

## Preventing Pollution in Our Creeks and Bay is Everyone's Responsibility

In the San Francisco Bay Area, storm drains transport water directly to local creeks and the Bay without treatment. Stormwater 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 vehicle and heavy equipment; construction debris; sediment created by erosion; 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. **Small, individual spills may seem insignificant, but remember the cumulative affect of many *is* significant.**



### *Fresh Concrete and Mortar are Considered Pollutants in Stormdrains, Creeks and the Bay*

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 into storm drains or creeks can block storm drains, kill fish and other aquatic organisms, and is prohibited by law!

## How to Prevent a Fresh Concrete/Mortar Pollution Discharge

### ***General Practices***

- Wash concrete mixers only into designated washout areas in your yard, away from storm drains and waterways, allowing water to flow into a temporary waste pit on a dirt area. Dispose of or recycle hardened concrete.
- Do not use diesel fuel as a lubricant on concrete forms, tools, or trailers.
- Secure bags of cement after they are open. Be sure to keep wind-blown cement powder away from streets, gutters, storm drains, rainfall, and runoff.
- Always store both dry and wet materials under cover, protected from rainfall and runoff and away from storm drains or waterways. Protect dry materials from wind.

### ***During Construction***

- Do not mix more fresh concrete or mortar than you will use in a two-hour period.
- Use tarps or heavy plastic under mixers.
- Protect fresh applications from rainfall and runoff until material has dried.
- Be sure to pick-up and sweep-up all pieces of old concrete or pavement and dispose of or recycle.
- Never bury materials, old concrete or pavement.
- When cleaning-up, sweep or wash fines onto a dirt area not into the street, gutter or storm drain.
- *Never* dispose or washout into the street, gutter, storm drain, drainage ditches, or streams.
- Wash out chutes onto dirt areas so that nothing flows into the street, gutter or storm drain.
- Block nearby storm drains with temporary sandbags as a precaution.

### ***During Construction (continued)***

It is best to sweep-up excess materials and dust, but if washing is unavoidable (either by man-made or natural means), use one or all of the following precautions:

1. Wash onto a dirt area and/or dirt pit.
2. Drain onto a bermed surface from which it can be pumped and disposed of properly.
3. Drain into a catchment constructed of sandbags (or the like) and vacuum the slurry from the catchment.
4. Make sure **all** runoff **does not** reach gutters or storm drains. Temporarily block with sandbags if necessary.
5. Divert all type of runoff (natural and otherwise) away from your work area with temporary berms (sandbags work well).

*Thank you for your cooperation and help in keeping our creeks and Bay clean and healthy for everyone. For further information and/or questions, contact your local Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program Coordinators.*

<b>Town of San Anselmo:</b>	(415) 258-4616
<b>City of Belvedere:</b>	(415) 435-3838
<b>Town of Fairfax:</b>	(415) 453-0291
<b>City of Sausalito:</b>	(415) 289-4111
<b>Town of Corte Madera:</b>	(415) 927-5069
<b>Town of Ross:</b>	(415) 453-8287
<b>City of Novato:</b>	(415) 899-8246
<b>City of San Rafael:</b>	(415) 485-3435
<b>Town of Tiburon:</b>	(415) 435-7354
<b>City of Mill Valley:</b>	(415) 388-4033
<b>Marin County:</b>	(415) 499-3748

To report stormwater pollution violations, contact your local Coordinator or any of the following:

**Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program (MCSTOPPP)**

P.O. Box 4186  
San Rafael, CA 94913  
(415) 499-6528

**California Department of Fish & Game**  
(888) 334-2258

**California Regional Water Quality Control Board**

San Francisco Bay Region  
(510) 622-2300

*Contact your local Fire or Police if there is a hazardous spill or emergency to report.*

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For information on more pervious construction materials (to reduce stormwater runoff volume) contact:

**MCSTOPPP**

(415) 499-6528  
www.mcstoppp.org  
or

**Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA)**

1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400  
Oakland, CA 94612  
(510) 622-2326 or 1-888-BAYWISE

Place  
Stamp  
Here



**MCSTOPPP  
P.O. Box 4186  
San Rafael, CA**

# Fresh Concrete & Mortar

## Application

And How to Prevent Creek/Storm Drain Pollution



### Who Should Use This Brochure?

- Masons and bricklayers
- Sidewalk construction crews
- Patio construction workers
- Construction inspectors
- General contractors
- Home builders
- Developers
- Concrete delivery & pumping workers/truck operators