Would you pour dirty water in a creek?

- Storm drains in streets and parking lots connect to creeks without any water treatment.
- It is illegal to allow any substance other than rain water to go down the storm drain.
- For questions on hazardous materials disposal: (408) 299-7300 or www.hhw.org

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, City of San José Environmental Services Department materials can be made available upon request in alternative formats, such as Braille, large print, audio-tape or computer disk. Requests may be made by calling (408) 535-8500 (Voice) or (800) 735-2929 (CRS).

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...can get washed straight into the creek.

Here’s what you can do to prevent this...

Only rain down the drain.
The storm drain system is only for collecting rain water. All other sources of water and pollutants are prohibited.

No dumping.
- Do not pour grease, food waste, wash water, or anything else down the storm drain.
- Any spills must be cleaned up and disposed of immediately.
- A spill kit should be handy for such emergencies.

Hold all wash water on board.
- All wash water used for cleaning must be held on board until it can be properly discharged at your facility’s sanitary sewer connection (e.g.: sink, clean-out, mop sink).
- You must also properly dispose of melted ice water and cooling equipment discharge.

For more information
- If you have questions about preventing storm drain pollution, call (408) 945-3000.

You can be fined.
There are laws against illegally discharging to the storm drain. The first offence can be fined up to $500. It doesn’t pay to dump!

No trash in the storm drain.
- Trash is a pollutant, when it enters the storm drain.
- Remember, some trash can be recycled.
- Other items, such as floor cleaners, pesticides, and solvents are toxic. These should not be mixed in with trash, but disposed of as hazardous waste.
- No liquid wastes (water or oil) in the trash. Make the wet waste “dry” by mixing with kitty litter.
- Check around your operation and clean up any trash before leaving the area.

Spill kit should include:
- Plastic bags, labels
- Broom
- Absorbent like “kitty litter”

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