Handling Materials & Wastes

- Never clean brushes or rinse paint containers into a street, gutter or storm drain.
- Dry unwanted latex/water based paint outdoors either in the can or brush surplus paint on a cardboard box and allow to dry disposal. You can also add kitty litter to completely dry the paint out before disposal.
- Protect the City storm drain system- cover and protect storm drains.

Disposal Options

- Recycle or dispose of excess water based paint at a household hazardous waste collection facility, or use the paint up.
- Empty paint cans can be disposed of in the trash once the paint has completely dried up.
- Use oil based paint completely. Dispose of any excess oil based paint as hazardous waste.
- Unused paint in unopened cans may be able to be returned to the paint vendor. Check with your vendor regarding its return policy.

Recycling & Hazardous Waste Disposal:
Sun Street Transfer Station
Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority
(831) 424-5520
139 Sun Street
Salinas, 93901

To Report a Spill, Illegal Dumping or a Clogged Storm Drain Call:
(831) 758-7233
City of Salinas
Department of Public Works Maintenance Division

This is one in a series of pamphlets describing storm drain protection measures. Other pamphlets include:

- Automotive Maintenance & Car Care
- Equipment Rentals
- Food Service Industry
- Fresh Concrete & Mortar Application
- General Construction & Site Supervision
- Heavy Equipment & Earthmoving Activities
- Home Repair & Remodeling
- Landscaping, Gardening & Pest Control
- Mobile Washers and Cleaners
- Roadwork & Paving
- Swimming Pool, Jacuzzi & Fountain Maintenance

Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs):

Safe Environmental Habits and Procedures for:

- Painters
- Paper Hangers
- Plasterers
- Graphic Artists
- Dry Wall Crews
- Hone Builders
- General Contractors

C i t y o f S a l i n a s

For more information about storm drain protection or additional pamphlets, call:
(831) 758-7233
City of Salinas
Department of Public Works Maintenance Division

City of Salinas Permit Center
65 West Alisal St., Suite 101
Salinas, California 93901
(831) 758-7251
**Water Pollution Prevention**  
**It’s Up to Us:**

Only “stormwater” is allowed in our storm drain system. This pamphlet tells you how to prevent waterway pollution from “stormwater” or “urban runoff.”

Rain, industrial and household water mixed with urban pollutants creates stormwater pollution. The pollutants include: oil and other automotive fluids, paint and construction debris, yard and pet wastes, pesticides and litter.

Urban runoff pollution flows through the storm drain to the Salinas River and the Reclamation Ditch that takes water and debris straight from Salinas streets to the Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary. Each day, polluted urban runoff enters our rivers untreated, leaving toxic chemicals and trash to be carried downstream.

Urban runoff pollution contaminates our rivers, and ditches, harms aquatic life and increases the risk of flooding by clogging gutters and catch basins.

Utilizing Best Management Practices (BMPs) will ensure cleaner receiving waters and a cleaner City.

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**Painters**

All paints, solvents and adhesives contain chemicals that are harmful to wildlife and humans. That is why proper handling and disposal of these products is so important.

Toxic chemicals from liquids, solid products and cleaning residues or rags may enter our waterways via the storm drain system.

It is especially important not to clean brushes in an area where paint residue can flow to a street, gutter or storm drain. Once paint, solvent or adhesives enter the storm drain system, they can flow directly to our river and waterways.

**Best Management Practices**

- Keep all liquids, paint products and wastes away from the street, gutter and storm drains.
- Liquid residues from paints, solvents, thinners, glues and cleaning fluids are hazardous wastes and must be disposed of properly.
- Use water based paints if possible.
- Avoid using paint over 15 years old as this may have a toxic level of lead.
- Store products used for painting, solvents, adhesives, thinners and cleaners in closed containers. Keep in a dry location that will not be exposed to possible rain and runoff.

**Paint Removal**

- Chemical paint stripping residue is a hazardous waste.
- Chips and dust from marine paints or paints containing lead or tributyl tin are hazardous wastes. Dry sweep the waste and dispose of as hazardous waste.
- When stripping or cleaning building exteriors using high pressure washers, block nearby storm drains to prevent water may be needed to determine the correct disposal. Refer to the Mobile Washers and Cleaners BMP brochure for information on how to dispose of wash water waste from pressure washing. Do not dispose of wash water in the storm drain system.

**Recycling & Hazardous Waste Disposal:**

**Sun Street Transfer Station**  
Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority  
(831) 424-5520  
139 Sun Street  
Salinas, 93901