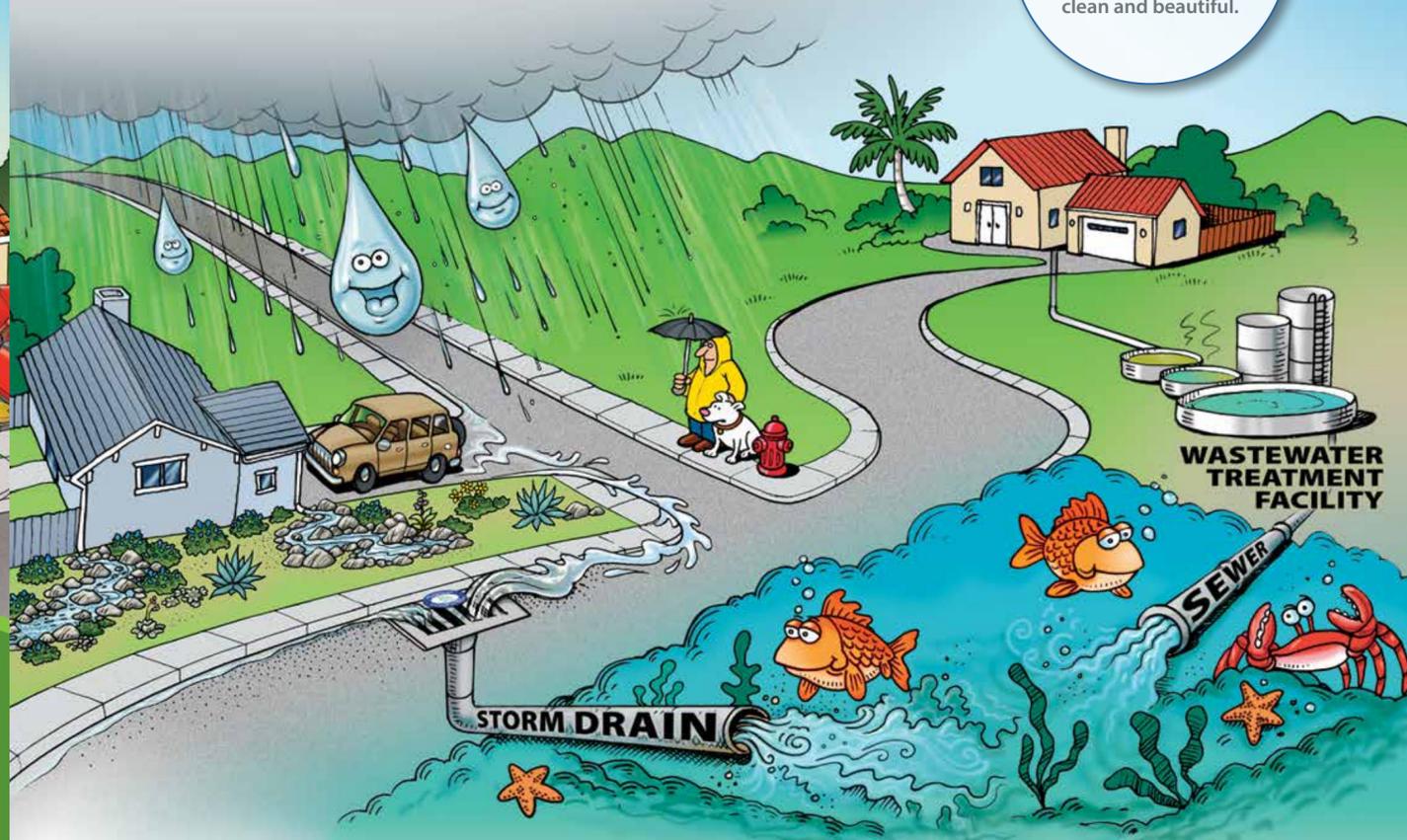


Preventing Pollution in Your Neighborhood



City of
Carlsbad

Storm drains are our neighborhood connection to our watersheds, and are separate from the sewer system. Rain water and runoff flow through storm drains and directly into our creeks, lagoons and ocean. Pollutants such as fertilizers, pesticides and bacteria from our homes can also be carried downstream.



We all play a role in preventing pollution. See inside for tips on keeping Carlsbad clean and beautiful.

Prevent Pollution



Do your part to keep Carlsbad beautiful. Identify potential issues and prevent pollution from your home, such as

- Fertilizers
- Trash
- Dirt and Sediment
- Pesticides and Insecticides
- Pet Waste
- Household Hazardous Waste
- Common household chemicals such as soaps and detergents

Preventing pollution is not only the right thing to do, it's the law. To report illegal washing or dumping to the street and storm drain, please call the Storm Water Hotline at 760-602-2799 or email stormwater@carlsbadca.gov.



Home Improvement Projects

- Use washout areas that cannot flow to outdoor drains, street or gutter.
- Wash brushes and other equipment in indoor sinks whenever possible.
- Properly dispose of home improvement waste.
- Keep materials and equipment in covered areas, protected from rain and wind.



Runoff Reduction

- Install rain barrels to capture and reuse rain water on your property.
- Channel water from downspouts and rain gutters to stable landscaped areas.
- Consider installing a rain garden, using sustainable landscape and ocean-friendly garden techniques.



Pets

- Always pick up after pets.
- Properly dispose of pet waste in the trash.
- Don't forget a leash and pet waste bags when hiking.



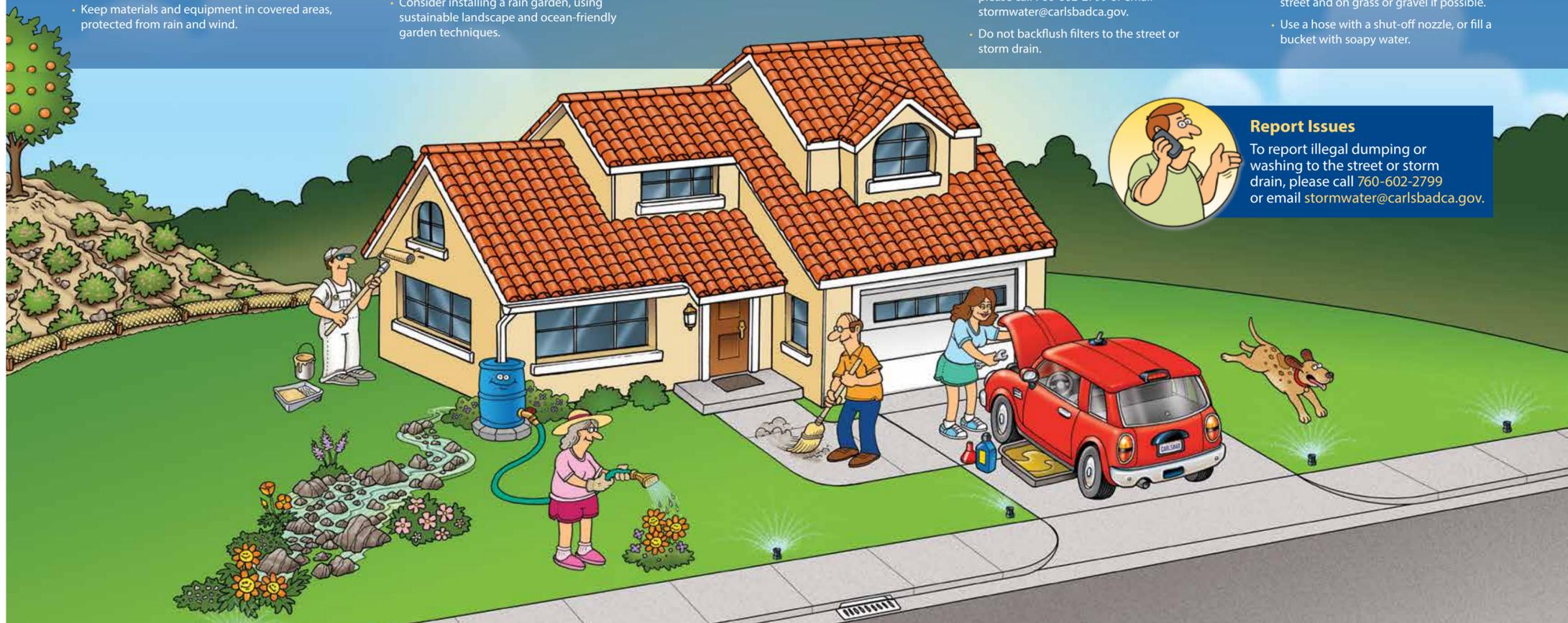
Pool, Spa and Fountain Maintenance

- Be sure that water is pH-neutral with no chlorine before draining to the street and storm drain.
- For information on discharging saline pools, please call 760-602-2799 or email stormwater@carlsbadca.gov.
- Do not backflush filters to the street or storm drain.



Car Washing

- Wash your car at a commercial car wash if possible, where wash water is filtered and recycled.
- Use soap sparingly.
- If you wash your car at home, park it off the street and on grass or gravel if possible.
- Use a hose with a shut-off nozzle, or fill a bucket with soapy water.



Report Issues

To report illegal dumping or washing to the street or storm drain, please call 760-602-2799 or email stormwater@carlsbadca.gov.



Sediment and Erosion Control

- Use mulch, sand bags, and/or straw wattles to prevent dirt from washing off your property, especially on slopes.
- Use plants, rock, gravel or mulch as long-term solutions to erosion.



Landscaping

- Always follow instructions when applying chemicals in your yard.
- Consider alternative fertilizers that are more natural or environmentally friendly.
- Choose California-friendly and native plants.
- Share information with landscapers.



General Housekeeping

- Sweep up outdoor areas, instead of hosing them down.
- If water is needed, divert water to landscaping or capture the wash water using sandbags or shop vacuum.
- Consider all outdoor drains as storm drains, and do not dump or wash to them.



Vehicle Maintenance

- Do not park leaking vehicles on the street.
- Properly contain spills and automotive fluids. Check the city's website for motor oil recycling locations.
- Keep auto parts and exposed engines protected from the rain.



Irrigation Systems

- Regularly check sprinkler systems for overspray and leaks.
- Keep all water on your property to prevent runoff and overwatering.
- Follow current water use restrictions.
- Consider efficient irrigation systems, such as drip, rotor heads or weather-based systems.