

Clean beaches
and healthy

creeks, rivers, bays
and ocean are important to

Orange County. However, many
common activities can lead to
water pollution if you're not
careful. Home improvement
projects and work sites must
be maintained to ensure that
building materials do not enter
the street, gutter or storm drain.
Unlike water in sanitary sewers
(from sinks and toilets), water
in storm drains is not treated
before entering our waterways.

You would never dump building
materials into the ocean, so
don't let them enter the storm
drains. Follow these tips to help
prevent water pollution.



The tips contained in this brochure
provide useful information to
help prevent water pollution
while performing home
improvement projects.

For more information, or to report
a spill during normal business
hours, please call the

**City of Orange Public Works
Department at (714) 532-6480**

or visit
www.cityoforange.org.

To report a spill after normal
business hours, or on weekends,
please call the

**City of Orange 24-Hour Water
Pollution Problem Reporting
Hotline at (714) 538-1961.**

For emergencies, dial 911.

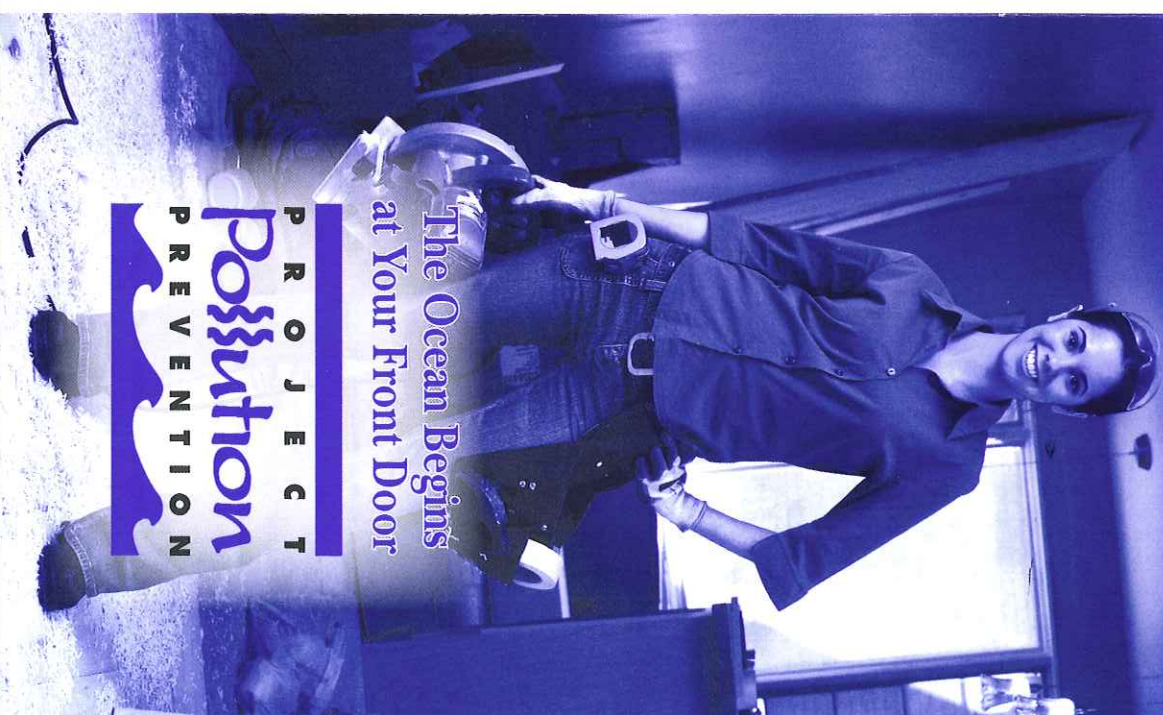


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Help Prevent Ocean Pollution:
**Tips for Home
Improvement Projects**

**The Ocean Begins
at Your Front Door**

**P R O J E C T
Pollution
P R E V E N T I O N**

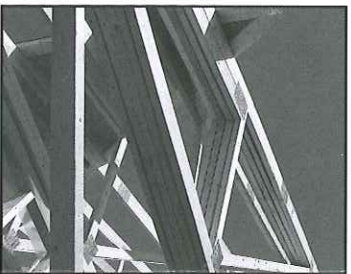


Tips for Home Improvement Projects

Home improvement projects can cause significant damage to the environment. Whether you hire a contractor or work on the house yourself, it is important to follow these simple tips while renovating, remodeling or improving your home:

General Construction

- Schedule projects for dry weather.
- Keep all construction debris away from the street, gutter and storm drain.
- Store materials under cover with temporary roofs or plastic sheets to eliminate or reduce the possibility that rainfall, runoff or wind will carry materials from the project site to the street, storm drain or adjacent properties.



Building Materials

- Never hose materials into a street, gutter or storm drain.
- Exposed piles of construction material should not be stored on the street or sidewalk.
- Minimize waste by ordering only the amount of materials needed to complete the job.
- Do not mix more fresh concrete than is needed for each project.
- Wash concrete mixers and equipment in a designated washout area where the water can flow into a containment area or onto dirt.
- Dispose of small amounts of dry excess materials in the trash. Powdery waste, such as dry concrete, must be properly contained within a box or bag prior to disposal.

Paint

- Measure the room or object to be painted, then buy only the amount needed.
- Place the lid on firmly and store the paint can upside-down in a dry location away from the elements.
- Tools such as brushes, buckets and rags should never be washed where excess water can drain into the street, gutter or storm drain. All tools should be rinsed in a sink connected to the sanitary sewer.
- When disposing of paint, never put wet paint in the trash.
- Dispose of water-based paint by removing the lid and letting it dry in the can. Large amounts must be taken to a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center (HHWCC).
- Oil-based paint is a household hazardous waste. All leftover paint should be taken to a HHWCC.



Erosion Control

- For HHWCC locations and hours, call (714) 834-6752 or visit www.oilandfills.com.
- Schedule grading and excavation projects for dry weather.
- When temporarily removing soil, pile it in a contained, covered area where it cannot spill into the street, or obtain the required temporary encroachment or street closure permit and follow the conditions instructed by the permit.

- When permanently removing large quantities of soil, a disposal location must be found prior to excavation. Numerous businesses are available to handle disposal needs. For disposal options, visit www.ciwmmb.ca.gov/SWIS.

- Prevent erosion by planting fast-growing annual and perennial grasses. They will shield and bind the soil.

Recycle

- Construction and demolition material such-as lumber, paper, cardboard, metals, masonry (bricks, concrete, etc.), carpet, plastic, pipes (plastic, metal and clay), drywall, rocks, dirt and green waste are all recyclable.



- For a listing of construction and demolition recycling locations in your area, visit www.ciwmmb.ca.gov/recycle.

Spills

- Clean up spills immediately by using an absorbent material such as cat litter, then sweep it up and dispose of it in the trash.
- Immediately report spills that have entered the street, gutter or storm drain to the City of Orange Water Pollution Problem Reporting Hotline number listed on the back or visit www.cityoforange.org to fill out an incident reporting form.