

# FOLLOW THE 3C's



## CONTROL

Better manage your work area by keeping equipment, tools and supplies organized and properly contained to prevent leaks. Ensure cleaning tools and clean-up kits (rags, absorbants) are readily available. Sweep up debris with a broom or use a mop to clean hard surfaces. Cover stored materials and protect nearby storm drain inlets to prevent all potential contaminated runoff from entering the storm drain system.

## CONTAIN

Contain your work area by preventing debris and pollutants from leaving your work site. Use gravel bags, sandbags, straw wattle, berms or booms to contain all water and debris on-site. Designate a washout area to clean tools and equipment and contain wash water and residue.

## CAPTURE

Clean up your work area and properly dispose of contaminated water, pollutants and debris. Capture all wash water using a mop, vacuum boom or wet-vacuum. Collect debris using a broom and dustpan or a vacuum. For proper disposal requirements, check with the City's Environmental Services Department (858) 694-7000.



think**BLUE**  
SAN DIEGO

To report storm water pollution in San Diego,  
call the Think Blue Hotline: **(619) 235-1000**

[thinkblue.org](http://thinkblue.org)



## PREVENTING POLLUTION

When rainwater and urban runoff (over-irrigation, hosing down hard surfaces) flow off of properties and into our streets the excess water gets collected by the storm drain system. Everything that enters the storm drain system flows **untreated** directly to our creeks, rivers, bays, beaches, and ultimately the ocean. Unfortunately, storm water can contain pollutants, including chemicals, trash, and automobile fluids; all of which pollute our beaches and harm fish and wildlife.

### BE PROACTIVE

It is easier to prevent pollution than to try and clean it up once it has occurred. As you perform your daily activities at home or on the job, ask yourself if your activity has the potential to create pollution. Follow the 3Cs as a general guideline and adopt these simple pollution prevention habits called “Best Management Practices” (BMPs):

- Use dry clean-up methods for spills and outdoor cleaning
- Vacuum, sweep, and use rags or dry absorbents instead of hosing down
- Rake, sweep-up, and place all debris (dust, litter, clippings, sediment, etc.) into a trash can
- Use a mop or bucket and sponge where water is absolutely necessary
- Properly label, store (cover) and dispose of landscape and household chemicals

It is illegal to discharge pollutants into the storm water conveyance system or any receiving water (San Diego Municipal Code §43.0304). Penalties associated with these violations can be up to \$10,000 per day per incidence.

***A CHANGE FOR THE BETTER BEGINS WITH YOU – THINK BLUE***



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO