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STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
SACRAMENTO, CA  
PERMIT# 000

**San Bernardino County Stormwater Program**  
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San Bernardino, CA 94215-0835



# STORMWATER Pollution Prevention

## CARPET CLEANING ACTIVITIES



# Pollution <sup>STORMWATER</sup> Prevention

## Stormwater Management Practices for Carpet Cleaning Activities

These guidelines apply even if the cleaning products are labeled “nontoxic” or “biodegradable”. Although these products may be less harmful to the environment, they can still have harmful effects if they enter the storm drain untreated.

Toxic chemicals and discharged waste water from carpet, drapery, furniture and window cleaning often make their way into the San Bernardino County storm drain system and do not get treated before reaching the Santa Ana River. This pollutes our drinking water and contaminates local waterways, making them unsafe for people and wildlife. Following these best management practices will prevent pollution, comply with regulations and protect public health.

### Dispose of Wastewater Properly

Wastewater from cleaning equipment must be discharged into a sink, toilet, or other drain connected to the sanitary sewer system within sanitary sewer discharge limits, hauled off and disposed of properly, or may be discharged to a pervious area, for example, a lawn area, as long as it does not overflow into the street, gutter, parking lot or storm drain. Wastewater should never be discharged into a street, gutter, parking lot or storm drain.

### Filter Wastewater

Carpet cleaning wastewater should be filtered before discharging it to the sanitary sewer since fibers and other debris in the wastewater can clog pipes. The filtered material can be disposed of in the garbage, provided that the waste is not contaminated with hazardous pollutants.

To report illegal dumping or for more information on stormwater pollution prevention, call:

**1 (800) CLEANUP**

or visit our websites:

[www.co.san-bernardino.ca.us/flood/npdes](http://www.co.san-bernardino.ca.us/flood/npdes)

[www.1800cleanup.org](http://www.1800cleanup.org)

