

## Ocean Pollution Prevention: It's Up To Us



Garden Grove has two drainage systems; one is the sewer system and the other is the storm drain system. The sewer system carries away wastes from indoor areas, such as sinks and toilets, to a treatment plant where it is cleaned prior to discharging to the ocean. The storm drain system is designed to prevent flooding by carrying excess rainwater away from city streets out to the ocean. Because the system contains no filters, it now serves the unintended function of carrying urban pollution straight to the ocean.

This pamphlet tells you how to prevent ocean pollution from “stormwater” or “urban runoff.”

Rain, industrial and household water mixed with pollutants creates stormwater pollution. The pollutants include: oil and other automotive fluids, paint and construction debris, yard and pet wastes, pesticides and litter.

Urban runoff pollution flows to the ocean through the storm drain system, which takes water and debris straight from the streets to the ocean. Each day 100 million gallons of polluted urban runoff enter the ocean untreated, leaving toxic chemicals in our surf and tons of trash on our beaches.

Urban runoff pollution contaminates the ocean, closes beaches, harms aquatic life and increases the risk of inland flooding by clogging gutters and catch basins.

Use of the Best Management Practices (BMPs) explained in this brochure will aid in assuring a cleaner city, protection of human health and water quality and prevention of ocean pollution.

## Food Service Establishment Maintenance Problems:

Common food service establishment maintenance practices include cleaning kitchen equipment, disposing of waste cooking oil, cleaning outdoor areas and dish washing. All of these activities can contribute to urban runoff and ocean pollution if not conducted or managed properly. Materials and wastes washed or discharged into the street, gutter or storm drains have direct impacts on the ocean.

## Solutions:

### Cleaning Kitchen Equipment

- Wipe off fats, oils and grease (FOG) and food residues from kitchen equipment, such as floor mats, hood filters and cooking equipment, prior to washing in the sink. Do not wash off any kitchen equipment or trash cans in an outdoor area where the wash water can flow to a street, parking lot or storm drain.
- All waste FOG and food scraps that have been wiped from cooking equipment should be thrown into the trash, not washed down the sink.

### Washing Dishes

- Wipe off all utensils and dishes into a trashcan prior to washing.
- Place mesh screens in all sinks and floor drains to prevent food scraps from being washed down into the sewer system.
- All food grinders or garbage disposal devices are required to be removed.

### Grease and Waste Oil Disposal

- Grease control devices, such as grease traps and grease interceptors, provide the function of removing latent FOG and suspended food particles from wash water. Grease control devices will facilitate the separation of FOG and food particles so only water can pass through to the sewer system.
- All grease traps and grease interceptors are required to be pumped out by a permitted company at least once every 6 months.
- All waste oil should be drained into a waste oil drum, not down the sink or thrown into a trashcan or dumpster. Waste oil containers should be kept clean and covered with a lid at all times. If possible, store the waste oil drum inside of a building or in an enclosure.
- Prevent spills of waste oil by not overfilling waste oil containers.
- When employees are disposing of waste oil into designated containers, prevent spills by carrying out smaller loads of waste oil for disposal.
- All receipts for waste oil pick up and grease control device cleaning should be kept for review by inspectors.
- For a list of waste oil recycling companies please visit [www.ciwmb.ca.gov/foodwaste/renderer.htm](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/foodwaste/renderer.htm) or call Garden Grove Environmental Compliance Division at (714) 741-5375.

### Spill Clean-Up

- Use dry clean up methods, like sweeping, wiping or mopping, to clean up spills.
- Never wash or hose down spills to the street, gutter, parking lot or other outdoor area.
- Always have a spill kit readily available for immediate response to clean up spills. Spill kits should include an absorbent material, gloves and rags. All employees should be trained on the proper use of spill kit contents and spill clean up procedures.
- If the spill travels off of your facility property, please call (714) 741-5375.

### Outdoor Area Cleaning

- If any outdoor area, including sidewalks, outdoor seating, dumpster areas or outdoor storage areas need to be cleaned use dry cleaning methods, like sweeping.
- If any outdoor area needs to be cleaned with a liquid, it should first be swept to remove all dirt, trash and debris from the area. Then use a mop or scrub brush to clean areas where needed. Never hose off outdoor areas or allow wash water to travel off of your property.

### Dumpster Area Maintenance

- Sweep up and remove all trash and debris from the dumpster area floor and surrounding the dumpster area.
- When employees are not in the process of disposing of trash or waste oil, keep dumpster lids and waste oil container lids closed.
- Do not pour liquids into dumpsters and double bag all leaking trash bags that are going to be disposed of in the dumpster.

### Washwater Disposal

- Dispose of all washwater, like mop water, into a mop sink or sewer drain.
- Never throw washwater out in a parking lot, street, alley or storm drain.

### Sewer Spills

- A sewer spill that is from a restaurant usually is caused by FOG. When FOG is washed down sinks it sticks to the sides of sewer pipes and builds up, reducing the capacity of the sewer line and eventually a sewer spill occurs.
- If your food service establishment has a sewer spill or you notice water flowing out from a grease control device, a manhole or sewer cleanout in the parking lot or street you are required to contact the City immediately at (714) 741-5375 or after hours at (714) 741-5704.
- Sewer spills present a hazard to human health, water quality and the environment.



### Spill Response Agencies

City of Garden Grove Fire Department  
(714) 741-5600  
or if there is an emergency dial 911

City of Garden Grove Environmental Compliance  
Division (714) 741-5375

Orange County Resources and Development  
Management Department (877) 89-SPILL

### Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

City of Garden Grove Public Works Department  
(714) 741-5375

### Report Illegal Dumping

City of Garden Grove  
Environmental Compliance Division  
(714) 741-5375

### To Report a Clogged Catch Basin

City of Garden Grove Public Works Department  
(714) 741-5375

For more information about storm drain protection or  
additional brochures, please call the City of Garden  
Grove Public Works Department at (714) 741-5375  
or visit [www.garden-grove.org/storm](http://www.garden-grove.org/storm).

This brochure is one of a series of  
pamphlets describing storm drain  
protection measures.

*Pamphlets include:*

- Automotive Maintenance
- Food Service Establishments
- Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application
- General Construction and  
Site Supervision
- Heavy Equipment and  
Earth Moving Activities
- Home Repair and Remodeling
- Landscaping, Gardening and  
Pest Control
- Maintenance Practices for  
Your Business
- Painting
- Pet Waste
- Pool Maintenance
- Roadwork and Paving



**GARDEN GROVE**

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# Preventing Storm Water Pollution At Food Service Establishments



A guide for:

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- Restaurants
  - Grocery Stores
  - Cafeterias