

**APPENDIX C**  
**STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION**

General Construction and Site Supervision

Earth Moving Activities

Stormwater Pollution Prevention for Sawcut Slurry

Roadwork and Paving

Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application

Painting and Application of Solvents and Adhesives

Pollution Prevention – It's Part of the Plan

This brochure is one of a series of pamphlets describing storm drain protection measures for specific types of construction industry activities. Other pamphlets include:

**General Construction and Site Supervision**

**Landscaping, Gardening and Pool Maintenance**

**Painting and Application of Solvents and Adhesives**

**Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application**

**Roadwork and Paving**

**Earth-Moving Activities**

**Heavy Equipment Operation**

For more information about the county-wide storm drain protection program and additional brochures, call:



Contra Costa  
Clean Water Program  
255 Glacier Drive  
Martinez, CA 94553  
1-800-NO-DUMPING

**Spill Response Agencies**

1. Dial 911
2. Governor's Office of Emergency Services Warning Center  
(800) 852-7550 (24 hours)

**Local Pollution Control Agencies**

Contra Costa Clean Water Program	(925) 313-2360
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**General Construction  
and  
Site Supervision**



**Best Management  
Practices for the  
Construction Industry**



Contra Costa  
Clean Water Program

## **Storm Drain**

### **Pollution Prevention:**

#### **It's Up to Us**

In Contra Costa County, storm drains flow directly to local creeks, San Francisco Bay, and the delta with no treatment. Storm water pollution is a serious problem for wildlife dependent on our waterways and for the people who live near polluted streams or baylands. Some common sources of this pollution include spilled oil, fuel, and fluids from vehicles and heavy equipment; construction debris; landscaping runoff containing pesticides or weed killers; and materials such as used motor oil, antifreeze, and paint products that people pour or spill into a street or storm drain.

Eighteen cities, the County, and the County Flood Control District have joined together to educate local residents and businesses to fight storm drain pollution. We hope you will join us, by using the practices described in this pamphlet.

#### **Advance Planning to Prevent Pollution**

- ❑ Schedule excavation and grading activities for dry weather periods.
- ❑ Control the amount of runoff crossing your site (especially during excavation!) by using berms or drainage ditches to divert water flow around the site.

- ❑ Train your employees and sub-contractors. Make these brochures available to everyone who works on the site. Inform subcontractors about the new stormwater requirements and their own responsibilities. Refer to *Blueprint for a Clean Bay*, a construction best management practices guide available from the Contra Costa Clean Water Program.

#### **Good Housekeeping Practices**

- ❑ Designate one area of the site for auto parking, vehicle refueling, and routine equipment maintenance. The designated area should be well away from streams or storm drain inlets, and bermed if necessary. Make major repairs off-site.
- ❑ Keep materials out of the rain – prevent runoff contamination at the source. Cover up leaks, drips and other spills immediately so they do not contaminate soil or groundwater or leave residue on paved surfaces.
- ❑ Never hose down “dirty” pavement or surfaces where materials have spilled. Use dry cleanup methods whenever possible. If you must use water, use just enough to keep the dust down and protect storm drain inlets.
- ❑ Cover and maintain dumpsters. Check frequently for leaks. Place dumpsters under roofs or cover with tarps or plastic sheeting secured around the outside of the dumpster.
- ❑ Never clean out a dumpster by hosing it down on the construction site.

- ❑ Make sure portable toilets are in good working order. Check frequently for leaks.

#### **Storm Drain Pollution from Construction Activities**

Construction sites are common sources of stormwater pollution. Materials and wastes that blow or wash into a storm drain, gutter, or street have a direct impact on local creeks and the Bay. As a contractor, site supervisor, owner or operator of a site, you may be responsible for any environmental damage caused by your subcontractors or employees.

#### **Materials/Waste/Handling**

- ❑ Practice source reduction – minimize waste when you order materials. Order only the amount you need to finish the job.
- ❑ Use recyclable materials whenever possible.
- ❑ Dispose of all wastes properly. Many construction materials and wastes, including solvents, water-based paints, vehicle fluids, broken asphalt and concrete, wood, and cleared vegetation can be recycled. (See the reference list of recyclers at the back of *Blueprint for a Clean Bay*). Materials that cannot be recycled must be taken to an appropriate landfill or disposed of as hazardous waste. Never bury waste materials or leave them in the street or near a creek or streambed.

This brochure is one of a series of pamphlets describing storm drain protection measures for specific types of construction industry activities. Other pamphlets include:

**General Construction and Site Supervision**

**Landscaping, Gardening and Pool Maintenance**

**Painting and Application of Solvents and Adhesives**

**Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application**

**Roadwork and Paving**

**Earth-Moving Activities**

**Heavy Equipment Operation**

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1-800-NO-DUMPING

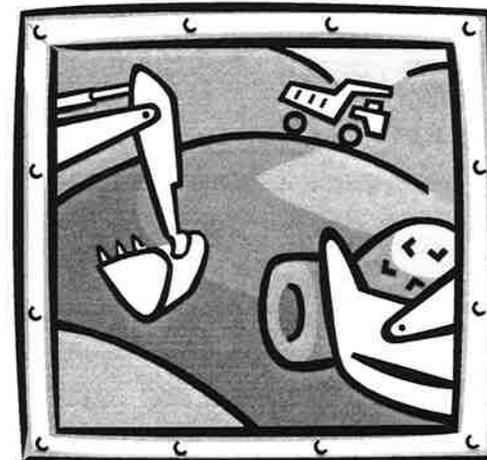
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## **EARTH MOVING ACTIVITIES**



## **Best Management Practices for the Construction Industry**



Contra Costa  
Clean Water Program

## **Storm Drain Pollution Prevention: It's Up to Us**

In Contra Costa County, storm drains flow directly to local creeks, San Francisco Bay, and the delta without treatment. Storm water pollution is a serious problem for wildlife dependent on our waterways and for the people who live near polluted streams or baylands. Some common sources of this pollution include spilled oil, fuel, and fluids from vehicles and heavy equipment; construction debris; landscaping runoff containing pesticides or weed killers; and materials such as used motor oil, antifreeze, and paint products that people pour or spill into a street or storm drain. Eighteen cities, the County, and the County Flood Control District have joined together to educate local residents and businesses to fight storm drain pollution. We hope you will join us by using the practices described in this pamphlet.

## **Who should use this brochure?**

Bulldozer, Backhoe, and Grading  
Machine Operators  
Dump Truck Drivers  
Site Supervisors  
General Contractors  
Home Builders  
Developers

## **Storm Drain Pollution from Earth-Moving Activities**

Soil excavation and grading operations loosen large amounts of soil that can flow or blow into storm drains if handled improperly. Soil erodes due to a combination of decreased soil stability, increased runoff, and increased flow velocity. Some of the most effective erosion control practices reduce the amount of runoff crossing a site and slow the flow with check dams and roughened ground surfaces.

## **What Can You Do?**

### **During Construction**

- ❑ Remove existing vegetation only when absolutely necessary.
- ❑ Consider planting temporary vegetation or implement other appropriate erosion controls on slopes where construction is not immediately planned.
- ❑ Protect downslope drainage courses, streams, and storm drains with silt fences or other controls to intercept and low the flow of sediment laden discharges.
- ❑ Use check dams or ditches to divert runoff around excavations.
- ❑ Cover stockpiles and excavated soil with secured tarps or plastic sheeting.
- ❑ Stockpile erosion controls during the wet season.

## **General Business Practices**

- ❑ Schedule excavation and grading work for dry weather.
- ❑ Perform major equipment repairs away from the job site.
- ❑ When refueling or vehicle/equipment maintenance must be done on site, designate a location away from storm drains.
- ❑ Do not use diesel oil to lubricate equipment or parts.

## **Detecting contaminated soil or groundwater**

It is essential that all contractors and subcontractors involved in excavation and grading know what to look for in detecting contaminated soil or groundwater. See Blueprint for a Clean Bay, a construction best management practices guide available from Contra Costa Clean Water Program, for details.

Watch for any of these conditions:

- ✓ Unusual soil conditions, discoloration, or odor
- ✓ Abandoned underground tanks
- ✓ Abandoned wells
- ✓ Buried barrels, debris, or trash

If contamination is suspected, call the appropriate local agency for further guidance (see reverse).

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- **Landscaping, Gardening and Pool Maintenance**
- **Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application**
- **Roadwork and Paving**
- **Earth Moving Activities**
- **Heavy Equipment Operation**
- **Painting and Application of Solvents and Adhesives**
- **Dewatering Activities**
- **Home Repair and Remodeling**



*BASMAA gratefully acknowledges the City of Palo Alto and Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program for the original concept and text of this brochure.*

For more information from countywide storm drain protection programs, and additional brochures, contact the storm-water program in your area (listed below) or by calling 1-888-BAYWISE.

### **Local Stormwater Quality Management Programs**

Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program  
951 Turner Court, Hayward, CA 94545  
510-670-5543

Contra Costa Clean Water Program  
255 Glacier Drive, Martinez, CA 94553-4897  
925-313-2360

Fairfield-Suisun Urban Runoff Management Program  
1010 Chadbourne Road, Fairfield, CA 94585  
707-429-8930

Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program  
P. O. Box 4186  
San Rafael, CA 94913  
415-499-6528

San Mateo Countywide Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program  
555 County Center  
Redwood City, CA 94063  
650-599-1406

Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program  
699 Town & Country Village  
Sunnyvale, CA 94086  
800-794-2482

Vallejo Sanitation and Flood Control District  
450 Ryder Street, Vallejo, CA 94590  
707-644-8949

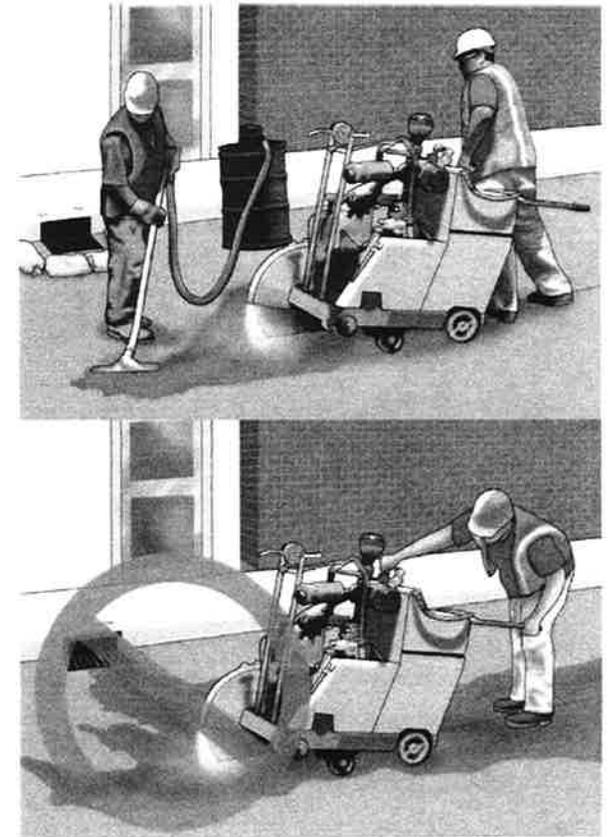
Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA)  
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400  
Oakland CA 94612  
510-622-2326 or 1-888-BAYWISE

### **State Agencies**

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
San Francisco Bay Region (510) 622-2300

Department of Toxic Substances (for questions about hazardous waste, call the Public and Business Liaison Hotline, Regional Duty Officers at (800) 728-6942 or (800) 72TOXIC)

# *Storm Water Pollution Prevention for Sawcut Slurry*



*Best Management Practices for the  
Construction Industry*

## **Why is Sawcut Slurry a Problem?**

The slurry created when pavement is cut can enter storm drains and flow directly to local waterways. This slurry can be toxic to wildlife in a local creek, the creek, bay or ocean. It can also clog drains and cause flooding.

**CAUTION:** *If sawcut slurry from your job enters a storm drain, you have broken the law!*

Allowing slurry or other pollutants to enter a storm drain, or directly to a waterway, is a violation of local, state, and federal regulations. Violators are subject to fines and cleanup costs.

*By following this three-step procedure when saw cutting you can protect the storm drain system, help environment, and avoid fines.*

## **Minimize and Contain Slurry**

Before you begin saw cutting, block the path to the nearest storm drain by placing sand bags (or equivalent) in the gutter or around the storm drain inlet. If you can lift the grate over the drain, place filter fabric underneath.

Even if the nearest drain is several blocks away, place a barrier in the gutter as near your site as practical to contain the slurry.

Use as little water as possible, to reduce the amount of slurry you must collect.

Barricade area where slurry is drying to prevent tracking by cars and foot traffic.

## **Collect Slurry**

Clean up slurry with a wet vac as you work. Where wet slurry cannot be vacuumed, allow it to dry and then sweep up with a stiff broom at the end of the day.

## **Dispose of Slurry**

Empty wet slurry into a well-contained area (where it will not run off into a gutter, street, or creek) and allow it to dry. A small amount of slurry may be mixed with dirt and left on the construction site. Where this is not possible, sweep up the dry slurry and dispose in the trash.

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# Roadwork and Paving



## Best Management Practices for the Construction Industry



Contra Costa  
Clean Water Program

## **Storm Drain Pollution Prevention: It's Up to Us**

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Eighteen cities, the County, and the County Flood Control District have joined together to educate local residents and businesses to fight storm drain pollution. We hope you will join us by using the practices described in this pamphlet.

### **Who should use this Brochure?**

Road crews  
Driveway/sidewalk/parking lot  
construction crews  
Seal coat contractors  
Operators of: grading equipment, paving  
machines, dump trucks, concrete  
mixers  
Construction inspectors  
General Contractors  
Developers

## **Storm Drain Pollution from Roadwork**

Road paving, surfacing, and pavement removal happen right in the street, where there are numerous opportunities for storm drain contamination by asphalt, saw-cut slurry, or excavated material. Extra planning is required to store and dispose of materials properly and guard against pollution of the storm drains and creeks.

### **What Can You Do? General Business Practices**

- ❑ Develop and implement erosion/sediment control plans for embankment.
- ❑ Schedule excavation and grading work for dry weather.
- ❑ Check for and repair leaking equipment.
- ❑ Perform major equipment repairs in designated areas at your yard, away from the construction site.
- ❑ When refueling or vehicle/equipment maintenance must be done on site, designate a location away from storm drains and creeks.
- ❑ Do not use diesel oil to lubricate equipment or parts.
- ❑ Recycle used oil, concrete, broken asphalt, etc., whenever possible.

### **During Construction**

- ❑ Avoid paving and seal coating in wet weather, or when rain is forecast before fresh pavement will have time to cure.

- ❑ Cover and seal catch basins and manholes when applying seal coat, slurry seal, fog seal, etc.
- ❑ Use check dams, ditches or berms to divert runoff around excavations.
- ❑ Never wash excess material from exposed aggregate concrete or similar treatments into a street or storm drain. Collect and recycle, or dispose to dirt area.
- ❑ Cover stockpiles (asphalt, sand, etc.) and other materials with plastic tarps. Protect from rainfall and prevent runoff with temporary roofs or plastic sheets and berms.
- ❑ Catch drips from paver with drip pans or absorbent material (cloth, rags, etc.) placed under machine when not in use.
- ❑ Clean up all spills and leaks using "dry" methods (with absorbent materials and/or rags), or dig up and remove contaminated soil.
- ❑ Collect and recycle or appropriately dispose of excess abrasive gravel or sand.
- ❑ Avoid over-application by water trucks for dust control.

### **Asphalt/Concrete Removal**

- ❑ Avoid creating excess dust when breaking asphalt or concrete.
- ❑ After breaking old pavement, be sure to remove all chunks and pieces.
- ❑ Make sure broken pavement does not come in contact with rainfall or runoff.
- ❑ Shovel or vacuum saw-cut slurry and remove from site. Cover or barricade storm drain during saw-cutting if necessary.
- ❑ Never hose down streets to clean up tracked dirt.

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**Painting and Application of Solvents and Adhesives**

**Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application**

**Roadwork and Paving**

**Earth-Moving Activities**

**Heavy Equipment Operation**

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**Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application**



**Best Management Practices for the Construction Industry**



Contra Costa  
Clean Water Program

## **Storm Drain Pollution Prevention: It's Up to Us**

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## **Who should use this brochure?**

Masons and Bricklayers  
Sidewalk Construction Workers  
Patio Construction Workers  
Construction Inspectors  
General Contractors  
Home Builders  
Developers

## **What Can You Do?**

- ❑ Both at your yard and the construction site, always store both dry and wet materials under cover, protected from rainfall and runoff. Protect dry materials from wind.
- ❑ Secure bags of cement after they are open. Be sure to keep wind-blown cement powder away from gutters, storm drains, rainfall, and runoff.
- ❑ Washout concrete mixers only in designated wash-out area, where the water will flow into containment ponds or onto dirt. Whenever possible, recycle washout by pumping back into mixers for re-use. Never dispose of washout into the street, storm drains, drainage ditches, or streams.

## **Storm Drain Pollution from Masonry and Paving**

Fresh concrete and cement-related mortars that wash into lakes, streams, or estuaries are toxic to fish and the aquatic environment. Disposing of these materials to the storm drains or creeks cause serious problems – and is prohibited by law.

## **During Construction**

- ❑ Don't mix up more fresh concrete or cement than you will use in a day.
- ❑ Set up and operate small mixers on tarps or heavy plastic drop cloths.
- ❑ When cleaning up after driveway or sidewalk construction, wash fines onto dirt areas, not down the driveway or into the street or storm drain.
- ❑ Protect all storm drain inlets using filter fabric or other best management practices to capture and filter runoff carrying mortar or cement before it reaches the storm drain.
- ❑ When breaking up paving, be sure to pick up all the pieces and dispose of properly.
- ❑ Recycle large chunks of broken concrete at a landfill.
- ❑ Dispose of small amount of excess dry concrete grout and mortar in the trash.
- ❑ Never bury waste material.

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# Painting and Application of Solvents and Adhesives



## Best Management Practices for the Construction Industry



Contra Costa  
Clean Water Program

## Storm Drain Pollution

### Prevention:

#### It's Up to Us

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#### Who should use this brochure?

Painters	Dry Wall Crews
Paperhangers	Developers
Plasterers	Graphic Artists
General Contractors	Home Builders
Floor Cover Installers	

## What Can You Do?

**Keep all liquid paint products and wastes away from the gutter, street and storm drains.** Liquid residues from paints, thinners, solvents, glues, and cleaning fluids are hazardous wastes. When they are thoroughly dry, empty paint cans, spent brushes, rags, and drop cloths may be disposed of as trash.

### Paint Removal

- ❑ Chemical paint stripping residue is a hazardous waste. For information on the proper disposal of hazardous waste, call 1-800 NO DUMPING.
- ❑ Chips and dust from marine paints or paints containing lead or tributyl tin are hazardous wastes. Dry sweep and dispose of appropriately.
- ❑ Paint chips and dust from non-hazardous dry stripping and sand blasting may be swept up and disposed of as trash.
- ❑ When stripping or cleaning building exteriors with high-pressure water, block storm drains. Direct wash water onto a dirt area.

## Painting Cleanup

- ❑ Never clean brushes or rinse paint containers into a street, gutter storm drain or stream.
- ❑ For water-based paints, paint out brushes to the extent possible, filter and reuse thinners and solvents. Dispose of excess liquids and residue as hazardous waste.

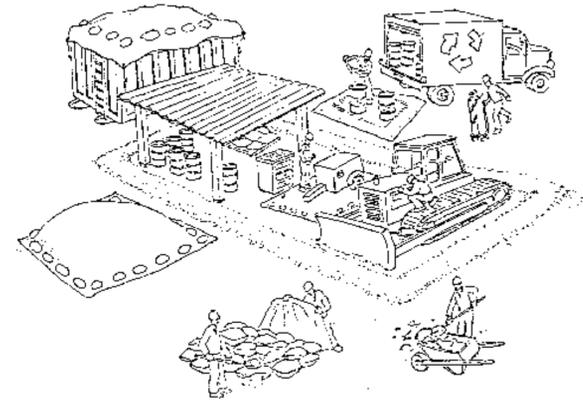
### Storm Drain Pollution from paints, solvents, and adhesives

All paints, solvents, and adhesives contain chemicals that are harmful to the wildlife in our creeks and bay. Toxic chemicals may come from liquid or solid products or from cleaning residues or rags. It is especially important not to clean brushes in an area where paint residue can flow to a gutter, street or storm drain.

### Recycle/reuse leftover paints whenever possible.

- ❑ Recycle excess water-based paint, or use up. Dispose of excess liquid, including sludges, as hazardous waste.
- ❑ Reuse leftover oil-based paint. Dispose of excess liquid, including sludges, as hazardous waste.

# Pollution Prevention — It's Part of the Plan



## Make sure your crews and subs do the job right!

Runoff from streets and other paved areas is a major source of pollution in San Francisco Bay. Construction activities can directly affect the health of the Bay unless contractors and crews plan ahead to keep dirt, debris, and other construction waste away from storm drains and local creeks. Following these guidelines will ensure your compliance with local ordinance requirements.



### Materials storage & spill cleanup

#### Non-hazardous materials management

- ✓ Sand, dirt, and similar materials must be stored at least 10 feet from catch basins, and covered with a tarp during wet weather or when rain is forecast.
- ✓ Use (but don't overuse) reclaimed water for dust control as needed.
- ✓ Sweep streets and other paved areas daily. Do not wash down streets or work areas with water!
- ✓ Recycle all asphalt, concrete, and aggregate base material from demolition activities.
- ✓ Check dumpsters regularly for leaks and to make sure they don't overflow. Repair or replace leaking dumpsters promptly.

#### Hazardous materials management

- ✓ Label all hazardous materials and hazardous wastes (such as pesticides, paints, thinners, solvents, fuel, oil, and antifreeze) in accordance with city, state, and federal regulations.
- ✓ Store hazardous materials and wastes in secondary containment and cover them during wet weather.
- ✓ Follow manufacturer's application instructions for hazardous materials and be careful not to use more than necessary. Do not apply chemicals outdoors when rain is forecast within 24 hours.
- ✓ Be sure to arrange for appropriate disposal of all hazardous wastes.

#### Spill prevention and control

- ✓ Keep a stockpile of spill cleanup materials (rags, absorbents, etc.) available at the construction site at all times.
- ✓ When spills or leaks occur, contain them immediately and be particularly careful to prevent leaks and spills from reaching the gutter, street, or storm drain. Never wash spilled material into a gutter, street, storm drain, or creek!
- ✓ Report any hazardous materials spills immediately! Dial 911 or your local emergency response number.

### Vehicle and equipment maintenance & cleaning

- ✓ Inspect vehicles and equipment for leaks frequently. Use drip pans to catch leaks until repairs are made; repair leaks promptly.
- ✓ Fuel and maintain vehicles on site only in a bermed area or over a drip pan that is big enough to prevent runoff.
- ✓ If you must clean vehicles or equipment on site, clean with water only in a bermed area that will not allow rinsewater to run into gutters, streets, storm drains, or creeks.
- ✓ Do not clean vehicles or equipment on-site using soaps, solvents, degreasers, steam cleaning equipment, etc.



### Dewatering operations

- ✓ Reuse water for dust control, irrigation, or another on-site purpose to the greatest extent possible.
- ✓ Be sure to call your city's storm drain inspector before discharging water to a street, gutter, or storm drain. Filtration or diversion through a basin, tank, or sediment trap may be required.
- ✓ In areas of known contamination, testing is required prior to reuse or discharge of groundwater. Consult with the city inspector to determine what testing to do and to interpret results. Contaminated groundwater must be treated or hauled off-site for proper disposal.



### Concrete, grout, and mortar storage & waste disposal

- ✓ Be sure to store concrete, grout, and mortar under cover and away from drainage areas. These materials must never reach a storm drain.
- ✓ Wash out concrete equipment/trucks off-site or designate an on-site area for washing where water will flow onto dirt or into a temporary pit in a dirt area. Let the water seep into the soil and dispose of hardened concrete with trash.

- ✓ Divert water from washing exposed aggregate concrete to a dirt area where it will not run into a gutter, street, or storm drain.
- ✓ If a suitable dirt area is not available, collect the wash water and remove it for appropriate disposal off site.



### Earthwork & contaminated soils

- ✓ Keep excavated soil on the site where it is least likely to collect in the street. Transfer to dump trucks should take place on the site, not in the street.
- ✓ Use hay bales, silt fences, or other control measures to minimize the flow of silt off the site.



- ✓ Avoid scheduling earth moving activities during the rainy season if possible. If grading activities during wet weather are allowed in your permit, be sure to implement all control measures necessary to prevent erosion.
- ✓ Mature vegetation is the best form of erosion control. Minimize disturbance to existing vegetation whenever possible.
- ✓ If you disturb a slope during construction, prevent erosion by securing the soil with erosion control fabric, or seed with fast-growing grasses as soon as possible. Place hay bales down-slope until soil is secure.

- ✓ If you suspect contamination (from site history, discoloration, odor, texture, abandoned underground tanks or pipes, or buried debris), call your local fire department for help in determining what testing should be done.
- ✓ Manage disposal of contaminated soil according to Fire Department instructions.

### Saw cutting

- ✓ Always completely cover or barricade storm drain inlets when saw cutting. Use filter fabric, hay bales, sand bags, or fine gravel dams to keep slurry out of the storm drain system.
- ✓ Shovel, absorb, or vacuum saw-cut slurry and pick up all waste as soon as you are finished in one location or at the end of each work day (whichever is sooner!).
- ✓ If saw cut slurry enters a catch basin, clean it up immediately.

### Paving/asphalt work

- ✓ Do not pave during wet weather or when rain is forecast.
- ✓ Always cover storm drain inlets and man-holes when paving or applying seal coat, tack coat, slurry seal, or fog seal.
- ✓ Place drip pans or absorbent material under paving equipment when not in use.
- ✓ Protect gutters, ditches, and drainage courses with hay bales, sand bags, or earthen berms.
- ✓ Do not sweep or wash down excess sand from sand sealing into gutters, storm drains, or creeks. Collect sand and return it to the stockpile, or dispose of it as trash.
- ✓ Do not use water to wash down fresh asphalt concrete pavement.



### Painting

- ✓ Never rinse paint brushes or materials in a gutter or street!
- ✓ Paint out excess water-based paint before rinsing brushes, rollers, or containers in a sink. If you can't use a sink, direct wash water to a dirt area and spade it in.
- ✓ Paint out excess oil-based paint before cleaning brushes in thinner.
- ✓ Filter paint thinners and solvents for reuse whenever possible. Dispose of oil-based paint sludge and unusable thinner as hazardous waste.



Storm drain polluters may be liable for fines of up to \$10,000 per day!