Clean beaches and healthy creeks, rivers, bays and ocean are important to Los Angeles County. However, many common activities can lead to water pollution if you're not careful. Fertilizers, pesticides and other chemicals that are left on yards or driveways can be blown or washed into storm drains that flow to the ocean. Overwatering lawns can also send materials into storm drains. Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), water in storm drains is not treated before entering our waterways.

You would never pour gardening products into the ocean, so don't let them enter the storm drains. Follow these easy tips to help prevent water pollution.

For more information,
please call the
City of Long Beach
Public Works Department
at **(562) 570-6383**
or visit
www.longbeach.gov

To report a spill,
call the
Long Beach Dump Line
at **562-570-DUMP**
(562-570-3867)

For emergencies, dial 911.

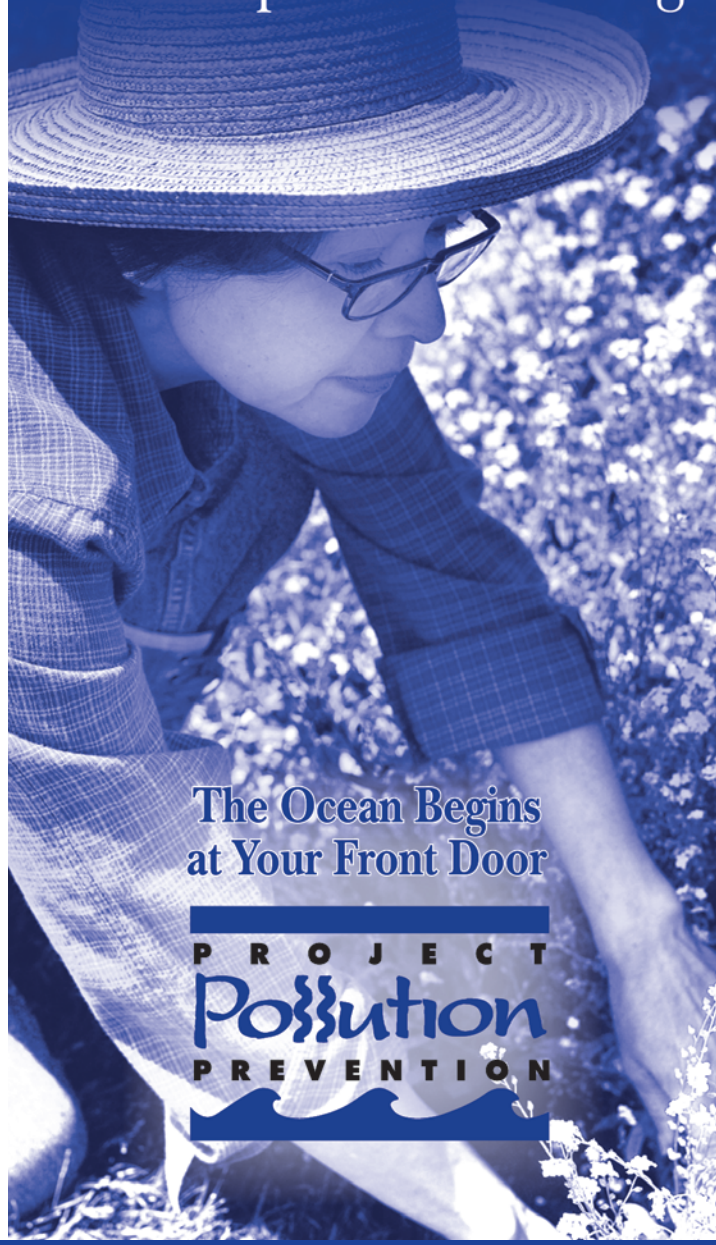
PW LONG BEACH

CITY OF LONG BEACH

This brochure was created by the Orange County Stormwater rogram and modified for the Greater Los Angeles Area by the City of Long Beach.

Help Prevent Ocean Pollution:

Tips for Landscape & Gardening



The Ocean Begins at Your Front Door

PROJECT Pollution PREVENTION

Tips for Landscape & Gardening

Never allow gardening products or polluted water to enter the street, gutter or storm drain.

General Landscaping Tips

- Protect stockpiles and materials from wind and rain by storing them under tarps or secured plastic sheeting.

- Prevent erosion of slopes by planting fast-growing, dense ground covering plants. These will shield and bind the soil.

- Plant native vegetation to reduce the amount of water, fertilizers, and pesticide applied to the landscape.

- Never apply pesticides or fertilizers when rain is predicted within the next 48 hours.

Garden & Lawn Maintenance

- Do not overwater. Use irrigation practices such as drip irrigation, soaker hoses or micro spray systems. Periodically inspect and fix leaks and misdirected sprinklers.

- Do not rake or blow leaves, clippings or pruning waste into the street, gutter or storm drain. Instead, dispose of green waste by composting, hauling it to a permitted landfill, or recycling it through your city's program.

- Use slow-release fertilizers to minimize leaching, and use organic fertilizers.

- Read labels and use only as directed. Do not over-apply pesticides or fertilizers. Apply to spots as needed, rather than blanketing an entire area.

- Store pesticides, fertilizers and other chemicals in a dry covered area to prevent exposure that may result in the deterioration of containers and packaging.

- Rinse empty pesticide containers and re-use rinse water as you would use the product. Do not dump rinse water down storm drains. Dispose of empty containers in the trash.

- When available, use non-toxic alternatives to traditional pesticides, and use pesticides specifically designed to control the pest you are targeting. For more information, visit **www.ipm.ucdavis.edu.**

- If fertilizer is spilled, sweep up the spill before irrigating. If the spill is liquid, apply an absorbent material such as cat litter, and then sweep it up and dispose of it in the trash.

- Take unwanted pesticides to a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center to be recycled. Locations are provided below. For more information, call **(888) 253-2652** or visit **www.CleanLA.com.**

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers

Los Angeles: 550 Charles E Young Dr W
Los Angeles: 4600 Colorado Blvd
Los Angeles: 2649 E Washington Blvd
Northridge: 10241 N Balboa Blvd
Palmdale: 1200 W City Ranch Rd
Playa del Rey: 7660 W Imperial Hwy, Gate B
San Pedro: 1400 N Gaffey St
Signal Hill: 2755 California Ave
Sun Valley: 11025 Randall St