

## Spill Control

- Be prepared for spills
- Clean up spills using absorbent materials and then dispose of all waste properly.

## Disposal of Chemical Containers

- Chemical containers that still have product in them cannot go into your regular trash. They are hazardous waste and must be disposed of properly.
- Empty Chemical containers must be rinsed prior to disposal. The rinse water should be used in your pool, spa, fountain just the same as the original chemical. It cannot go down the drain.
- Look for the words “non-toxic”, “non-petroleum based”, “free of ammonia, phosphates, dye or perfume” or “readily biodegradable” on the labels.
- Use water based cleaning products whenever possible.

### Recycling & Hazardous Waste Disposal

City of Modesto  
Solid Waste Management  
(209) 577-5494

Stanislaus County  
Household Hazardous Waste Facility  
(209) 525-4123



### To Report a Clogged Storm Drain, Spill or Illegal Dumping

City of Modesto  
Public Works Department  
(209) 577-6200

*This is one in a series of pamphlets describing storm drain protection measures.  
Other pamphlets include:*

Automotive Maintenance & Car Care

Equipment Rentals

Food Service Industry

Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application

General Construction & Site Supervision

Heavy Equipment & Earthmoving Activities

Home Repair & Remodeling

Horse Owners & Equine Industry

Kennels

Landscaping, Gardening, Pest Control

Mobile Washers and Cleaners

Nurseries

Painting

Roadwork and Paving

Swimming Pool, Jacuzzi & Fountain Maintenance



For more information about storm drain protection or additional pamphlets, call:

[www.modestogov.com](http://www.modestogov.com)  
City of Modesto  
Public Works Department  
Environmental Compliance Section  
(209) 577-6377

## Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs)



## Food Service Industries

Safe Environmental Habits and Procedures for:

Restaurants

Food Producers and Distributors

Cafeterias

Grocery Stores

Bakeries

Delicatessens



Environmental Compliance Section  
Public Works Department

## Water Pollution Prevention It's Up to Us!



Storm drains are intended for rain water to drain rain water away from our streets and to prevent flooding.

Modesto has two drainage systems, the sewers and the storm drains. Because the storm drain system contains no filters, it now serves the *unintended purpose* of carrying urban pollution straight to our rivers and eventually the ocean.

This pamphlet tells you how to prevent pollution from urban runoff. Rain along with water from households (such as watering your landscaping), mixes with urban pollutants that include oil, paint, pet wastes, pesticides, litter and other automotive fluids to become polluted Urban runoff.

Urban runoff pollution flows to our rivers through the storm drain system – 77 miles of storm lines and over 10,000 rockwells – that take water and debris straight from Modesto streets to our rivers and waterways.

Urban runoff pollution contaminates our rivers, harms aquatic life and increases the risk of flooding by clogging gutters and catch basins.

Remember: **ONLY RAIN DOWN THE DRAIN**



## Food Service Industries Best Management Practices (BMP's)

### Potential Pollutant Sources

The by-products of food related businesses can cause harm to our waterways, if they are allowed to enter the municipal storm drain system.

- Oil, grease and fats from the outdoor washing of kitchen equipment should never enter the storm drain system. These pollutants can clog fish gills and prevent oxygen from entering the water of our creeks and rivers.
- Toxins found in oven, floor and kitchen cleaners can harm aquatic life and impair drinking water sources.
- Food and chemical spills from leaky dumpsters or parking lot surfaces can be carried to storm drains by rain or outdoor cleaning activities.

### Practice Good Housekeeping

- Outdoor cleaning of floor mats, filters, garbage cans and greasy kitchen equipment should always be done in a designated, bermed area that drains to the sanitary sewer. Never allow wash water to flow over the parking lot into storm drains.
- Empty mop wash water into a janitorial or mop sink. Never pour it out onto the parking lot or into gutters and storm drains.
- Use dry methods (sweeping, rags, kitty litter, etc.) whenever possible for outdoor spill cleanup. Don't hose down spills. If wet cleaning (including high temperature and high pressure washing) is required, dry clean the area first, then mop and collect the wash water. Dispose of wash water in a sink or other indoor drain.
- Sweep outdoor dining areas and parking lots regularly. Pick up and dispose of litter before it ends up in gutters and storm drains. Provide plenty of trash containers around your facility for litter control.

- Inspect storm drain inlets and catch basins within your facility boundary before October 1 each year and clean if necessary.

### Outdoor Waste Receptacle Area

Implement the following actions to minimize potential for waste pollution:

- Bag and seal all food waste before putting it into the dumpster. Do not place uncontained liquids or leaking trash bags into the dumpster.
- Keep dumpster lids closed. This will prevent rainwater from entering and trash from blowing out. Post signs in the waste receptacle area to remind employees of this policy.
- Do not hose out dumpsters. Instead, apply absorbent material, such as kitty litter, over any spilled fluids. Absorbent will usually be knocked out when dumpster is emptied. If washing is required, dispose of wash water in the sanitary sewer.
- If the dumpster regularly overflows, get a larger one or arrange for more frequent trash collection.
- Inspect dumpster routinely for leaks. Call vendor for replacement as necessary.

### Recycle

- Utilize local recycling facilities to dispose of the following items:
  - Paper and cardboard
  - Oil and grease (look in yellow pages under "rendering" or "tallow")
  - Glass, aluminum, plastic and metal containers

For recycling information call:  
City of Modesto  
Solid Waste Management  
(209) 577-5494