

Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), water in storm drains is **not treated or cleaned** before entering our waterways and should never contain any pollutants.

Waste & Storage Area Management



Parking Lots & Outdoor Areas

regularly sweep



drains untreated into ocean



This brochure will help you protect our water quality by using BMPs appropriate to your facility.

← Learn more inside

Who is H₂OC?

H₂OC is YOU! H₂OC is also a cooperative stormwater program which includes all 34 cities in Orange County, the County of Orange, and Orange County Flood Control District (OCFCD). Clean and healthy beaches, creeks, rivers, bays, wetlands, and ocean are important to Orange County. H₂OC provides resources to residents and businesses to encourage personal action and prevent polluted runoff from entering our waterways.

Join Us

Visit h2oc.org to learn more about runoff, water pollution, and how you can be the solution to runoff pollution and protect our water resources!

Contact

📞 **24-hour Pollution Reporting Hotline:**
1-877-89-SPILL (1-877-897-7455)

📱 **24-hour Reporting Website:**
myOCeServices.ocgov.com

For emergencies, dial 911

* Some industrial facilities are also required to obtain coverage under the State's Industrial General Permit (IGP). To determine if your facility requires a permit, contact the State Water Resources Control Board at waterboards.ca.gov
** For more information about recycling and collection centers, visit oclandfills.com.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
FOR BUSINESSES

WATER POLLUTION AND COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES

YOU ARE THE SOLUTION TO RUNOFF POLLUTION



How is Water Quality Affected By Your Business?

Commercial and industrial facilities can generate a variety of waste products which can become pollutants. These can include metals, plastics, toxic chemicals, oil, grease, and bacteria. If not properly managed, these pollutants can be transported to Orange County's creeks, rivers, and ocean through our storm drain system.

As a business owner or manager, you are responsible for overseeing the work of employees and outside contractors to prevent runoff pollution.

Landscape Maintenance



Building Maintenance



contain, collect, dispose



By law, commercial and industrial facilities are required to implement best management practices (BMPs) to prevent runoff pollution.*






Best Management Practices for Commercial & Industrial Sites




Implement these required best management practices (BMPs) to be in compliance and avoid enforcement actions:







Inspect

-  Periodically inspect irrigation systems for leaks, overspray, and runoff. Repair and maintain as needed.
-  Periodically check parking lots for discharges from leaking vehicles.
-  Ensure lids on dumpsters are properly closed when not in use and sweep and pick up all debris daily.





Locate

-  Locate and protect all area drains, yard drains, and catch basins where washwater could potentially enter the storm drain system.
-  When working outdoors, conduct operations away from storm drains and waterbodies.
-  Mix paint and clean tools in a contained area.

Contain

-  Never allow washwater, sweepings, or sediment to enter storm drains.
-  Store materials indoors or under cover and away from storm drains.
-  Control, contain, and clean up all spills immediately with absorbents, rags, or mops. Never hose a spill.
-  Follow the manufacturer's directions when applying fertilizers and pesticides. Never apply 48 hours before a forecasted rain event.

Collect

-  Properly collect all washwater generated during business maintenance activities for disposal.
-  Collect grass clippings, leaves, and other debris and dispose in covered containers.
-  Use drop cloths underneath outdoor painting, scraping, and sandblasting work.
-  Regularly sweep areas like corners and along curbs, where debris tends to accumulate, and dispose in covered containers.

Dispose

-  Contact your waste hauler for proper waste, hazardous waste, and green waste disposal options.
-  Contact your waste and recycling service to repair or replace leaking or damaged dumpsters.
-  Recycle and dispose of materials as outlined by your local jurisdiction.**

What Pollutants Are Generated By Commercial & Industrial Sites?



Landscape Maintenance

When performing landscape maintenance, pollutants generated can include organic debris, trash, dirt, fertilizers, and pesticides.



Building Maintenance

When performing building maintenance, various types of pollutants can be generated including washwater, paint or paint chips, bacteria, and other toxic materials.



Parking Lots & Outdoor Areas

Pollutants in parking lots, patios, and outdoor areas can include trash, oil, grease, landscape debris, and bacteria.



Waste & Storage Area Management

Pollutants in waste and storage areas can include trash, oil, grease, bacteria, dirt, and other toxic materials.