

## 5 If You Must use Pesticides...

- Use a pesticide that is specifically designed to control your pest. The insect should be listed on the label. Approximately 90% of the insects on your lawn and garden are not harmful.



- Read labels! Use only as directed. In their zeal to control the problem, many gardeners use pesticides at over 20 times the rate farmers do.

## 6 Pesticide Disposal

- Household toxics—such as pesticides, cleansers, and motor oil—can pollute the ocean and poison groundwater if disposed of in storm drains or gutters.



- Rinse empty pesticide containers and use rinse water as you would the product. Dispose of empty rinsed containers in the trash.
- City of Long Beach residents can dispose of unused household toxics instead of dumping them into the sink, street, gutter or storm drain. Call 1-888 CLEAN LA for information.
- Gardeners, landscapers and residents outside the City of Los Angeles can call the reference numbers listed in this brochure to learn where they can properly dispose of household toxics.

## 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

## Unhealthy 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

Fresh Concrete & Mortar Application

General Construction & Site Supervision

Heavy Equipment & Earth-Moving Activities

Horse Owners & Equine Industry

Home Repair & Remodeling

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



## Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs)



## Landscaping, Gardening & Pest Control

Homeowners  
Gardeners  
Landscapers

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

Long Beach has two drainage systems -- the sewers and the storm drains. The storm drain system was 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 urban 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 -- 395 miles of pipes that take water and debris straight from Long Beach streets to the ocean. Each year millions of gallons of polluted urban runoff enter the ocean untreated, leaving toxic chemicals in our surf and over 4,300 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. Overall, stormwater pollution prevention programs cost the City of Long Beach more than \$12.7 million per year.

These Best Management Practices (BMPs) will ensure a cleaner ocean and city.

### Problems

Landscaping and garden maintenance activities can be major contributors to ocean pollution. Soils, yard wastes, overwatering and garden chemicals become part of the urban runoff mix that winds its way through streets, gutters and storm drains before entering the ocean.

Poorly functioning sprinklers and overwatering, for example, waste water and increase the number of pollutants flowing into storm drains.

Fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides are washed off lawns and landscaped areas. These chemicals not only kill garden invaders, they also harm useful insects, poison fish and contaminate ground and ocean water.

Leaves, grass clippings and tree trimmings that are swept or blown into the street and gutter are also ocean polluters. These wastes clog catch basins, increasing the risk of flooding on your street, and carry garden chemicals into the ocean. As they decompose, they also absorb oxygen fish need to survive.

### Solutions

#### 1 General Landscaping Tips

- Protect stockpiles and materials from wind and rain by storing them under tarps or secured plastic sheeting.
- Schedule grading and excavation projects for dry weather.
- Use temporary check dams or ditches to divert runoff away from storm drains.
- Prevent erosion by planting fast-growing annual and perennial grasses. These will shield and bind the soil.



#### 2 Garden & Lawn Maintenance

- Do not overwater. Conserve water by using irrigation practices such as drip irrigation, soaker hoses, or micro-spray systems.
- In communities with curbside yard waste recycling, leave clippings and pruning waste for pickup in approved containers. Or, take clippings to a landfill that composts yard waste.
- Do not blow or rake leaves into the street, gutter or storm drains.
- Use organic or non-toxic fertilizers.
- Do not overfertilize and do not fertilize near ditches, streams or other water bodies.
- Store pesticides, fertilizers, and other chemicals in a covered area to prevent runoff.



#### 3 Pesticide Alternatives

The "chemicals-only" approach to pest control is only a temporary fix. A more common-sense approach is needed for a long-term solution. It's called:



#### Integrated Pest Management

Plan your "IPM" strategy in this order:

##### A) Physical Controls

- Caulking holes
- Hand picking
- Barriers
- Traps

##### B) Biological Controls

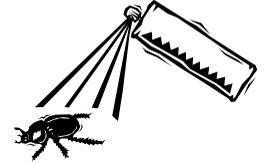
- Predatory insects  
e.g. Green lacewings eat aphids
- Bacterial insecticides  
e.g. *Bacillus thuringiensis* kills caterpillars



##### C) Chemical Controls - Your last Resort

Use these least-toxic products:

- Dehydrating dusts (e.g. silica gel)
- Insecticidal soaps
- Boric acid powder
- Horticultural oils
- Pyrethrin-based insecticides



#### 4 Safe Substitutes for Pest Control

**Garden Aphids and Mites** - Mix 1 tablespoon of liquid soap and 1 cup of vegetable oil. Add 1 teaspoon of this mixture to a cup of water and spray. (Oil may harm vegetable plants in the cabbage family.)

**Caterpillars** - When caterpillars are eating, apply products containing *Bacillus thuringiensis* to leaves.

**Ants** - Place boric acid dust or hydramethylnon baits in problem areas, cracks and insect walkways. Be sure it is inaccessible to children and pets (it is a mild poison).



**Roaches** - Apply boric acid dust to cracks and entry points (see ants above). Place bay leaves on pantry shelves.