

Protect our Bay and Ocean



Did you know that ...

Every time you wash down storage areas, wash kitchen mats in an alley or sidewalk, or dump mop water outside—food particles, grease, cigarette butts, cleaners and other wastes flow into storm drains and end in our local creeks, Morro Bay and our Ocean. These wastes contaminate our local waterways and are hazardous to humans, fish and other wildlife.

**Remember You are
The Solution to
Stormwater Pollution!**



DON'TS:

Don't
Wash floor mats, hood filters, and other equipment outdoors.



Don't:
Hose down trash/recycle bins, grease storage or parking areas unless storm drains are blocked and water is vacuumed or pumped to the sanitary sewer.

Don't:
Dump grease into trash bins or sinks. Disposing of grease into sanitary sewers is prohibited because it clogs sewer lines. Never pour grease into gutters or storm drains.



Don't:
Power wash roof exhaust equipment, building exteriors, or other outside areas unless the storm drains are blocked and wash water is vacuumed or pumped to the sanitary sewer.



DOs:

Do!
Wash mats indoors near a kitchen floor drain connected to a sanitary sewer or in the mop sink.



Do!
Use dry clean methods such as sweeping or vacuuming to keep waste storage areas, parking lots, and other outside areas clean. Use a kitty litter type absorbent on grease and oil spots and to clean up



Do!
Collect grease in containers and contact a licensed recycling company to haul them away. The grease will be recycled into useful products like soaps, animal feed, or biodiesel fuel.



Do!
Contract with a mobile cleaning company who agrees to collect all wash water for proper disposal. Sidewalks may be rinsed sparingly using water only if trash and debris are first swept up and grease is removed.



Water that runs off sidewalks, alleys, and street gutters flows into storm drains. Anything entering storm drains flows directly to Morro Bay and the Ocean. Unlike sanitary sewers (sinks, toilets etc.) which flow to a wastewater treatment plant, storm drains flow directly to local water ways without treatment of any kind!