

# COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE BULLETIN

## News You Can Use

### STORMWATER COMPLIANCE AT *KENNELS*

**Purpose**

The purpose of this Compliance Assistance Bulletin is to help facility operators comply with local stormwater ordinance requirements, prepare for compliance inspections, answer frequently asked questions, and provide additional resources.

**Issue**

As mandated by State requirements, as of July 1, 2004, County of Sacramento Environmental Management Department (EMD) is implementing a Stormwater Compliance Program on behalf of the County, and the cities of Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Galt, Folsom, Rancho Cordova, and Sacramento. **This program includes triennial stormwater compliance inspections at facilities within specified industrial and commercial categories including kennels.**

Animal waste, wastewater from cleaning activities, grooming debris, chemicals, and food are among pollutants that may flow into the storm drainage system from kennels. When these pollutants enter the storm drainage system (includes storm drains, roadside drainage ditches, street gutters, drainage channels, and natural waterways), they flow directly into our local waters with no treatment for pollutant removal. These pollutants degrade water quality and harm aquatic life. Grooming debris can also block or damage underground pipes.

**Facility operators must prevent prohibited discharges to the storm drainage system and implement measures to reduce pollutant sources associated with their activities.**

**Stormwater Compliance Inspections/**

EMD is conducting stormwater compliance inspections at kennel facilities. When possible, the inspections will be conducted in conjunction with hazardous materials or environmental health inspections. **The following are typical areas of concern:**

**Typical Areas of Concern**

- **Facility surface cleaning and pressure washing** must be conducted in a manner that prevents wash water, associated animal wastes, fur, food wastes, paper and other pollutants from entering the storm drainage system or flowing off-site. Wash water must be collected and discharged to the sanitary sewer, private sewage or serviceable sump or, if hazardous, lawfully disposed of as hazardous waste. For more information, refer to Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Pressure Washing booklet. Ask your EMD Environmental Specialist or call (916) 875-8440 for a copy. You may also refer to the Department website at [EMD.SACCOUNTY.NET](http://EMD.SACCOUNTY.NET).
- **Animal wastes** must be collected promptly and properly disposed of in a sealed bag to an appropriate waste container with a closing lid. Receptacle lids must be kept closed to prevent rainfall entry.
- **Animal transport equipment and vehicle washing** must also be done in a manner preventing wash water and associated debris from entering the storm drainage system. Equipment should be washed in a sink or basin plumbed to the sanitary sewer, private sewage or serviceable sump. Vehicles should be vacuumed or swept out and washed in designated wash areas and managed to prevent discharge to the storm drainage system and off site areas.

**Typical  
Areas of  
Concern  
(continued)**

- **Grooming associated debris** including animal bathing water, must be managed to prevent them from entering the storm drainage system and to prevent stormwater contact. Shampoos/treatments such as pyretherins and sulfa detergents should be dispensed in manufacturer or veterinarian recommended amounts and should never be rinsed to the storm drainage system. Hair traps should be cleaned frequently and sweeping and/or vacuuming should be conducted on a regular basis.
- **Materials/equipment** stored outdoors, such as feeding supplies, kennel cleaning equipment, grooming and laundry areas, must be properly managed to prevent stormwater contact with pollutant sources likely to be washed off by rainfall, irrigation systems, etc. Whenever possible, store items indoors or in sheltered locations. Outdoor items may be covered with fastened tarps during the winter months (October 1 – April 30).

**Corrective  
Action**

Stormwater violations will result in a **Notice of Violation** that requires the violations to be corrected and proof of compliance to be submitted within a given time frame. Extensions may be granted on a case by case basis. If additional enforcement action is necessary due to failure to comply, it will be progressive and depend on the severity and duration of the violation. Fines of up to a maximum of \$5000 per violation are authorized by local Ordinance.

**Questions  
and Answers**

**Are storm drains and sanitary sewer drains different?**

Yes - The **storm drainage system** directs untreated stormwater into our creeks and rivers. The sanitary sewer system directs water to a plant where it is treated prior to discharge. Drains located in streets and parking lots are storm drains. Outdoor drains rarely lead to the sanitary sewer.

**Why should I be concerned about stormwater and storm drains?**

Water pollution is everyone's business and should be a major concern for all residents. Polluted stormwater is a major source of contamination in our creeks and rivers.

**For More  
Information**

For more information and additional compliance assistance, call (916) 875-8440 or refer to the Department website, [EMD.SACCOUNTY.NET](http://EMD.SACCOUNTY.NET).

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