

Portable Toilets Maintenance

Portable Toilet maintenance activities have the potential to release pollutants such as bacteria, organic matter, disinfectants, and suspended solids that if spilled or disposed of improperly these contaminants can pollute our local creeks.

The most important thing to know about sewers and storm drains is that they are two different systems. When waste or rinse water is discharged to the street, gutter, or a paved surface, it flows into the storm water drainage system. The storm water drainage system consists of street gutters, inlets, catch basins, and ditches. Many people believe that storm water gets “cleaned” but it does not. Rather, it flows directly into our creeks, rivers, lakes, and the ocean without any treatment at all. Only the water that goes down a sink, toilet, into an oil/water separator, or another inside drain flows to the wastewater treatment plant. Toxic material cannot be discharged to either system.

As a valued member of the Santa Rosa business community, we know that you are invested in protecting the quality of life that your customers, Santa Rosa residents, and visitors enjoy.

Your Job Done Right

- Pump-out service for portable toilets shall be conducted in a manner that prevents the release of sewage and/or wash water to the storm drain system and creeks
- Wastewater shall be disposed of to the sanitary sewer at the job site or to a holding tank for later disposal to the sewer at the business’s office or other approved location
- A one-time discharge permit may be required from Environmental Compliance at (707) 543-3369 for disposal to the sanitary sewer
- Prior to cleaning portable toilets, remove trash and discard into the garbage

- Examples of methods for preventing waste and rinse water from reaching the storm drain system include:
 1. minimize the use of cleaning fluids and wipe-down with a towel,
 2. block the unit’s doorway to contain the rinse water in the unit and pump the ponded liquid to tank,
 3. use a containment tray under the unit to collect rinse water and then pump the collected liquid to the tank
- Remember, even soaps labeled “biodegradable” or “environmentally safe,” are toxic to fish and can’t go to the storm drain
- If the portable toilet is located on dirt where rinse water would not reach any storm drain inlets, ditches, creeks, or pavement, then the rinse water may be allowed to soak into the soil. Minimal water and cleaners should be used
- Place portable toilet away from storm drains inlets, waterways, and areas with high vehicle traffic
- Post signs with company contact information for reporting the need for cleaning or repair
- All chemicals and cleaning agents must be securely stored on trucks
- Maintain all hoses, couplings, tanks, etc. on trucks in good condition to prevent leaks and spills

Storage and Maintenance Facilities

- Inspect all portable toilets stored at your facility regularly
- Maintain all portable toilets in good condition to prevent leaks or spills
- If damaged, toilets must be repaired or replaced immediately
- Washing of vehicles, portable toilets, or other equipment at a storage facility must be performed in a wash pad that drains to the sewer to ensure the collection of generated waste water

- Properly store and handle potential contaminants (portable toilet waste, disinfectants, oils, detergents etc.) to prevent any spills or discharges onto the ground or into a storm drain
- Hazardous materials and waste shall be stored in a manner that will prevent contact with rain water and run-off
- Maintain all hazardous materials in accordance with the Materials Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) and all applicable laws and regulations
- Keep copies of procedures for spill cleanup, and supplies for spill response in every vehicle and at your business headquarters
- Promptly clean up spills and leaks when they occur

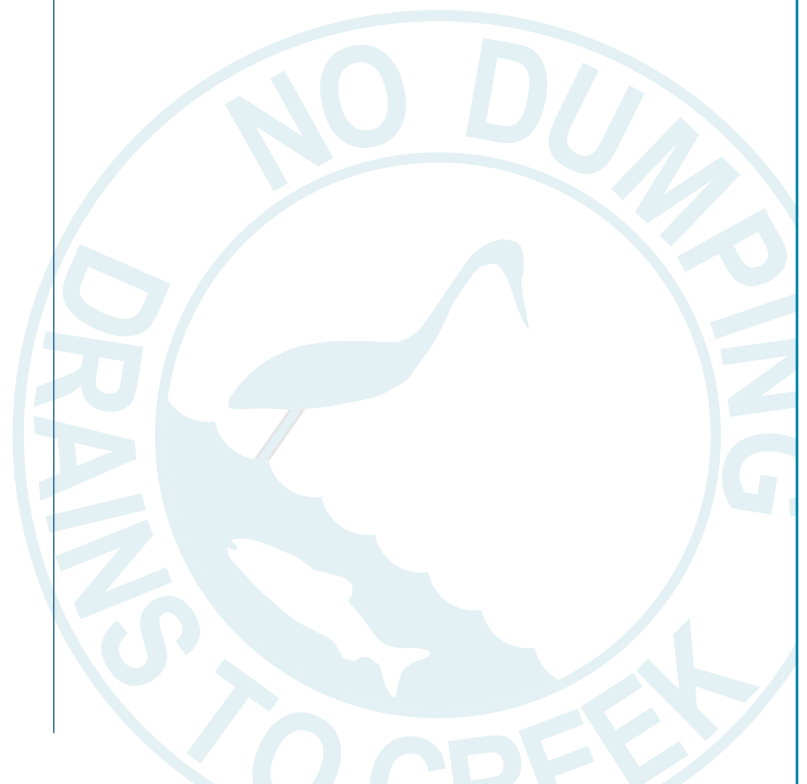
Are You Ready to Respond to a Spill?

- Have a written plan
- Train your employees on procedures, equipment use, spill clean-up procedures, and correct disposal of waste
- Have your plan and spill cleanup equipment accessible on your work vehicle
- Know how to handle hazardous materials
- Have MSDS sheet for any products you are using

Santa Rosa Contact Information

- To report a spill call (707) 543-3800
- To report a hazardous material spill, call 911 or (707) 528-5151
- To report sewage spills or discharges call (707) 543-4200
- For more information about obtaining a Wastewater Discharge Permit call the Environmental Compliance Section at (707) 543-3369 or visit www.srcity.org/envcompliance
- To get information of proper disposal of materials call (707) 565-DESK (3375), or go to www.recyclenow.org
- For help implementing these measures or if you have questions about storm water, call (707) 543-4200

Releasing pollutants directly into the storm drain system or a waterway violates the City's Storm Water and Sanitary Sewer Use Ordinances.



Contact information for businesses outside of Santa Rosa:



City of Cloverdale

Public Works Department

<http://www.cloverdale.net/index.aspx?nid=254>

(707) 894-1792



City of Cotati

Public Works/Engineering Department

<http://www.ci.cotati.ca.us/sections/departments/pw-storm-water.cfm>

During Business Hours: (707)665-3637

After Hours: (707)792-4611

Businesses in Cotati seeking to apply for a wastewater discharge permit should contact the City of Santa Rosa Environmental Compliance Section at 707-543-3369.



City of Fort Bragg

<http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/planning/stormwater.htm>

(707) 964-5379



City of Healdsburg

Public Works Department

<http://www.ci.healdsburg.ca.us/index.aspx?page=192>

(707) 431-3346



City of Rohnert Park

Public Works Department – Public Safety Dispatch

<http://www.rpcity.org/index.aspx?page=357>

(707) 588-3300

Businesses in Rohnert Park seeking to apply for a wastewater discharge permit should contact the City of Santa Rosa Environmental Compliance Section at 707-543-3369.



City of Sebastopol

Public Works Department for reporting issues

Engineering Department for questions

<http://ci.sebastopol.ca.us/page/water-wastewater-storm-water>

During Business Hours: (707) 823-5331

After Hours: (707) 829-4400

Businesses in Sebastopol seeking to apply for a wastewater discharge permit should contact the City of Santa Rosa Environmental Compliance Section at 707-543-3369.



City of Ukiah

Public Works Department

<http://www.cityofukiah.com/?p=173>

(707) 463-6296



Mendocino County

<http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/planning/stormwater.htm>



Sonoma County

PRMD Engineering

<http://www.sonoma-county.org/prmd/sw/sw-contact.htm>

<http://www.sonoma-county.org/prmd/sw/sw-spill.htm>

During Business Hours: (707) 565-2502

After Hours: (707) 573-1365 (REDCOM)



Sonoma County Water Agency

Public Works Department – Engineering Division

<http://www.scwa.ca.gov/storm-water/>

During Business Hours: (707) 521-1865



Town of Windsor

<http://www.ci.windsor.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=232>

(707) 838-5340