

- ◆ Wash concrete mixers, trucks/trailers and other equipment in designated washout areas where the water can flow into a containment area.

- ◆ Small amounts of dried material can be disposed of in the trash. Large amounts should be recycled at a local construction and demolition recycling company. (See information below)



- ◆ Recycle cement wash water by pumping it back into cement mixers for reuse.

For a list of construction and demolition recycling locations in your area visit www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Recycle/.

For additional information on how to control, prevent, remove, and reduce pollution refer to the Stormwater Best Management Practice Handbook, available on-line.

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**Household Hazardous Waste
Disposal and Recycling
Information**

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www.placer.ca.gov/recycle

Pollution Prevention Tips When Using Concrete and Mortar



**Placer County Stormwater Quality
Division**

April 2013



Tips for Using Concrete and Mortar

Stormwater Pollution

Clean and healthy creeks, rivers, and lakes are important to Placer County. However, many common activities can lead to water pollution if you're not careful.

Materials and excess concrete or mortar can be blown or washed into the storm drains that flow directly to the local creeks, rivers or lakes. Unlike water in sanitary sewers (from sinks, toilets, and showers), water in storm drains is not treated before entering our waterways.



Discharge of pollutants into the storm drainage system or surrounding water bodies is prohibited. Release of any 'non-stormwater' discharge is illegal.

You would never throw building materials into a lake or river, so don't let them enter the storm drains. Be a solution to water pollution. Help protect our water supply by following these easy tips.

Before the Project

- ◆ Schedule projects for dry weather.
- ◆ Store materials under cover, with temporary roofs or plastic sheets to eliminate or reduce the possibility that the materials can be carried from the project site to streets, storm drains or adjacent properties via rainfall, runoff or wind.
- ◆ Minimize waste by ordering only the amount of materials needed to complete the job.
- ◆ Take measures to temporarily block nearby storm drain inlets to prevent materials from entering.



During the Project

- ◆ Set up and operate small mixers on tarps or heavy drop cloths.

- ◆ Do not mix more fresh concrete or mortar than is needed for the job.
- ◆ When breaking up pavement, pick up all chunks and pieces and recycle them at a local construction and demolition recycling company. (See information on back of this section)
- ◆ When making saw cuts in pavement or concrete, protect nearby storm drain inlets during the saw-cutting operation and contain the slurry. Collect the slurry residue from the pavement or gutter and remove from the site.



Clean-Up

- ◆ Dispose of small amounts of dry concrete, grout or mortar in the trash.
- ◆ Never hose materials from exposed aggregate concrete, asphalt or similar treatments into a street, gutter, parking lot, or storm drain.

