Handling Materials & Wastes

- Practice Source Reduction—minimize waste when ordering materials. Order only the amounts needed to complete the job.
- Use recycled and recyclable materials whenever possible.
- Recycle broken asphalt, concrete, wood, and cleared vegetation. Unrecyclable materials must be taken to an appropriate landfill or disposed of as hazardous waste. Call the numbers listed on the back of this pamphlet for disposal information.

Disposal Options

Use a crushing company like those listed below to recycle cement, asphalt and porcelain rather than taking them to a landfill.

Check the yellow pages for companies that provide these services or telephone 1-888 CLEAN LA.

Spill Response Agencies
- To report a spill or release of hazardous material that actively threatens people or property call:
  City of Long Beach - Fire Department
  Dial 911
- To report a spill or release of motor oil, paint, solvents, or fuel in immediate danger of entering storm drain system call:
  City of Long Beach - Fire Department
  Dial 911
  If not in immediate danger of entering storm drain system call:
  City of Long Beach - Fire Department
  (562) 436-8211
- To report non-hazardous spills in sewer system call:
  City of Long Beach - Water Department
  (562) 570-2390

Storm Drains & Public Streets
- To report clogged catch basins & drains call:
  City of Long Beach - Water Department
  (562) 570-2390
- To report sediment of mud in public street or alley call:
  City of Long Beach - Department of Public Works
  (562) 570-2700
- To report trash, leaves, branches, & grass clippings in the public street or alley call:
  City of Long Beach - Department of Public Works
  (562) 570-2876

Unhealthful Discharges or Conditions
- To report discharges of food waste.
- To report discharges of sewage, greywater, dirtywater, RV waste, raw sewage, or pool & pond water.
- To report discharges of stagnant pool or pond water.
- To report discharges from apartment house dumpsters call:
  City of Long Beach
  Department of Health & Human Services
  Bureau of Environmental Health
  (562) 570-4129

Illicit Discharges from Private Property
- To report discharges from dumpsters on private property.
- To report discharges from washing of roofs of single family dwellings.
- To report trash & debris on privately owned property.
- To report illegal mobile car wash businesses.
- To report illegal auto repair business on private property.
- To report Auto repair on the public street.
- To report discharges from construction sites call:
  City of Long Beach
  Department of Planning & Building
  (562) 570-6651

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

- Automotive Maintenance & Car Care
- Food Service Industry
- General Construction & Site Supervision
- Heavy Equipment & Earth-Moving Activities
- Horse Owners & Equine Industry
- Home Repair & Remodeling
- Landscaping, Gardening & Pest Control
- Painting
- Swimming Pool, Jacuzzi & Fountain Maintenance
- Roadwork & Paving
For additional brochures call:
City of Long Beach
Department of Planning & Building
(562) 570-6651

For more information about storm drain protection call:
City of Long Beach
Department of Public Works
Bureau of Engineering
Stormwater Management Division
(562) 570-6383

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Concrete & Mortar Application Problems

Fresh concrete and mortar activities are frequent sources of urban runoff pollution. Materials and wastes blown or washed into a street, gutter or storm drain have a direct impact on the ocean.

Sediment is the most common pollutant washed from worksites, creating multiple problems once it enters the ocean. Sediment clogs the gills of fish, blocks light transmission and increases ocean water temperature, all of which harm sea life, disrupting the food chain upon which both fish and people depend.

Sediment also carries with it other worksite pollutants such as cement wash, gravel, asphalt, pesticides, cleaning solvents, motor oil, grease and fuel. Thus, poorly maintained equipment and vehicles leaking fuel and oil at the worksite also contribute to ocean pollution.

General Business Practices

- Schedule projects for dry weather periods.
- Keep materials out of the rain. Store both dry and wet materials under cover, protected from rainfall and runoff. Also, protect dry materials from the wind.
- Secure open bags of cement to keep wind-blown cement powder away from streets, gutters, storm drains, rainfall and runoff.

Cleaning Up

- When cleaning up after driveway or sidewalk construction, wash concrete dust onto dirt areas, not down the driveway or into the street or storm drain.
- Wash out concrete mixers and equipment only in designated wash-out areas, where the water flows into containment ponds or onto dirt.
- Recycle cement wash water by pumping it back into cement mixers for reuse.
- Never dispose of cement wash-out into driveways, streets, gutters, storm drains or drainage ditches.

During Construction

- Place erosion controls (i.e., berms or temporary vegetation) downslope to capture runoff carrying mortar or cement before it reaches the storm drain.
- Do not order or mix up more fresh concrete or cement than you will use.
- Set up and operate small mixers on tarps or heavy drop cloths.
- When breaking up paving (cement or asphalt), be sure to pick up all the pieces. Recycle them at a crushing company. Use the referral numbers listed on the back of this pamphlet.
- Dispose of small amounts of excess dry concrete, grout and mortar in the trash.
- Never bury waste material. Recycle or dispose of it as hazardous waste material. Call the City of Long Beach’s Integrated Resources Bureau (IRB) at (562) 570-2876 or 1-888-Clean-LA.