

# Kennels

## The Stormwater Quality Program

As rainwater flows over driveways, lawns, and sidewalks, it picks up debris, such as pet waste, soaps, and other pollutants. Unlike water in sanitary sewers, anything that enters a storm drain flows directly to natural water bodies like lakes, rivers, and streams without being treated.

Contaminants harm fish and wildlife and pollute the water we use for swimming, fishing, and drinking.

In recent years, federal and state regulations have been created to protect stormwater quality by requiring local jurisdictions to implement stormwater management programs. These programs must include education outreach to inform the public and businesses of the effects of their activities on stormwater quality. Local ordinances have been put into place to prohibit the disposal of anything except clean rainwater into storm drainage systems.

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

(County Ordinance Ch 8.28 found at <http://qcode.us/codes/placercounty/>)

You would never put animal waste or products into lakes or streams, so don't let them enter the storm drains. This fact sheet provides Best Management Practices (BMPs) that are recommended for facilities that conduct kennel and other types of domestic animal housing and maintenance activities.

## Potential Pollutant Sources

The following activities are potential sources of pollutants;

- ⇒ Animal cleaning
- ⇒ Animal housing

Pollutants may include:

- ⇒ Bacteria
- ⇒ Nutrients
- ⇒ Soaps, detergents
- ⇒ Pesticides

## Pollution Prevention

Using pollution prevention measures may reduce or eliminate the need to implement other more costly or complicated procedures.

The following pollution prevention principles apply to most facilities:

- ⇒ Use alternative, safer, non-toxic, and/or recycled products
- ⇒ Reduce storm water flow across the site and redirect flows to landscaped area away from storm drains, gutters and streets if possible
- ⇒ Reduce the use of water and/or use dry method
- ⇒ Recycle and reuse waste products and waste flows
- ⇒ Provide on-going employee training



## Best Management Practices and Procedures

### General

- > If water is being used for outdoor kennel areas, contain the wash water and dispose of in the sanitary sewer. Do not dispose of wash water in the gutters, streets, or storm drains.
- > Maintain your facility grounds. Move or cover activities and materials to prevent contact with storm water.
- > Label your on-site storm drains with 'No Dumping'.

### Animal Cleaning

- > When washing animals, wash in a designated area that drains to the sanitary sewer and/or wash over a vegetated area so that wash water can infiltrate.

### Animal Housing

- > If feasible, house the animals in paved and covered areas.
- > If housing the animals in covered areas is not feasible, cover the ground with vegetation or some other type of ground cover such as mulch.
- > Clean the animal handling areas frequently.
- > Use dry cleaning methods, such as vacuuming or sweeping, to clean animal handling areas.
- > Properly dispose of droppings, uneaten food and other potential contaminants. Do not wash out to storm drains, gutters or streets when cleaning the area.
- > If water is used for cleaning the housing areas:
  - Do not discharge wash water to storm drains or other receiving waters.
  - Block the storm drain and contain runoff.
  - Wash water should be collected and pumped to the sanitary sewer. It should not enter storm drains.

### Spill Control

- > Place an adequate stockpile of spill cleanup materials where it will be readily available.
- > Spot clean leaks and drips routinely.
- > Clean leaks, drips, and other spills with as little water as possible. Use rags for small spills, a damp mop for general cleanup, and dry absorbent material for larger spills.
- > Remove the absorbent materials promptly and dispose of in the trash.
- > Keep the spill from entering the streets, gutters, or storm drains.
- > Do not use bleach or disinfectants. Avoid the possibility that rinse water could flow to a street, gutter, or storm drain.

### Employee Training

- > Train employees on these practices.
- > Train staff on the proper maintenance of your facility.
- > Train employees on proper spill containment and cleanup procedures.
- > Establish a regular training schedule, train all new employees, and conduct annual refresher training.
- > Use a training log or similar method to document training.