



## Guidelines for Home Repairs and Remodeling

This information describes construction site and storm drain protection measures for specific types of construction industry activities related to your home and owner builder project. These guidelines will allow you to help in keeping our waterways clean and free of pollutants. If you have any questions regarding the specific protection measures required during construction of your project; please call us for more information.

### General Construction

- Keep all construction debris away from the street, gutter, and storm drain.
- During cleanup, check the street and gutters for sediment, refuse, or debris. Look around the corner or downstream for material that may have already traveled away from your property. Clean and dispose of the material properly.
- Be sure to securely cover any dumpsters or stockpiles at your site with a lid or tarp when they are not in use.
- Place portable toilets away from storm drains. Make sure toilets are in working order. Check frequently for and repair any leaks.

Clean up all spills when they happen. Do not flush spills into storm drains. If construction materials or other wastes get into a gutter, storm drain, or creek, call your local spill response agency which is the City of Lincoln Public Services Department at: (916) 434-2450 or 911 if it is an emergency situation

### Landscaping/Foundation Work

Intensive gardening, landscaping, and all excavation projects such as foundation repair or pool construction expose soils and increase the likelihood that garden chemicals and earth will wash into the storm drains. Be careful to control erosion and minimize runoff to all driveways, gutters, and storm drains.

- Schedule grading and excavation projects for dry weather.
- Cover excavated material and stockpiles of asphalt, sand, etc. with plastic tarps during the rainy season and dry times if directed by your inspector.
- Replant as soon as possible, with temporary vegetation such as annual grass seed as necessary. Vegetation provides excellent erosion control.

- Take care not to over-apply pesticides, and be sure to use up leftover supply. Rinse empty pesticide containers, and use rinse water as you would use the product. Dispose of empty rinsed containers in the trash.
- Dispose of unused pesticide as hazardous waste.
- Collect lawn and garden clippings, pruning waste, and tree trimmings.
- In areas with curbside pickup of yard waste place clippings and pruning waste in approved bags or containers.
- Do not blow or rake leaves, etc. into the street, or place yard waste in gutters or on dirt shoulders.**
- Plan your landscape project to drain properly and to allow for infiltration so less water runs off site.
- Consider planting native plants. They require less water and fewer pesticides and fertilizers.
- Plumb new pools or spas so they can be drained to the sanitary sewer system.

### **Concrete, Asphalt, Masonry, and Tile Work**

- Don't mix up more fresh concrete or cement than you need for each project.
- If rain is predicted, cover asphalt mixing equipment with tarps or a simple structure to avoid rain contact and runoff.
- Cover and protect bags of cement and plaster after they are open. Be sure to keep wind-blown cement powder away from gutters, storm drains, rainfall, and runoff.
- Wash down exposed aggregate concrete and equipment only when wash water can flow onto a dirt area, or be collected, pumped, and disposed of properly to a process water treatment system. Make sure runoff does not reach gutters or storm drains.
- Properly contain and collect any discarded concrete slurry.
- Never wash excess material from bricklaying or patio or driveway construction into a street or storm drain. Empty mixing container onto a dirt area, or allow material to dry and put in trash.
- Dispose of small amounts of excess dry concrete, grout, and mortar in the trash. Call the City of Lincoln refuse hauler for weight and size limits.
- Collect and reuse excess abrasive gravel and sand. Recycle broken concrete and asphalt.
- Never hose down driveways, sidewalks, or streets. Dry sweep or shovel and collect for proper disposal instead.

## Painting

All paints, solvents, and adhesives contain chemicals that are harmful to aquatic animals and other wildlife in our creeks, marshes, and Bay. Toxic chemicals may come from liquid or solid products or from cleaning residues on rags.

## Paint Removal

- Buildings constructed before 1978 may have lead paint. Test paint for lead by taking paint scrapings to a local laboratory. If lead is found, paint chips and dust must be disposed of as hazardous waste. Check with the wastewater treatment plant to determine whether you may discharge wash water to the sanitary sewer, or if you must send it off site for disposal as hazardous waste.
- Chemical **paint stripping** residues, including saturated rags, are a hazardous waste and should be taken to a household hazardous waste event.
- Chips and dust from **marine paints or paints containing lead, mercury or tributyl-tin** are hazardous wastes. Sweep up paint chips and properly store for household hazardous waste event.

## Paint Cleanup

- Never clean brushes or painting equipment (buckets, pans, hoses, etc.) in an area where paint or paint cleanup water can flow to a gutter, street, storm drain or stream.
- For **water-based paints**, (e.g. latex) paint out brushes on scrap material to the extent possible, and rinse into a drain that goes to the sanitary sewer.
- For **oil-based paints**, paint out brushes to the extent possible before soaking in paint thinner to clean. Filter and reuse thinner and solvents. Dispose of unwanted oil-based paint, used thinner, and paint residue at a hazardous waste collection event.
- When they are thoroughly dry, empty paint cans, spent brushes, rags, and drop cloths may be disposed of as trash. Leave the lids off paint cans so the refuse collector can see that they are empty.
- Dispose of empty aerosol paint cans as household hazardous waste. Reuse or recycle leftover paints when possible.
- Use up excess paint or give it to a neighbor, or take it to a household hazardous waste event. Most household hazardous waste collection programs can recycle latex (water-based) paint.

**An inspector can be reached Monday through Friday at the Development Services Department at 600 Sixth Street Lincoln, CA or by calling us at (916) 434-2470**