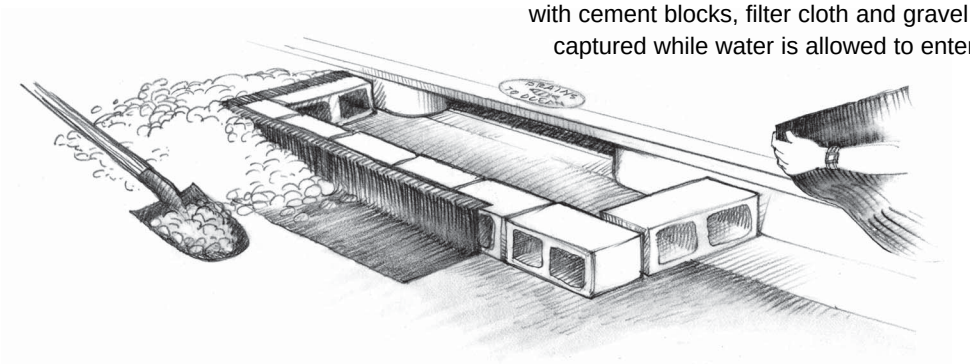
Storm Drains & Catch Basins

Best Management Practices

Best Management Practices Fact Sheet
SC 12

One method to temporarily protect storm drains is with cement blocks, filter cloth and gravel. Debris is captured while water is allowed to enter the drain.



Selection of Best Management Practices

In order to comply with Santa Barbara County's Municipal Storm Water Permit, Best Management Practices (BMPs) must be employed at municipal facilities. BMPs may be selected from the options listed below or developed on a case-by-case basis as appropriate. Facilities with a Water Quality Protection Protocol (WQPP) should follow the BMPs stated in that protocol.

Practices

1. Inspect storm water drains, grates, inlets, ditches, swales and catch basins at least twice a year. The best times are September, a month before the start of the rain season, and February before the end of the rain season. Keep a log of areas and structures inspected.
2. Clean storm grates, inlets, drains, ditches, swales and catch basins to remove the accumulation of debris and sediment. Keep a log of the material removed from each structure.
    a. If they are to be cleaned only once during the year, clean these structures prior to the start of the rain season in September.
    b. Clean structures two or more times a year to keep debris from accumulating.
3. Evaluate the use of storm drains filters for petroleum, debris and or sediment removal at your facility. If observations indicate that petroleum, debris (trash, leaves, etc.) and/or sediment are entering the drains in significant quantities, and source control BMPs have been implemented to the maxi-

Goal / Purpose

Initial

Maintain storm drains and catch basins to reduce the concentration of potential pollutants flushed into the storm water system.

Long Term

Implement a regular cleaning schedule for storm drains, catch basin and other storm water conveyances. Install petroleum, debris and sediment filters where appropriate to reduce pollutant concentrations.

Santa Barbara County

www.countyofsb.org/project_cleanwater

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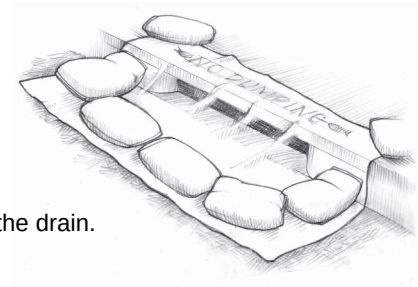
PROJECT CLEAN WATER
Santa Barbara County



Here is another type of temporary storm drain protection which prevents any liquid from entering the drain.

Sandbags and plastic sheeting are used to seal the drain.

mum extent possible, these types of filters may be appropriate to reduce contaminants from leaving the site.Here is another type of temporary storm drain protection, which prevents any liquid from entering the drain. Sandbags and plastic sheeting are used to seal the drain.

You may contact Project Clean Water staff for information on products and venders. See web address in sidebar on first page.

4. Install storm drain filters, in one or more drains, to remove petroleum compounds, debris and/or sediment from runoff. Prepare a written Operation & Maintenance Plan for ongoing maintenance to preserve filter effectiveness.

5. For drains that serve unstable areas, protect the storm drain by using sediment erosion control techniques such as those identified in the Landscaping and Undeveloped Areas BMP Fact Sheet or other measures appropriate for the site to protect the drain system. Contact Project Clean Water Staff for additional information on erosion control measures.

6. For drains that serve unstable areas where erosion cannot be controlled by other methods, protect the storm drain by using filter fences, sediment traps, diversion structures, etc. to protect the drain system. Contact Project Clean Water Staff for additional information on storm water system protection.

7. Make sure that employees know that storm drains, catch basins and culverts are part of the storm water collection system; not part of the sanitary sewer system. Contact Project Clean Water if you want to mark storm drains with "No dumping, flows to ocean".

8. Authorized non-storm water discharges (for example: irrigation water, HVAC condensate, and sprinkler water) should be directed away from potential pollutant sources such as loading areas or accumulations of oil and grease in parking lots. This will minimize pollutants reaching the storm water system. Contact Project Clean Water staff for a list of authorized non-storm water discharges.

9. Promptly repair any damaged or deteriorating structure or any other problems that may compromise the integrity of the storm water drainage system. Keep a log of storm water system maintenance.

Associated BMPs

- All of Santa Barbara County's source control (SC) BMPs

10. Update facility schematics with any change to the plumbing (to prevent cross connections) or storm water drain system. Only storm water is allowed into the storm water system.

Contractors Requirements

11. Ensure that contractors provide the County with a copy of their storm water awareness training and procedures for protecting the storm water system. These procedures should cover activities from cleaning windows to painting an entire building.

12. Include specific contract language to inform the contractor that they must comply with federal, state and local storm water rules and regulations as required by the Clean Water Act. Amend existing contracts to include this language, if not already included.

Employee Training

Staff training may include regular tailgate sessions for those responsible for maintaining or managing storm drains and catch basins. Tailgate sessions should provide information on the selected storm water BMPs and methods for preventing discharge of pollutants into the storm drain system. Encourage employees to suggest modifications for existing BMPs and to create new BMPs; their suggestions will likely reduce labor and increase storm water runoff protection. If the above suggested BMPs require some modification to work for you or do not cover some aspect of your operations or facility, call Project Clean Water at 568-3440 for assistance.

Storm water BMP training may be incorporated with other training sessions such as safety training. Facilities with a Storm Water Plan should follow the training requirements stated in that Plan. Records of the training sessions must be kept for at least three years. These records should include who conducted the training, who attended, subjects discussed, and the date(s) of the training.

For additional information on this and other BMPs, or the County's responsibilities under the NPDES Phase II federal regulations for storm water discharges, see **www.countyofsb.org/project_cleanwater** or contact Project Clean Water staff at 568-3440.