

TO CONNECT TO THE STORM

It is illegal to connect to the storm drain without a permit. To obtain a storm drain connection permit, contact the City of Lawndale Department of Public Works at (310) 973-3260 Mon-Thurs 7am-6pm .

TO CONNECT TO THE SEWER

Los Angeles County Sanitation District
(562) 699-7411 Ext. 2727

RECYCLING AND HAZARDOUS WASTE INFORMATION

Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Works,
Recycling & Household Hazardous Waste Disposal
1-888-CleanLA (1-888-253-2652) or log on to
www.888CleanLA.com

For more information on storage/disposal of hazardous waste call:
Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)
Duty Officer (818) 551-2830 or log on to
www.dtsc.ca.gov

TO REPORT ILLEGAL DUMPING

Public Works Dept. Hours Mon-Thurs 7am-6pm (310) 973-3260	Non-Business Lawndale Sheriff (310) 219-2750
--	--

To report illegal discharges or dumping to the storm drain system anywhere in Los Angeles County at any time, call: 1-888-CleanLA (1-888-253-2652)

TO REPORT A CLOGGED STORM DRAIN OR INLET

Public Works Dept. Hours Mon-Thurs 7am-6pm (310) 973-3260	Non-Business Lawndale Sheriff (310) 219-2750
--	--

To report a clogged storm drain inlet or catch basin anywhere in Los Angeles County at anytime, call:
Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Works
1-800-675-HELP or (626) 458-4357

This brochure is one of a series of brochures describing storm drain protection measures.

Other brochures include:

**AUTOMOTIVE MAINTENANCE &
CAR CARE
FOOD SERVICE INDUSTRY
PAINTING**

For more information about storm drain protection or additional brochures, call the



**CITY OF LAWDALE
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
(310) 973-3260**

www.888CleanLA.com



Printed on recycled paper.

Storm Water Pollution Prevention

Landscaping, Gardening, and Pest Control



Best Management Practices (BMPs)

for

Homeowners

Gardeners

Landscapers

PROBLEMS

Storm Water Pollution - *It's Up To Us*

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

During storms in urban areas, rainwater may mix with pollutants in industrial and household runoff, creating storm water pollution.

Pollution in storm water and urban runoff contaminates streams, rivers and the ocean. Storm water pollution closes beaches, harms aquatic life, and increases the risk of inland flooding by clogging gutters and catch basins. Overall, storm water pollution costs the Los Angeles area economy more than \$26 million per year.

Landscaping and garden maintenance activities can be major sources of storm water pollution including pollutants that are of primary concern. These pollutants include nutrients (from fertilizers) and bacteria (from fertilizers and household pets).

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 it decomposes, this "green waste" uses up oxygen in water that fish and other aquatic life 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 runoff away from storm drains.
- Prevent erosion by mulching or planting fast-growing annual and perennial grasses. These will shield and bind the soil.
- Use native or drought tolerant plants.



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 all landscaping waste in approved green waste containers for pick-up and composting.
- Do not blow or rake leaves into the street, parkways, gutter, or storm drains.
- Use organic or non-toxic fertilizers.
- Do not over fertilize and do not fertilize near storm drain inlets, or near paved areas that may carry runoff to storm drain inlets.

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).

Plan your IPM strategy in this order:

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-Your 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-Clean-LA or log on to www.888CleanLA.com for more information.

