

# Where to Call

Obtaining an Industrial Waste Permit

Los Angeles County  
Environmental Programs Division  
Industrial Waste  
(626) 458-3517

For  
Recycling & Hazardous Waste Disposal,  
Spill Response Agencies &  
Report Illegal Dumping  
Call:

City of Compton  
Dept. of Public Works  
(310)605-5505



# For More Information

California Environmental Protection Agency  
[www.calepa.ca.gov](http://www.calepa.ca.gov)

Air Resource Board  
[www.arb.ca.gov](http://www.arb.ca.gov)

Dept. of Pesticide Regulation  
[www.cdpr.ca.gov](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov)

Dept. of Toxic Substances Control  
[www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov)

Integrated Waste Management Board  
[www.ciwmb.ca.gov](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov)

Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment  
[www.oehha.ca.gov](http://www.oehha.ca.gov)

State Water Resources Control Board  
[www.waterboards.ca.gov](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov)

For more information about pollution protection  
or additional brochures  
**PLEASE CALL:**

City of Compton  
(310)605-5505



# The Ocean Begins at Your Front Door



# *Even if you live miles from the Pacific Ocean, you may be unknowingly polluting it.*

## *Did You Know ?*

- Most people believe that the largest source of water pollution in urban areas comes from specific sources such as factories and sewage treatment plants. In fact, the largest source of water pollution comes from city streets, neighborhoods, construction sites, and parking lots. This type of pollution is sometimes called “non-point source” pollution.
- There are two types of non-point source pollution: stormwater and urban runoff pollution.
- Stormwater runoff refers to runoff resulting from rainfall. It is very noticeable during heavy rainstorms when large volumes of water drain off the urban landscape picking up pollutants along the way.
- Urban runoff can happen anytime of the year when excessive water use from irrigation, vehicle washing and other sources carries trash, lawn clippings and other urban pollutants into storm drains.

## *Where Does It Go ?*

- Anything we use outside homes, vehicles and businesses-like motor oil, paint, pesticides, fertilizers, and cleaners-can be blown or washed into the storm drains.
- A little water from a garden hose or rain can also send materials into the storm drains.
- Storm drains are separate from our sanitary sewer systems; unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks or toilets) water in the storm drains is not treated before entering our waterways.

## *Sources of Non-Point Source Pollution*

- Automotive leaks and spills.
- Improper disposal of used oil and other engine fluids.
- Metals found in vehicle exhaust, weathered paint, rust, metal plating, and tires.
- Pesticides and fertilizers from lawns, gardens and farms.
- Improper disposal of cleaners, paint and paint removers.
- Soil erosion and dust debris from landscape and construction activities.
- Litter lawn clippings, animal waste and other organic matter.
- Oil stains on parking lots and paved surfaces.

## *The Effect on the Ocean*

Non-point source pollution can have a serious impact on water quality in Los Angeles County. Pollutants from the storm drain system can harm marine life as well as coastal and wetland habitats. They can also degrade recreation areas such as beaches, harbors and bays.

Stormwater quality management programs have been developed by the L.A. County Stormwater Program under National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. The program educates and encourages the public to protect water quality, monitor runoff in the storm drain system, manage NPDES permit process for municipalities, investigate illegal disposals, and maintain storm drains.

The support of L.A. County residents, businesses and industries is needed to improve water quality and reduce the threat of stormwater and urban runoff pollution. Proper use and disposal of materials we use everyday will help stop this form of pollution before it reaches the storm drain and the ocean.



# *Dumping one quart of motor oil into a storm drain can contaminate 250,000 gallons of water.*