

While we know that water pollution can originate from sources such as an industry or sewage, much has been done to clean up these “point sources” of pollution.

What many people don’t realize, is that “nonpoint source” pollution—which originates from many diffuse sources all over our watershed—is the main cause of water pollution.

Water picks up sediments and contaminants as it runs off streets and landscape. In Arcata, “stormwater pollution”—flows to storm drains which empty directly into our creeks, sloughs, Humboldt Bay and the ocean. Storm drains are separate from our sewer system, and flow to our creeks and waterways UNTREATED! Common pollutants include trash, fuel, and other vehicle fluids. Food businesses can cause harm by putting food waste in leaky dumpsters, not properly cleaning up outdoor food or chemical spills, washing spills and/or cleaning oily vents and mats in streets or alleys which lead to storm drains.

To protect our creeks and waterways only rain should go down storm drains. We all need to do our part. Please don’t let runoff get polluted in the first place.

Employee & Customer Education

Employees can help prevent pollution when you include water quality training in employee orientation and reviews. Promote these Best Management Practices (BMPs):

- Storage containers should be regularly inspected and kept in good condition.
- Place materials inside rigid, durable, water-tight and rodent-proof containers with tight fitting covers.
- Store materials inside a building or build a covered area that is paved and designed to prevent runoff from entering storm drains.

Place plastic sheeting over materials or containers and secure the cover with ties and weighted objects. (Not appropriate for storing liquids).

Post BMPs Where Employees and Customers Can See Them



Special thanks to the Bay Area Management Agencies Association (BASMAA)

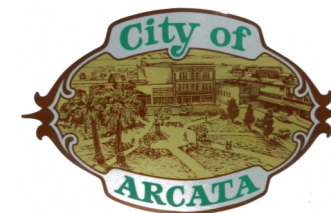
For questions call:
City of Arcata Environmental Services Dept.
(707) 822-8184
Humboldt Waste Management Authority
(707) 441-2005
CalRecycle
1-800-RECYCLE
North Coast Stormwater Coalition Region-Wide Hotline
1-877-NCSC-001 1-877-627-2001
www.HumboldtStormwater.org
Department of Toxic Substances Control Hotline
(800) 728-6942



City of Arcata Mobile Food and Restaurant Business Guidelines



For Water Quality Protection



Environmental Services Dept.
736 F Street
Arcata, CA 95521
(707) 822-8184
eservices@cityofarcata.org
www.cityofarcata.org

Mobile Food Businesses proper food preparation & clean up that includes these best management practices

Use Dry Methods for Spill Cleanup



Use cat litter, absorbent pads, sweeping, etc. to prevent discharge or accumulation of any materials to the City's storm drains. Don't hose down spills.

Pour Wash Water into a Janitorial or Mop Sink



This ensures that any wash water from surface cleaning activities is collected and discharged to the sanitary sewer system. Don't pour it out onto a parking lot, alley, sidewalk or street.

Recycle Grease And Oil



Don't pour it into sinks, floor drains, or onto a parking lot or street.

Wash into a Mop Sink, Floor Drain or Proper Outside Area



Don't wash floor mats, filters, and garbage cans in a parking lot, alley, sidewalk or street.

Keep Dumpster Area Clean and Lids Closed



You are required to pick up, remove and dispose of all garbage, refuse of litter. Sweep up waste materials, don't fill the dumpster with liquid waste or hose it out. Maintain the entire area within a 25 ft radius of the location where mobile food vending is occurring.

Minimize Wastes

- Use non-disposable products. Serve food on ceramic dishware rather than paper, plastic or styrofoam. Use cloth napkins rather than paper ones. If you must use disposable products, use paper instead of styrofoam.
- Buy the least toxic products available.
- Look for "nontoxic," "non-petroleum based," "free of ammonia, phosphates, dye or perfume," or "readily biodegradable" on the label.
- Avoid chlorinated compounds, petroleum distillates, phenols and formaldehyde.
- Use water-based products.
- Look for & use "recycled" and reuseable containers.