



The Business Owner's Guide to BMPs (Best Management Practices)

An introduction to the Buellton Storm Water Management Program

Want to Know More?

The City of Buellton has an extensive Storm Water Management Program, with an even greater selection of information and useful tools to help your business be GREEN!

Take advantage of the following FREE services to you:

- BMP materials in print and via the web!
- Training Opportunities (Regional)
- One-on-One Training (City staff will come to you and conduct a free business practice audit and identify opportunities to incorporate BMPs!)

**Don't wait and violate!
Take care of business
now!**

For additional information contact:

The City of Buellton
(805) 688-7474 Planning
(805) 688-5200 Engineering
www.CityofBuellton.com

About this Guide

Unless you're a construction contractor, most businesses don't realize that their practices may affect our streams and ocean with pollution.

This Guide will provide general Best management Practices (BMPs) for business operations. The BMPs are not limited to those presented in this handout. Additional resources are listed that provide a more extensive array of BMPs available.



Restaurants

Improper cleaning and waste handling practices can cause waste from restaurants to enter storm drains and pollute our streams.

- Use the least toxic cleaning products available and dispose of cleaners (solvents, floor cleaners and detergents) and cleaning rags properly.
- Wash floor mats, kitchen mats, filters and garbage cans in a mop sink, janitors sink or near the kitchen floor drain. This will insure that the wastewater will flow to the wastewater treatment plant and will not wash into the parking lot, alley, sidewalk, street or storm drain.
- Recycle grease and oil. Don't pour it into sinks, floor drains, dumpsters, or onto a parking lot or street. Grease can clog sewer drains and storm drains and harm aquatic life.
- If you pressure-wash your outdoor seating area, entrance, or surrounding sidewalk area with bleaches, strippers or detergents, this water must be vacuumed up and disposed of properly.

Recycling

- Create and maintain a system for separating waste products. Make sure recycle bins are easily accessible to staff.
- Grease and oil wastes can be recycled through a rendering or grease collection company.
- Paper, cardboard, glass, aluminum, tin and #1 and #2 plastics can be segregated out of the waste stream and recycled.
- Purchase recycled products or products with a high recycled material content!



We Need Your Help! Inform Your Employees!

- Hold staff meetings to discuss the importance of pollution prevention.
- Share these tips with your employees to educate them about good cleaning practices
- Post reminders near trash and cleaning areas.
- Train employees in the use of spill clean-up materials. Log training sessions (date, instructor, attendees, etc.) for compliance with your injury, illness and prevention program.



Landscape Contractors

- Don't use pesticides during the rainy season as they may be carried by the next storm into the creeks or ocean. Better yet, reduce or thwart many pests, especially in the early stages of infestation.
- When irrigating the landscaped areas, avoid over-watering, not only to conserve water but to avoid runoff of water, which may carry nutrients and pesticides to the creek or ocean directly from the storm drain.
- Compost the material for your own use or properly dispose of yard waste in your green waste bin.
- Use toxic pesticides as a last resort. First use physical controls. Hand-picking traps, barriers, or a strong jet of water can reduce or thwart many pests, especially in the early stages of infestation. Or try

Biological controls. Many beneficial insects and animals eat detrimental insects. Encourage the "good" ones to live near your property.



Automotive Sales

- Have a designated wash area that is properly designed to discharge into the sanitary sewer system. Never let dirty, soapy water runoff onto the pavement.
- Recycling wash water is environmentally the best solution. By treating wash water onsite and reusing it, car washes are able to reduce metered water usage, which may reduce overall water and sewer utility charges.
- Create a cleanup plan and know how to follow it. Make sure all workers know what to do in the event of a spill. Small spills and drips can be cleaned up with rags. Avoid paper towels. For medium-sized spills, use absorbent material (such as kitty litter) to soak up the liquids. Contain the liquid while you clean it up using absorbent "snakes". (These are sold by waste control equipment manufacturers.) Dispose of absorbent properly. Larger spills in the shop or out of doors must be contained, then cleaned up.

Automotive Repair

- Never wash down fuel dispensing areas allowing the runoff to flow to the storm drain!
- Drips from automobiles contain lead, cadmium, zinc and copper, which have chronic toxic effects on aquatic plants and animals. These heavy metals attach to particles of dirt. Sweep parking lots and other paved areas periodically to remove debris.
- Dispose of debris in the garbage. Vacuum or hand sweep areas too small to machine sweep.

Construction Contractors

- Cement:: Keep all concrete, plaster and cement mortars out of the streets, gutters, storm drains and creeks. Wash out concrete transit mixers and tools only when in designated wash out areas and never dispose of washout into the streets, catch basins, storm drains, drainage ditches, or creeks.
- Painting: never clean brushes or rinse paint containers into a street, catch basin, gutter, storm drain or creek. Water based paint brushes may be rinsed in a drain leading to the sanitary sewer (via indoor plumbing). Excess paint should be disposed of as hazardous waste.
- Keep all stored or scrap materials such as sand, base rock, metal, wood or paper from entering the storm drain system. Keep separate and recycle when possible.
- Construction Contractors must follow the guidelines provided in the Developer's BMP and LID Manual and are subject to additional regulations.



City of Buellton
www.CityofBuellton.com

Additional Resources

Santa Barbara County—Project Clean Water
www.SBProjectCleanWater.org

