

## What is Stormwater?

Stormwater is rain or melting snow that does not soak into the ground. It flows from rooftops, over paved areas, bare soil, and sloped lawns.



## What is Stormwater Pollution?

As stormwater flows, the runoff collects pollutants from rooftops, streets, lawns, construction sites, parking lots, curbs, etc. The pollutants are caused by stormwater encountering and transporting animal waste, litter, salt, pesticides, fertilizers, oil and grease, soil, and other potential pollutants.



## Report Illicit Discharges

Do You Notice:

- Stormwater that is soapy or brown?
- Stormwater with a sheen?
- Water flowing into the drain when there has been no rain?
- Someone dumping illegally down a storm drain?

Report suspected illegal dumping and illicit discharges within POM or OMC to the Directorate of Public Works (DPW):

**Call (831) 242-7925  
Or 911 for Emergencies**



## Learn More

Additional information can be obtained at the following websites:

Presidio of Monterey: <https://home.army.mil/monterey/index.php/about/garrison-directorates/public-works/water-resources>

California Stormwater: [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/stormwater/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/)

USEPA Stormwater: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes/npdes-stormwater-program>

## Stormwater Pollution Prevention



**Identifying and Preventing  
Stormwater Pollution**



**Presidio of Monterey (POM)  
and  
Ord Military Community (OMC)**



**What is an MS4?** An MS4 is a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System. The stormwater drainage system is separate from the sanitary sewage system. Stormwater is released untreated to the nearest water body. At the Presidio of Monterey (POM), that waterbody is the Monterey Harbor. At the Ord Military Community (OMC, that waterbody is the Monterey Bay.



**What Does Stormwater Pollution Do?** Stormwater pollution degrades waterways. Nutrients such as nitrogen can cause overgrowth of algae and oxygen depletion. Toxic substances such as cigarette butts can kill fish. Bacteria from pet waste and sewage overflows can make swimming unsafe and fish unsafe for consumption. Eroded soil clouds the water and interferes with aquatic life.

**How Can Stormwater Pollution Be Prevented?** Educating yourself and others and changing behaviors will make a large impact on reducing stormwater pollution. Only rain goes down the storm drains. Illicit (or illegal) discharges are anything except rain that are not permitted. Keep outdoor garbage bins covered and do not overfill them. Cleanup pet waste. Don't over water or over fertilize lawns and pickup clippings and spills. Maintain your car to prevent leaks. Don't wash your car in your driveway.



**Common Stormwater Pollutant Examples Include:**

- Trash
- Soil erosion
- Vehicle fluids
- Pet waste
- Pesticides and fertilizer
- Landscape debris
- Wash and rinse water
- Sewage clog and overflow
- Household and workplace hazardous wastes, materials, and chemicals improperly used, stored, or disposed

