



# Citizen's Guide to Stopping Water Pollution



The Napa County Stormwater Management Program is a joint effort between the municipalities in Napa County to protect water quality and stream habitats. In this guide you will find information on ways you can help stop polluting activities and protect Napa County's waterways.

## First Rule:

**If you wouldn't put the waste material in your fish tank, don't let it get into a storm drain.**

## Examples of Harmful Activities

### Illicit Connections:

Pipes connected directly to storm drains, rivers, or streams should convey stormwater only. Non-stormwater discharges such as wash waters, do not receive any treatment to remove harmful substances, like soaps that actually suffocate fish or cause unsightly algae blooms.

### Dumping:

Putting anything into waterways that is not entirely made up of stormwater can be toxic to plants and wildlife in our waterways. This includes grass clippings, trash, dirt, or debris. Grass clippings, for example, can carry pesticides and fertilizers and excessive organic material will cause our creeks to lose dissolved oxygen which is necessary for our fish populations.

### Illicit Discharge:

Dirty water flowing off a construction site, business operation, or residential area will flow un-treated to our creeks and the Napa River. The responsible party needs to be contacted to take appropriate corrective actions.

## All of these Harmful Activities are Illegal

Local, State, and Federal regulations mandate that these activities are to be prevented. **Violators of these rules are subject to fine, as much as \$10,000 per incident, or imprisonment.**

# How You Can Help - What to Look For

Polluted water impacts the biological and recreational uses of our waterways. What follows are some indicators of pollution that should be reported via the STORMWATER HOTLINE.

- Oily Sheen
- Unusual Odor
- Dry Season Flow
- Foam
- Fish Kills

Citizens play an important role by reporting pollution or polluting activities to enforcement and abatement staff. If you witness polluting activities, please call the appropriate Stormwater Hotline number immediately with as much of the following information as possible.

- Type of pollutant, e.g., oil, soap
- Detailed location information
- Date and time of incident
- Responsible party

## Stormwater Hotlines

American Canyon	707-647-4550
Yountville	707-944-8851
St. Helena	707-966-2658
Calistoga	707-942-2828
City of Napa	707-257-9600
Napa County	707-299-1799

Questions – Please call the St. Helena Public Works Department at 707-968-2658

## Remember

**ONLY RAIN DOWN THE STORM DRAIN**

