



Storm Water Best Management Practices for the Pest Control Industry

Did you know that there are two sewer systems?

- The *sanitary sewer* collects waste water from homes, business and industry from sinks, toilets and other outlets. It goes to the water treatment plant for treatment.
- The *storm sewer* collects runoff from streets. There is no treatment for the storm sewer; storm water goes into the ground and eventually into the ground water. Anything dumped or left in the street or gutter is pollution that can enter retention basins where children and pets play and from there can infiltrate and contaminate our ground water. Discharges that can introduce pollutants into our waterways through storm water runoff *include soaps, automotive fluids, litter, sediment, pesticides and many other materials washed off roadways, sidewalks, buildings, vehicles and other equipment.*

Best Management Practices for the Pest Control Industry

- When using pesticide, take care to follow directions carefully and only use what is necessary to control the problem.
- Do not over-water to cause runoff of water contaminated with these chemicals.
- Store pesticides and other chemicals in a covered area to prevent accidental runoff.
- Find alternatives to conventional pesticides or use one specific to the type of pest you are trying to control.
- Read all labels carefully and follow directions exactly to avoid over application.
- Rinse empty containers and use rinse water as you would use the product, do not pour in gutters or storm inlets.
- Dispose of rinsed, empty containers in the trash.
- Educate your clients to use the same care in controlling household pests as you do.
- Always check to make sure there are no leaks from your vehicle. Automobile fluids that leak onto the street or driveway are washed into the storm drain system when it rains.
- If you have a spill:
 - Stop the source immediately
 - Contain the liquid
 - If the spill might reach the street or storm drain, use containment booms
 - Cover liquid spills with absorbent material
 - Dispose of spill clean-up materials properly
 - Don't use emulsifiers or dispersing agents

Only Rain in the Storm Drain