

Washes and Channels Protection

Stormwater Best Management Practices



Washes and channels surround urban areas to help carry water away during times of heavy rainstorm. You probably have seen these surrounding your neighborhood, but don't think much about them. Washes and channels are put in place to gather stormwater runoff from storm drains and bring to our local waterways (rivers, lakes, and retention basins). Water collected in washes and channels go directly into our local waterways *without* ever being treated to remove pollutants. Stormwater runoff is now one of the leading causes of water pollution in the United States. Trash, oil, soaps/detergents, and other chemicals, should never be discharged into a wash or channel. With the right knowledge you can prevent pollution from entering storm drains; therefore, helping to improve the water quality in local waterways.

What Can I Do?

- Home and business wastewater may not be disposed of in washes, channels, streets, parking lots, gutters, or storm drains.
- Ensure household wastes are properly disposed of through a Sanitary Sewer Drain, Household Hazardous Waste Facility, or by other proper means:

These include: Soaps/Detergents, Grease, Gasoline, Oil, Pool Water, Chemicals, Yard Waste, Trash

- Contain and collect wastewater on site. Discharge wastewater to the sanitary sewer (check local regulations).
- Never run pipes feeding liquid household waste into washes or channels.



For additional information or questions, please contact:
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