

Storm drains flow directly into creeks, San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean without any treatment. Non-stormwater and other wastes that flow into a storm drain cause pollution. Parklets – public seating areas or green spaces on or alongside a sidewalk, especially in a former roadside parking space – can stop stormwater pollution through proper cleanup and best management practices (BMPs) that ensure that food particles, litter, wash water, and cleaning products stay out of the streets and local waterways.

## KEEP WASH WATERS, TRASH AND DEBRIS FROM PARKLETS OUT OF THE GUTTER AND STORM DRAINS

Only rain water is allowed down the storm drains, because storm drains connect directly to local creeks, San Francisco Bay and Ocean.

It is the responsibility of parklet owner and operator to use appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) to keep wind or rain from carrying pollution from the parklet into the street, gutter and storm drain system.



*Flooring structure of parklet allows for stormwater to flow freely underneath.*



*Parklet has no loose trash on the ground, as staff readily sweep in trash prone areas.*

## GENERAL BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

*See Restaurant BMP Fact Sheet for More Details*

### Trash and Litter Management

- ☐ Provide and maintain trash and refuse storage and remove trash and litter as it accumulates.
- ☐ Provide and place ash trays in cigarette-prone areas.
- ☐ Educate all staff on keeping your parklet litter-free, as street sweepers are often unable to reach curb-lines adjacent to parklets.

### Cleaning and Spill Response

- ☐ Clean up food and beverage spills right away (see back of this sheet).
- ☐ Pick up loose waste and sweep frequently in trash-prone places.
- ☐ Never pour food waste, oil, or grease in the trash, storm drain or street.
- ☐ Openings at either end of the parklet may be covered with screens to prevent debris buildup beneath the platform and in the gutter. Clean the cover or screen to prevent any backup of stormwater.
- ☐ Do not obstruct the gutter line in such a way that causes debris to accumulate or prevents the free flow of storm water.

### Washing Procedures

- ☐ If using water to wash furniture and parklet flooring use wet-vac or small pump and hose to direct water to a sanitary sewer discharge point or to a tank.
- ☐ Make sure contractors, mobile businesses and staff are aware that allowing wash water to flow to streets or storm drains is an illegal discharge.



*Parklet has fencing to keep debris, such as leaves, sediment, food, and trash, from blowing into the storm drain.*

## CLEANING BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

### Use Dry Cleaning Methods

- ❑ Clean leaves, trash, and other debris daily to prevent debris from reaching a storm drain inlet by *dry sweeping*.
- ❑ If wet cleaning methods are used, block gutters & use a pump/wet-vac to collect wash water, so no water spills into storm drain.

### Contain and Manage Spills Promptly

- ❑ Clean up food and beverage spills immediately.
- ❑ To contain spills, use barriers, absorbent socks, and protect nearby storm drains immediately.
- ❑ To manage spills, use absorbent granules or kitty litter (for oily spills), towels, pads, or dry mop.
- ❑ To collect spills when using dry methods, use broom, dustpan, disposal gloves, and trash bags, or if available use wet/dry vac.

### How to Collect Wash Water

- ❑ If mopping furniture area and/or scrubbing parklet furniture, use gravel bag berms, wattles, or mats to contain the wash area so that water does not drain down streets and gutters. Use a wet-vac or small pump and hose to direct water to a sanitary sewer discharge point, landscaping or to a tank.

### Possible Sanitary Sewer Discharge Points

- ❑ Interior mop sinks and/or floor drains. Call your local wastewater agency if you are unsure whether your drain discharges to the sanitary sewer.

*Sweeping is an example of a dry cleaning method.*



## STORM DRAINS VS. SANITARY SEWERS:

*Does your staff know the difference?*

All **outdoor drains** are storm drains. Pollution that enters storm drains flows directly to creeks and San Francisco Bay or the Ocean, not treated or properly cleaned.

**Indoor drains** (such as sink, toilet, mop sink, kitchen floor drain) lead to the sanitary sewer system, which is connected to a wastewater treatment plant.



*Never rinse water down storm drains.*

*Barriers ensure that wash waters are kept OUT of the storm drain during periodic parklet cleaning and power washing events.*



*Properly cleaning and disposing of wash waters helps prevent pollution.*

## LOCAL STORMWATER AGENCIES:

Atherton ..... (650) 752-0555  
 Belmont ..... (650) 637-2972  
 Brisbane ..... (415) 508-2130  
 Burlingame.... (650) 342-3727  
 Colma ..... (650) 757-8888  
 Daly City ..... (650) 991-8208  
 East Palo Alto.. (650) 372-3189

Foster City..... (650) 286-3270  
 Half Moon Bay ..... (650) 726-7177  
 Hillsborough ..... (650) 375-7444  
 Menlo Park ..... (650) 330-6750  
 Millbrae ..... (650) 259-2392  
 Pacifica ..... (650) 738-3769  
 Portola Valley ..... (650) 851-1700

Redwood City ..... (650) 780-7477  
 San Bruno ..... (650) 616-7020  
 San Carlos ..... (650) 802-4200  
 San Mateo ..... (650) 522-7342  
 San Mateo County .... (650) 464-6661  
 South San Francisco .. (650) 877-8555  
 Woodside..... (650) 851-6790