

## **OUTDOOR STORAGE OF DRY MATERIALS**

**P**ollutants discharged to Pinole Creek and San Francisco Bay during storms or through illegal dumping contribute significantly to water pollution, and harm aquatic life. In response to recent Federal and State regulations and requirements, municipalities in Contra Costa County have joined to form the Contra Costa County Clean Water Program (CCCCWP).

**T**he goal of the CCCCWP is to control discharges of pollutants to municipal stormdrain systems (and Pinole Creek and the S.F. Bay) using Best Management Practices (BMPs) and effectively eliminate illegal discharges and connections. BMPs are methods and practices such as good housekeeping, spill prevention, or treatment measures to prevent or minimize pollutant discharges to municipal stormdrain systems. Illegal discharges of illicit connections discharge non-storm water to municipal storm drain systems which contribute to water pollution.

**I**n addition to reviewing their own practices, municipalities in Contra Costa County have launched a public education campaign and inspection program. Inspectors work with businesses to identify and control potential discharge of pollutants to the storm drain system.

**S**tormwater runoff from outdoor materials storage areas contribute to urban runoff pollution. Sediment, metals, landscape waste, grease, automotive fluids, and concrete products are some of the pollutants that get into the storm drain system. Stockpiles of galvanized metal products are concentrated sources of pollutants. Urban runoff is rain and any other water that passes through and out of developed areas (streets, parking lots, rooftops, etc.) into the storm drain system and eventually to Pinole Creek and other waterways.

**A**ll businesses can apply Best Management Practices to their daily activities to significantly reduce their contribution to storm water pollution. BMPs related to outdoor storage of dry materials are identified on the reverse side of this page.

**I**f you have any questions concerning stormwater pollution, contact your program representatives at the **City of Pinole, Nancy Voisey 724-9037 or Bill Mattick 741-2065.**

# Best Management Practices for Outdoor Storage of Dry materials

- Keep rainfall from directly contacting dry materials stored outdoors. You can do this by doing any of the following:
  1. Move storage indoors
  2. Cover the outdoor areas with a roof
  3. Move materials into a shed or
  4. Cover the outdoor areas with plastic sheeting or a tarp and secure with weighted tires or sandbags.
- Store dry materials on a mounded area, on a pallet, or in a bermed area to keep rain from running onto or through the storage area.
- Sweep the area frequently; dispose of debris in the garbage.
- Keep dumpster areas free of litter and keep lids closed.
- Do not use the area for washing; wash water from cleaning operations must be discharged to the sanitary sewer.
- Stencil storm drain inlets with “No Dumping, Drains to Pinole Creek and Bay” message.

Please note that hazardous materials must be stored in accordance with federal, state, and local requirements. Check with your local building, zoning and fire departments concerning indoor storage requirement.