

## PROJECT POLLUTION PREVENTION

*Project Pollution Prevention* is a partnership of the County of Orange and the 34 cities of Orange County. *Project Pollution Prevention's* mission is to eliminate pollution from our water resources by educating business and individuals about what they can do to ensure we leave a legacy of clean water for future generations.

*Project Pollution Prevention* is part of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), a program of the United States Environmental Protection Agency intended to keep our environment safe for everyone by stopping storm water pollution.



CITY OF FULLERTON—  
ENGINEERING AND MAINTENANCE  
SERVICES DEPARTMENTS

**A joint project of the City of  
Fullerton and the County of Orange**

WANT MORE INFORMATION?  
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STORMWATER PROGRAM AT  
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## PREVENTING POLLUTION FROM PARKED OR STORED VEHICLES



**SIMPLE STEPS YOU  
CAN TAKE TO KEEP  
OUR WATER CLEAN**

***"THE OCEAN  
STARTS AT YOUR  
FRONT DOOR"***

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## **PREVENTING POLLUTION FROM PARKED CARS**

Did you know the water that runs off your property and from the streets runs directly to the ocean without treatment? Anything that runs down the gutter will eventually end up on our beaches and in our coastal waters. That's why we have to be sure to keep pollutants out of the drain system.

Parked automobiles may add pollutants to the storm drain because vehicles may leak fluids containing hydrocarbons, metals, and other toxic materials. In addition, heavily soiled automobiles may drop clods of dirt onto the surface, contributing to the sediment load when runoff is present. When it rains, or when cars are washed, the pollutants may be carried into the storm drain system.

A small leak from a single car may not seem very dangerous, but if you think about the millions of cars in Orange County, all those little drips and drops can add up to a lot of pollution in drainage channels, and beaches, affecting sea life and posing health hazards to humans, too. In fact, high bacterial levels from untreated runoff have been the number one cause of beach closures for several years.

### **HOW YOU CAN HELP**

Preventing dangerous runoff from parked cars is simple. Just doing the things listed below will ensure your vehicle is safely parked or stored.

### **WHAT YOU CAN DO.....**

The following suggestions were developed to give you some ideas on how you can safely park or store your car. They're common sense things that don't take a lot of time or cost a lot of money, but can do a lot to prevent water pollution.

- Move your car off the street during designated street sweeping days and times. This will ensure debris don't build up under your car.
- Put a pan or other collection device under your car if it might leak fluids until you can get it properly repaired.
- Be sure your vehicle receives proper maintenance to minimize or eliminate leaks.

- If you discover a leak, use a dry cleaning agent to clean the spill. Auto parts stores and most general merchandise stores sell special absorbents for cleaning up vehicle spills.
- Never use water to wash oil stains or other vehicle fluids into the gutter.
- If you're going to store your vehicle outside for an extended period of time, cover it with a weather-proof tarp. This will not only keep your car clean, it will help prevent rainwater from being contaminated by chemicals in and on your vehicle.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION  
ABOUT STORM DRAIN  
PROTECTION OR ADDITIONAL  
BROCHURES, CALL (714) 738-6860**

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