

PREVENTING POLLUTION FROM HOME AND GARDEN CARE ACTIVITIES

Did you know the water that runs off your property and from the streets runs directly to the ocean without treatment? Anything that runs down the gutter will eventually end up on our beaches and in our coastal waters. That's why we have to keep pollutants out of the storm drain system.

Many hazardous materials are used in and around our homes during routine maintenance and garden activities (such as: paints, cleaners, solvents, pesticides, fertilizers, bleach, and other products).

Improper or excessive use of these products can increase the potential for pollutants to discharge to the storm drain system via runoff. Gardening may also contribute to storm water pollution via green waste, soil erosion and fertilizer and pesticide use.

Excessive irrigation is often the most significant factor in home and garden care activities contributing to storm water pollution.



Additional Resources:

Environmental Protection Agency
(Stormwater Sources and Solutions):
tinyurl.com/57h7ak6w

Environmental Protection Agency
(NPDES Stormwater Program):
tinyurl.com/5cw42x79

Produced by the City of Fullerton's
Public Works Department



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"THE OCEAN STARTS AT YOUR FRONT
DOOR"



WHAT YOU CAN DO

The following suggestions were developed to give you some ideas on steps you can take in and around your home. They're common-sense things that don't take a lot of time or cost a lot of money but can do a lot to prevent water pollution.

- Household hazardous materials must be stored indoors or under cover, and in closed and labeled containers.
- Never wash cleaning or painting equipment near the street, gutter and storm drain.
- If safe, contain, clean up, and properly dispose all household hazardous waste spills. Never wash out spills down the driveway or walkways.
- Purchase hazardous products as needed and only in amounts required.
- Do not hose off patios, walkways and driveways, sweep with a broom instead.
- Minimize the use of pesticide and fertilizers. Do not apply chemicals if it is windy or about to rain.

Never dispose of hazardous materials in trash or sanitary sewer. Dispose of materials at the proper hazardous waste center. For a facility near you, call the Orange County Hazardous Waste Collection Center at (714) 834-6752.

Do not over water. Irrigation systems must be properly adjusted to reflect seasonal water needs.

- Periodically, inspect and fix leaks and misdirected sprinklers.
- Composting landscaping waste is always an option.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Preventing dangerous runoff from routine home maintenance and gardening is simple. Just doing the things listed below will help protect the environment

