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## RECYCLING AND HAZARDOUS WASTE INFORMATION

Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Works,  
Recycling & Household Hazardous Waste  
1-888-CleanLA (1-888-253-2652)

Department of Toxic Substances Control  
Duty Officer (818) 551-2830

Palos Verdes Recycling Center  
26301 S. Crenshaw Blvd.

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## TO REPORT ILLEGAL DUMPING OR SPILLS

Rolling Hills Estates Dept. of Public Works  
(310) 377-1577

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## HAZARDOUS MATERIAL SPILLS

Los Angeles County Fire/Haz Mat  
911

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## FOR SEWER OVERFLOWS

Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Works  
1-800-675-4357 or (626) 458-4357

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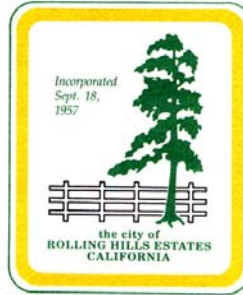
## TO REPORT A CLOGGED CATCH BASIN

Rolling Hills Estates Public Works Dept.  
(310) 377-1577

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For more information about storm drain protection check out the City's website and links or [www.rhe.org](http://www.rhe.org) (Public Works page), call the:

**CITY OF ROLLING HILLS ESTATES**  
**(310) 377-1577**



Printed on recycled paper.

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*The City of Rolling Hills Estates gratefully acknowledges the City of Los Angeles for brochure concept and design.*

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## Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs)



## Landscaping, Gardening, and Pest Control

Homeowners

Gardeners

Landscapers

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## PROBLEMS

### Ocean Pollution Prevention

#### *It's Up To Us*

The City of Rolling Hills Estates has two drainage systems - the sewers and the storm drains. The storm drain system was designed to prevent flooding by carrying excess rain-water away from city streets out to the ocean.

Rain water and irrigation mixed with pollutants create stormwater pollution known as urban runoff. Urban runoff pollution flows to the ocean through the storm drain system.

Urban runoff pollution contaminates the ocean, closes beaches, harms aquatic life, and increase the risk of inland flooding by clogging gutters and catch basins. Overall, stormwater pollution costs Los Angeles more than \$26 million per year.

Landscaping and garden maintenance activities can be major contributors to ocean pollution.

Poorly functioning sprinklers and over watering are wasteful and increase pollutants flowing into storm drains during dry weather.

Fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides are washed off lawns and landscaped areas. These chemicals not only kill garden invaders, they also harm useful insects, poison fish, and contaminate streams and ocean water.



Leaves, grass clippings, and tree trimmings that are swept or blown into the street and gutters are also ocean pollutants. These wastes clog catch basins, increasing the risk of flooding on your street, while they carry garden chemicals into the ocean. As they decompose, they use up absorbed oxygen that fish need to survive.

## SOLUTIONS

### Landscape Installation

- Schedule grading and excavation projects for dry weather.
- Protect stockpiles and materials from wind and rain by storing them under tarps or secured plastic sheeting.
- Use temporary check dams or ditches to divert water away from storm drains.
- Prevent erosion by mulching or planting fast-growing annual and perennial grasses. These will shield and bind the soil.
- Utilize native plants that require less water, fertilizer and pesticides to thrive.

### Garden and Lawn Maintenance

- Do not over water. Conserve water by using drip irrigation soaker hoses, or micro-spray systems, and mulch planting beds to retain moisture.
- Leave clippings and pruning waste for pickup in approved containers.
- Do not blow or rake leaves into the street, gutter, or storm drains.
- Use organic or non-toxic fertilizers.
- Do not over fertilize and do not fertilize near ditches, streams, or other water bodies.



### Pesticide Alternatives

The "Chemicals-only" approach to pest control is only a temporary fix. A more common-sense approach is needed for a long-term solution. It's called *Integrated Pest Management* (IPM). Try to use physical and natural controls before chemical means.

### A) Physical Controls

- Caulking holes
- Barriers
- Traps
- Hand picking



### B) Insect Controls

- Predatory insects (e.g. Green lacewings eat aphids)
- Bacterial insecticides (e.g. Bacillus thuringiensis kills caterpillars)

### C) Chemical Controls-You Last Resort

**Use these least-toxic products:**

- Dehydrating dusts (e.g. silica gel)
- Insecticidal soaps
- Boric acid power
- Horticultural oils
- Pyrethrin-based insecticides

### If You Must Use Pesticides

**Use a pesticide that is specifically designed to control your pest.** The insect should be listed on the label. Approximately 90% of the insects on your lawn and garden are not harmful.

- **Read labels!** Use only as directed. In their zeal to control the problem, many gardeners use pesticides at over 20 times the rate farmers do.

### Pesticide Disposal

- Household toxics - such as pesticides, cleansers, and motor oil, can pollute the ocean and poison groundwater if disposed of in storm drains or gutters.
- Rinse empty pesticide containers and use rinse water as you would the product. Empty containers may be recycled depending on their type or may be thrown in the trash.
- Los Angeles County residents can dispose of unused household toxics at Hazardous Waste Round Ups call 1-888-CleanLA or log on to [www.888CleanLA.com](http://www.888CleanLA.com).

