 757-8895
City of Daly City	(650) 991-8200
City of East Palo Alto	(650) 853-3189
City of Foster City	(650) 286-3270
City of Half Moon Bay	(650) 726-8260
Town of Hillsborough	(650) 375-7444
City of Menlo Park	(650) 858-3420
City of Millbrae	(650) 259-2339
City of Pacifica	(650) 738-3767
Town of Portola Valley	(650) 851-1700
City of Redwood City	(650) 780-7464
City of San Bruno	(650) 616-7160
City of San Carlos	(650) 802-4370
City of San Mateo	(650) 522-7340
City of South San Francisco	(650) 877-8634
Town of Woodside	(650) 851-6790
County of San Mateo	(650) 363-4708

## Other Useful Numbers

San Mateo County Household  
Hazardous Waste Program  
[www.co.sanmateo.ca.us](http://www.co.sanmateo.ca.us)  
(650) 363-4718

Recycleworks  
[www.recycleworks.org](http://www.recycleworks.org)  
(888) 442-2666

Regional Water Quality Control Board  
San Francisco Bay Region  
(510) 622-2300

California Department of Fish and Game  
(707) 944-5512

# Home Repair and Remodeling

## *Best Management Practices for Construction Activities*

- Landscaping/Foundation Work
- Painting and Paint Cleanup
- Concrete, Asphalt, Masonry, and  
Tile Work

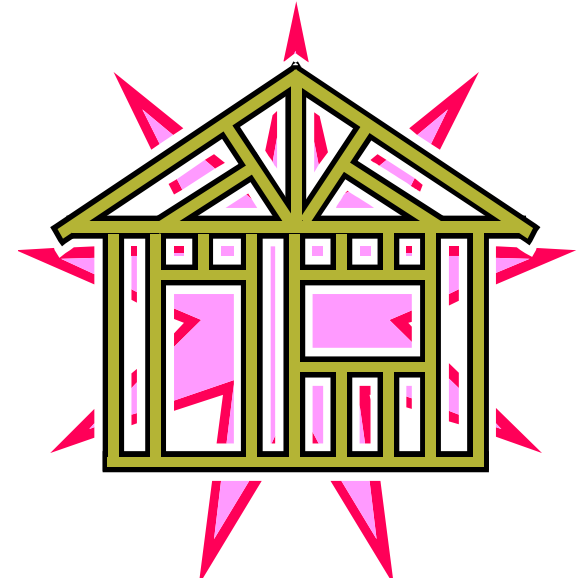
## General Construction

### Who should use this brochure?

- Homeowners
- Do-it yourself remodelers
- General contractors/Subcontractors
- Subcontractors
- Painters

### Why should you use this brochure?

This brochure is an important source of best management practices for home repair and remodeling. Pollutants such as sediment, sand, concrete slurry, asphalt, paint and yard waste are carried along with the stormwater and eventually reach some form of receiving water. Thus, reducing pollutants in stormwater can greatly reduce pollutants in receiving waters.



San Mateo Countywide Stormwater  
Pollution Prevention Program (STOPPP)  
555 County Center  
Redwood City, CA 94063  
(650) 599-1406 Fax (650) 361-8227  
[www.flowstobay.org](http://www.flowstobay.org)  
August 2002

