

Roadwork and Paving

*Best Management Practices for the
Construction Industry*



Who should use this brochure?

- Road crews
- Driveway/sidewalk/parking lot construction crews
- Seal coat contractors
- Operators of:
 - grading equipment
 - paving machines
 - dump trucks
 - concrete mixers
- Construction inspectors
- General contractors
- Home builders
- Developers

Storm Drain Pollution from Roadwork

Road construction often involves extensive earthwork and grading, which loosens soils and creates opportunities for erosion and deposition of sediment in storm drains and creeks. Road paving, surfacing, and pavement removal happen where there are numerous opportunities for asphalt, saw-cut slurry, or excavated material to enter storm drains and flow straight to creeks. Efforts should be made to store and dispose of materials properly and guard against pollution of storm drains and creeks.

Storm Drain Pollution Prevention: It's Up to Us

In San Mateo County, storm drains flow directly to local creeks, San Francisco Bay, and the Pacific Ocean without treatment. Stormwater pollution is a serious problem for wildlife dependent on our waterways and for the people who live near polluted streams or baylands. Some common sources of this pollution include spilled oil, fuel, and fluids from vehicles and heavy equipment; construction debris; sediment created by erosion; landscaping runoff containing pesticides or weed killers; and materials such as used motor oil, antifreeze, and paint products that people pour or spill into a street or storm drain.

All of the cities in San Mateo County have joined together with San Mateo County and the City/County Association of Governments (C/CAG) to educate local residents and businesses and fight stormwater pollution. Join us, by following the practices described in this pamphlet.

What Can You Do?

General Business Practices

- Develop and implement erosion/sediment control plans for roadway embankments.
- Schedule excavation and grading work for dry weather.
- Check all equipment for leaks and repair leaking equipment promptly.
- Perform major maintenance, repairs, and washing of equipment in designated areas in your maintenance yard, away from the construction site.
- When refueling or vehicle/equipment maintenance must be done on site, designate a completely contained area away from storm drains and creeks.
- Do not use diesel oil to lubricate or clean equipment or parts.
- Recycle used oil, batteries, concrete, broken asphalt, etc. whenever possible, or dispose of properly.

Asphalt/Concrete Removal

- Avoid creating excess dust when breaking asphalt or concrete. Do not allow dust to enter waterways.
- After breaking up old pavement, be sure to remove all chunks and pieces from the site.
- Make sure broken pavement does not come in contact with rainfall or runoff.
- Protect nearby storm drain inlets during saw cutting. If saw cut slurry enters a catch basin, clean it up immediately.
- Shovel or vacuum saw cut slurry deposits and remove from the site. When making saw cuts, use as little water as possible.
- Never hose down streets to clean up tracked dirt. Use dry sweep methods, such as a street sweeper or vacuum truck. Do not dump vacuumed liquid in storm drain.

During Construction

- Avoid paving and seal coating in wet weather or when rain is forecast, to prevent materials that have not cured from contacting stormwater runoff.
- Cover storm drain inlets and manholes when applying seal coat, slurry seal, fog seal, or similar materials.
- Protect drainage ways by using earth dikes, straw bales, sand bags, or other controls to divert or trap and filter runoff.
- Never wash excess material from exposed-aggregate concrete or similar treatments into a street or storm drain. Collect and recycle, or dispose to dirt area.
- Cover stockpiles and other construction materials with plastic tarps. Protect from rainfall and prevent runoff with temporary roofs or plastic sheets and berms.
- Park paving machines over drip pans or absorbent material (cloth, rags, etc.) to catch drips when not in use.
- Clean up all spills and leaks using “dry” methods (with absorbent materials/rags), or dig up and remove contaminated soil.
- Collect and recycle or appropriately dispose of excess abrasive gravel or sand. Do NOT sweep or wash it into gutters.
- Avoid over-application by water trucks for dust control.

Small Business Hazardous Waste Disposal Program

Businesses that generate less than 27 gallons or 220 pounds of hazardous waste per month are eligible to use San Mateo County’s Very Small Quantity Generator Program. Call (650) 655-6217 for a quote, more information or guidance on disposal.

This brochure is one of a series of pamphlets describing storm drain protection measures for specific types of construction industry activities. Other pamphlets include:

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



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Spill Response Agencies:

Non-emergency calls:

1. San Mateo County Environmental Health Division's Household Hazardous Waste Hotline: (650) 363-4718
2. For stormwater pollution prevention information and additional brochures visit the San Mateo Countywide Water Pollution Prevention Program’s web site at www.flowstobay.org or contact local stormwater programs (see list below).

Town of Atherton	(650) 752-0541
City of Belmont	(650) 595-7425
City of Brisbane	(415) 508-2130
City of Burlingame	(650) 558-7230
Town of Colma	(650) 757-8888
City of Daly City	(650) 991-8200
City of East Palo Alto	(650) 853-3197
City of Foster City	(650) 286-3270
City of Half Moon Bay	(650) 726-8260
Town of Hillsborough	(650) 375-7411
City of Menlo Park	(650) 330-6740
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) 802-4261
City of San Mateo	(650) 522-7350
City of South San Francisco	(650) 877-8555
Town of Woodside	(650) 851-6790
County of San Mateo	(650) 599-7310

3. San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board: (510) 622-2300

Emergency calls only:

1. Dial 911
2. Governor’s Office of Emergency Services
Warning Center (24 hours): 1-800-852-7550