Spill Control

- Be prepared for spills
- Clean up spills using absorbent materials and then dispose of all waste properly.

Disposal of Chemical Containers

- Chemical containers that still have product in them cannot go into your regular trash. They are hazardous waste and must be disposed of properly.
- Empty Chemical containers must be rinsed prior to disposal. The rinse water should be used in your just the same as the original chemical. It cannot go down the drain.

Recycling & Hazardous Waste Disposal

City of Modesto
Solid Waste Management
(209) 577-5494

Stanislaus County
Household Hazardous Waste Facility
(209) 525-4123

City of Modesto
Public Works Department
(209) 577-6200

To Report a Clogged Storm Drain, Spill or Illegal Dumping

Public Works Department
(209) 577-6200

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

For more information about storm drain protection or additional pamphlets, call:

www.modestogov.com
City of Modesto
Public Works Department
Environmental Compliance Section
(209) 577-6377

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

Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Nurseries
Safe Environmental Habits and Procedures for:
  Nurseries
  Gardening Centers
  Landscapers
  Tree Farms
Water Pollution Prevention
It’s Up to Us!

ONLY RAIN DOWN THE STORM DRAIN

Nurseries

What are some of the potential pollutant sources?

- **Plant Management**
  - Dirt / Soil / Rocks / Bark and other landscaping materials
  - Vegetation removal
  - Herbicides, insecticides and fertilizers
  - Over watering
- **Pest Control**
  - Toxic chemicals
  - Hazardous wastes

Water, Compost and Fertilizer Management

- Do not over water. Conserve water by using irrigation practices such as drip irrigation, soaker hoses, micro-spray systems and pulse irrigation systems.
- Regularly inspect irrigation systems for leaks and to ensure that excessive runoff is not occurring.
- Group plants with similar water needs together to improve irrigation efficiency.
- Establish plant buffer zones between production areas and ditches, creeks, ponds, lakes, rivers and wetlands. Protect all waterways from runoff.
- Surround each plot with a low, small berm of earth to reduce storm and watering runoff.
- Collect runoff from rain and watering activities and reuse it. It can be combined with fresh water. It already contains nutrients that washed out of the soil.
- Recycle and compost plant waste material.

- Protect storm drains when doing excavating to prevent soil and sediment from entering the storm drain system.
- Protect stockpiles of materials with tarps or temporary roofs to protect them from rain and wind erosion.
- Fertilize using organic or non-toxic products. Do not over fertilize, follow directions for use.
- Store fertilizer in a protected area to prevent run off.
- Use herbicides that are non-toxic. Follow all directions on the label for use.
- Plant vegetation in dirt / exposed areas that have a potential for erosion.

Pesticides and Alternatives

- **Implement Integrated Pest Management (IPM)**
  - **Physical Controls**
    - Caulking holes that pests can get into
    - Create barriers to pests
    - Remove pests by hand picking
    - Use traps
  - **Biological Controls**
    - Predatory insects (e.g. Green lacewings eat aphids)
    - Bacterial insecticides (e.g. Bacillus thuringiensis kills Caterpillars)
  - **Chemical Controls**
    - The least toxic products
    - Dehydrating dusts (e.g. silica gel)
    - Insecticidal soaps
    - Boric Acid powder
    - Horticultural oils
    - Pyrethrin-based insecticides

Chemical Usage

- Use the least toxic chemicals available.
- Do not use pesticides if rain is expected.
- Never use pesticides near waterways, creeks, rivers or the ocean.
- Train employees on proper chemical loading and unloading techniques and emergency situations.
- Inspect all chemical containers prior to loading and unloading.
- Use dry clean-up methods instead of washing area down. Recycle spilled chemicals, if possible.
- Divert storm water around chemical loading and unloading areas using berms, swales, or dikes.
- Avoid loading and unloading chemicals during rain events.
- Perform all chemical handling in a covered, bermed or enclosed area on an impervious surface for easy clean-up.
- If you have storage tanks, inspect them regularly for potential leaks and perform preventative maintenance.
- Keep records to identify quantity, receipt date, expiration dates and disposal routes of chemicals.
- Don’t pour chemicals into a sink, floor drain, storm drain or street.

Vehicle Maintenance and Repair

- Perform vehicle maintenance on an impervious surface, under a covered roof if possible.
- Place drip pans under vehicles to contain drips and leaks.
- Recycle used oil at your city / county recycling center that accepts used oil or dispose of as hazardous waste.
- See the Automotive Maintenance and Car Care BMP brochure for more information.