

## Storm Drains vs. Sewers

### Storm Drains

**Storm Drains** are located outdoors and are intended to collect and transport only relatively unpolluted runoff from rainfall and snowmelt. Storm drain systems do not remove pollutants from water before it is discharged to streams and rivers.



### Sanitary Sewer

**Sanitary sewers** collect wastewater from indoor plumbing such as toilets, sinks, washing machines and floor drains and take it to a sewage treatment plant.

The treatment plant removes many pollutants from wastewater before it is discharged to the river, but is not designed to handle wastes such as unused paint, solvents and other hazardous materials.

### Solid Waste

**Solid waste landfills** accept solid waste and trash. These facilities are not designed to handle liquids or hazardous wastes.



### Contractors

Yuba-Sutter Disposal, Inc. offers comprehensive recycling services that can help your business save money. By diverting recyclable commodities from your waste, you could reduce your garbage bill significantly. What does all this mean? Less trash and more cash for your business!

There is no additional charge for commercial recycling services. Removing recyclable materials from your refuse container reduces your costs by decreasing the volume of trash within your cart.

Businesses in Yuba-Sutter know that trash costs are a necessary part of doing business. Many businesses, however, don't realize that there are many things they can do to keep their garbage bill as low as possible.

The Yuba-Sutter communities are mandated by the State of California to divert solid waste going to the landfill by 50%. To date we are exceeding our mandate at 63% diversion. Yuba-Sutter businesses are an important part of the effort to maintain our diversion rate since they generate about 30% of Yuba-Sutter's waste.



Recycling is good for the Earth, and it can also do wonders for your bottom line.

## Concrete and Creeks Don't Mix

Do your part. Help keep concrete and related materials like mortar, stucco, plaster, tile grout, and pool plaster out of the storm drain system.



# Stormwater Pollution Solutions

Construction sites are common sources of urban runoff pollution. Materials and wastes blown or washed into a storm drain have a direct impact on our local creeks and rivers. The most common discharge into storm drains from concrete installations is the residue from washing down equipment such as trucks, mixers, chutes, pumps, hand tools and wheelbarrows.



Other types of work site discharges include excess gravel, asphalt, dry materials such as sand, wastewater from sawing and coring, and wash-off from the process of exposing aggregate.

Discharge or disposal of concrete waste into the storm drain system violates both federal and state laws as well as county and city stormwater ordinances. Dischargers may be held liable for cleanup costs and subject to fines.



## Solutions:

If you handle, store, and dispose of concrete and related materials properly you can prevent pollutants from entering our storm drains.

*The correct things to do are:*

- ◆ Before you start a job, determine the proper disposal methods for liquid and solid waste:
  - Don't dispose of liquid waste in the trash.
  - Don't let liquid or solid waste from sawing, coring or demolition get into the storm drain.
  - Call your local disposal facility, listed on the back of this pamphlet, for acceptable disposal options.
- ◆ Try to schedule projects for dry weather periods.
- ◆ At construction sites of an acre or more, use a washout area that is designated for this purpose by the property owner or site superintendent. Washout areas must be located to prevent wastes from entering the storm drain system.
- ◆ At small construction sites, obtain permission from the property owner to wash out equipment in a dirt area so that the wash water can soak into the ground and not run into the storm drain. If necessary, collect wash water in a portable containment device, and haul it off-site or pump it into an approved dirt area.
- ◆ Place sediment controls such as a berm or temporary vegetation to capture water runoff from exposed aggregate, sawing, coring or mortaring before it reaches the storm drain.
- ◆ Pump runoff to a dirt area where it can soak in, or haul it off-site for proper disposal. If the gutter is used to collect water behind the berm, clean up and properly dispose of residual solids after pumping the water.

- ◆ Recycle hardened concrete. Concrete can be recycled or disposed of for a fee at several locations. Contact Yuba Sutter Disposal (530) 743-6933 for current rates, restrictions and locations.
- ◆ Don't order or mix more cement or concrete than you will use.
- ◆ Small amounts of excess dry concrete, grout and mortar can be put in the trash.
- ◆ Never bury waste material. Recycle or dispose of it at a local landfill or waste facility.
- ◆ Keep materials out of the rain:
  - Store both dry and wet material under cover, protected from rainfall and runoff.
  - Secure open bags of cement from the wind and keep these materials away from streets, gutters, storm drains, rainfall and runoff.
  - Make sure employees and subcontractors are adequately trained and follow proper disposal procedures for concrete wastes.
- ◆ Return aggregate sweepings to the aggregate stockpile; mix them into an appropriate dirt area or dispose of them according to the guidelines of the local solid waste facilities.
- ◆ Never wash out wheelbarrows and tools in or near the street, or wash material into the streets.



Contact Yuba Sutter Disposal at (530) 743-6933 for more information.