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Stormwater Best Management Practices

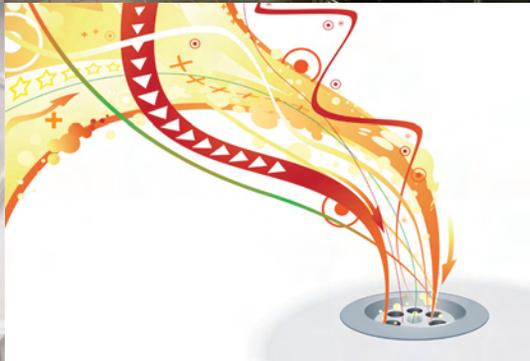


*Restaurants and
Food Service Facilities*

Good Practices for Food Establishments

Restaurant activities can harm the environment if they are not careful with disposal and cleanup procedures. With proper training and education, restaurant personnel can prevent debris from entering storm drains, thus helping to improve the water quality in neighboring waterways.

This brochure will explain steps your food establishment can take to help protect water quality by keeping debris out of the storm drain and by preventing fats, oil, and grease from blocking the sanitary sewer lines.



Storm Drains and Sanitary Sewers

Storm drains are found in parking lots and in streets. Storm drains are engineered to gather and transport stormwater to our local waterways. Storm drain systems do not remove any pollutants from stormwater before it is discharged into streams and bayous. Only unpolluted water may be discharged to a storm drain!



Sanitary Sewers collect wastewater from indoor (toilets, sinks, dishwashing machines, and floor drains) and transports it to a sewage treatment plant for removal of pollutants.



"Only unpolluted water may be discharged to a storm drain!"



Fats, Oil, and Grease (FOG)

Regular maintenance and service of your sewer lines and grease trap interceptor will help prevent sewer overflows to the storm drain system.

- Do not pour FOG into floor drains, sinks, or into parking lot inlets.
- Maintain grease traps!
- Recycle grease and oil.
- Use drying agents (kitty litter or towels to clean up spills).

Proper Cleaning

- Always empty washwater and mop buckets into the mop sink.
- Clean floor mats and garbage cans in a mop sink.
- Regularly inspect for and clean trash from the outside of the restaurant.



Garbage Dumpsters

- Always use garbage bags or trash cans.
- Do not rinse out dumpster! Request that your waste hauler exchange the dirty dumpster for a clean one.
- Keep dumpster lids closed and secure.
- Ensure dumpster drain plug is securely in place.
- Keep the area around the dumpster clean.
- Avoid placing of liquids and FOG in the dumpster.
- Do not overfill the dumpster.

