

## Local Household Hazardous Waste Facilities

### MarBorg Cacique Street Recycling Center

725 Cacique Street, (805) 963-1852

MarBorg's facility accepts oil, antifreeze, batteries, and water-based paint from residents for FREE.

### Community Hazardous Waste Collection Center

Building 565 on Mesa Road at UCSB, (805) 882-3602

The County's facility at UCSB accepts oil and water-based paints, solvents, thinners, and many other household hazardous wastes for FREE.



*What NOT to do: Hazardous materials improperly stored on a property in Santa Barbara.*

## Report Pollution to Streets, Storm Drains, and Creeks

If you see construction materials or other pollutants in the gutter, street, or entering a storm drain or creek, please call the **Creeks Division's Enforcement Hotline** at (805) 897-2688.

For pollution located outside the City, please call County Project Clean Water at (800) OUR-OCEAN.

## Want to Learn More?

For more information on the City of Santa Barbara's storm water quality requirements, visit [www.sbcreeks.com](http://www.sbcreeks.com) or call (805) 897-2658.

For more information on proper recycling and disposal of construction and demolition materials, visit [www.sbrecycles.org](http://www.sbrecycles.org).

For more information on proper household hazardous waste disposal, visit [www.lessismore.org](http://www.lessismore.org).

City of Santa Barbara  
Creeks Restoration and  
Water Quality Improvement Division  
P.O. Box 1990  
Santa Barbara, CA 93102



# Home Improvement and Healthy Creeks



## What's the Problem?

Many products used in home improvement and construction projects (such as paint, concrete, mortar, solvents, and thinners) are hazardous both to you and the environment if not used, stored, and disposed of properly.



Construction materials and debris blown or washed into **storm drains** have a direct impact on the health of our creeks and ocean.

Not only are these materials bad for local water quality, but it is also **against the law** to allow these pollutants to enter storm drains and creeks.

Many people believe that water that enters the storm drain is treated at the wastewater treatment plant. *This is incorrect!* **The storm drain system and the sewer system are not connected.**



## What's the Solution?

Whether you're working on a minor home improvement project or a major remodel, ensure that you and/or your contractor and their employees follow the easy tips included here to protect Santa Barbara's natural resources.

*Have you noticed this decal on the curb in your neighborhood?*



This marker is found on storm drains throughout the City, to remind residents that storm drains flow directly to the creeks and ocean untreated!

## Concrete and Creeks Don't Mix

When concrete materials reach our creeks, increased sediment in the water can make it difficult for fish to breathe, cloud the water, and smother aquatic plant growth.

Cement products are considered hazardous waste, are caustic, and have a high pH value, which can be toxic to fish, frogs, and other aquatic life.



*What NOT to do: Cement material dumped on a street in Santa Barbara.*

### *Follow these easy steps to prevent pollution of our creeks and ocean!*

- ✓ Schedule concrete, tiling, or masonry projects during dry weather.
- ✓ Only purchase and mix the amount of concrete, mortar, plaster, or grout required for the job.
- ✓ Store both dry and wet materials under cover, protected from wind, rain, and runoff.
- ✓ Allow small amounts of leftover mixed concrete to harden on grass or cardboard.
- ✓ **Never rinse tools or containers in or near the gutter, hose spilled material into the street, or dump materials in the storm drain or creek!**
- ✓ Recycle hardened concrete and construction materials at one of the following facilities for a small fee (call for hours and pricing):

**Granite Construction**, 5335 Debbie Lane in Goleta, (805) 693-1086.

**Lash Construction**, 5 S. Calle Cesar Chavez, (805) 963-3553.

**MarBorg Industries**, 119 Quarantina Street, (805) 963-1852.

**South Coast Recycling and Transfer Station**, 4430 Calle Real, (805) 681-4345.

## Painting Without Polluting

Paints, thinners, and solvents are all classified as hazardous waste. Even water-based paints contain chemicals that are harmful to wildlife and the environment.

### *Follow these easy steps to prevent pollution of our creeks and ocean!*

- ✓ Schedule painting projects during dry weather.
- ✓ Only purchase the amount of paint required for the job.
- ✓ Never rinse brushes, rollers, containers or trays in the gutter, or hose paint into the street.
- ✓ **Never dump paint in or near a gutter, street, storm drain, or creek!**
- ✓ For water-based paints, paint out brushes as much as possible and rinse in the sink.
- ✓ Thoroughly dry brushes and rags can be disposed of in the trash, as well as empty, dry paint cans - be sure to leave the lid off so your trash hauler can see that it's empty and dry!
- ✓ Properly seal and store leftover paint indoors, protected from wind and rain.



*What NOT to do: Paint pollutes a creek in Santa Barbara.*

- ✓ Reuse paint thinner by setting aside in a closed jar to allow paint particles to settle out. Pour clear liquid into a separate container and securely store for future use, and dispose of remaining residue at a Hazardous Waste facility.
- ✓ **Any leftover paint, thinners, or solvents that will not be stored and used at a later date should be taken to a Household Hazardous Waste facility (see back panel of brochure for facility locations).**