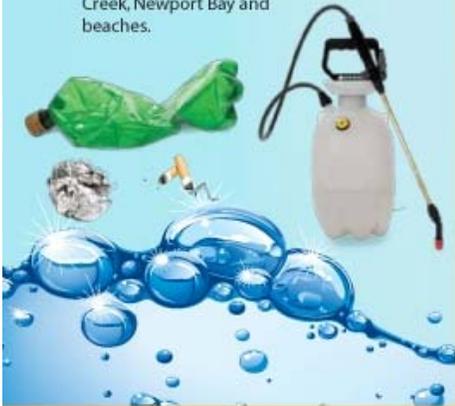


What are the types of pollutants are found in stormwater?



Pollutants in our stormwater come from sources such as:

- 💧 Pet waste
- 💧 A car leaking oil on the street
- 💧 Trash blown or thrown onto the street
- 💧 Fertilizers or pesticides that wash off your yard.
- 💧 Anything that is spilled or left on paved surfaces has the potential to end up in storm drains which lead to San Diego Creek, Newport Bay and beaches.



ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Visit us on the web at cityofirvine.org/environmentalprograms

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OC Watersheds Program
ocwatersheds.com

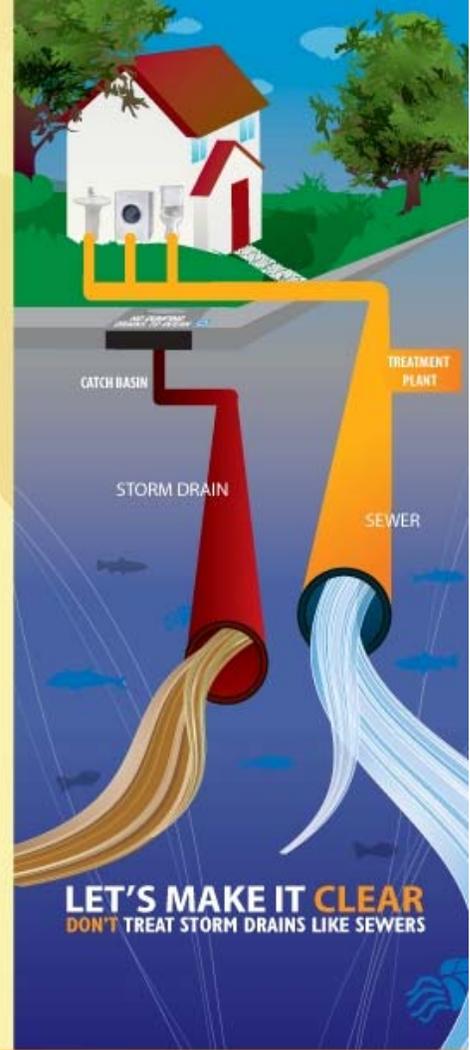
Orange County Flood Control Division
ocflood.com

Irvine Ranch Water District
irwd.com

Irvine Regional Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Center
6411 Oak Canyon, Irvine
(adjacent to the City of Irvine Operations Support Facility)
HOURS OF OPERATION:
Tuesday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Orange County Stormwater Program
24-Hour Water Pollution Reporting Hotline
1-877-89-SPILL or 1-877-897-7455

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LET'S MAKE IT CLEAR
DON'T TREAT STORM DRAINS LIKE SEWERS

Storm Drains And Sewers Are Two Completely Separate Drainage Systems...

Storm Drains

The storm drain system consists of natural and manmade channels that route rainwater away from the City in order to prevent street flooding.



Rain and urban runoff (water from hoses and sprinklers) runs off your lawn, sidewalks and streets directly into curbside openings called catch basins.

This water transports oil, chemicals, litter and debris straight into stormwater drainage channels which discharge directly into San Diego Creek and Newport Bay.

Visit ocflood.com and ocwatersheds.com for more information on the path of waterways.

💧 Rainwater and urban runoff entering storm drains are **not** treated before entering creeks, bays and the ocean.

Sewers

The sewer system, or sanitary wastewater system, is composed of a branching network of pipes and manholes.

All household water and waste is collected and transported from toilets, showers and sinks, and routes through Irvine's plumbing system into a water treatment facility.

Visit irwd.com for more information on the local sewer system and water saving tips.

💧 Wastewater is treated, disinfected and reused for irrigation and other uses.

What are the effects of stormwater pollution?

Health:

Stormwater pollution can pose health risks to people due to bacteria that are washed from our city streets, parking lots and lawns. After a storm, some beaches become so contaminated with runoff pollutants that beachgoers are often encouraged to stay out of the water. Visit healthebay.org to see how your local beaches rate with the Beach Report Card.

Environment:

Stormwater pollution entering San Diego Creek, Newport Bay and the ocean from stormwater is harmful to plants and animals. Stormwater pollution degrades habitats, limits food sources and can reduce populations of fish and birds.

Neighborhoods:

Trash and debris that clog a catch basin may attract pests, create odors, or obstruct the storm drain system and cause flooding.



You Can Help!

Urban runoff and stormwater pollution are the largest sources of water pollution in the city.

Join your fellow Irvine residents in adopting these safe practices to prevent further contamination of our waterways, protect wildlife habitats and keep our neighborhoods and beaches clean for all to enjoy.

Prevention Steps:

- ✓ Throw all of your trash in the trash can and recycle whenever possible
- ✓ Place cigarette butts in ashtrays
- ✓ Pick up pet waste and dispose of it properly
- ✓ Recycle used motor oil and filters
- ✓ Sweep driveways and sidewalks instead of cleaning with a hose
- ✓ Check your sprinkler system regularly for leaks, overspray and broken sprinkler heads. Adjust your sprinkler system so no water runs off your lawn
- ✓ Always follow manufacturer instructions when using fertilizers and pesticides to prevent excess from running into the drains
- ✓ Take precaution and avoid applying fertilizers and pesticides to your yard before it rains

Now you know!

Knowing the difference between storm drains and sewer drains is an essential first step towards pollution prevention.