

A clean ocean and healthy creeks, rivers, bays and beaches are important to Los Angeles County. However, allowing debris from your business to enter the gutter and storm drains can lead to water pollution. Storm drains carry rainwater from our streets, and should never contain wash water, trash, grease or other materials. Unlike substances that enter the sanitary sewers (from sinks and toilets), substances that enter the storm drains do not receive treatment before entering our waterways. In addition, blocked sewer lines can cause raw sewage to back up into kitchens, bathrooms, city streets, storm drains, and our waterways.

This brochure will explain steps your food establishment can take to help preserve water quality by keeping debris out of storm drains and by preventing fats, oils, and grease from blocking sewer lines.



## County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

[www.888CleanLA.com](http://www.888CleanLA.com)

The tips contained in this brochure provide useful information to help prevent water pollution. If you have other suggestions, please contact your city's stormwater representatives or call the Los Angeles County Stormwater Program.

## Contact Info

To Report Illegal Dumping into the County's Storm Drain System, Call:

1(888)CLEAN LA  
24 Hours per Day

# A GUIDE FOR FOOD SERVICE FACILITIES

*Help prevent ocean pollution*





## Cleaning Spills and Equipment

- Never hose a spill into a gutter, street or storm drain!
- Before mopping a wet kitchen spill, absorb it with towels, cat litter or other absorbent materials.
- Sweep up dry spills immediately and dispose of the material in the trash.
- Scrape grease and food waste from floor mats and filters before cleaning. Dispose of scrapings in trash.
- After scraping, clean floor mats, filters, and garbage cans in a mop, sink or a designated, curbed area connected to the sanitary sewer. Consider using a cleaning service for these activities.

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## Dumpster/Grease Bin Area Cleaning

- Set up and operate small mixers on tarps or heavy drop cloths.
- Do not mix more fresh concrete or cement than is needed for the job.
- When breaking up pavement, pick up all chunks and pieces and recycle them at a local construction and demolition recycling company.
- When making saw cuts in pavement, protect nearby

# Use Grease Interceptors to Capture Fats, Oils, and Grease

## PREVENT FATS, OILS, AND GREASE FROM BLOCKING SEWERS

Fats, oils, and grease (FOG) can cause sewer line blockages which can make sewage overflow into your facility and into storm drains that lead to the ocean. To stop the substances from building up in sewer lines, prevent them from entering your drains.

## PRACTICES IN KITCHEN

- Collect waste cooking oil and grease in portable containers with lids. Transfer into drums or barrels for recycling.
- Do not pour oil or grease down any drain. Recycle or use absorbent materials and dispose of waste in the trash.
- Dry-wipe pots, pans, dishware, and work areas to remove all visible grease before washing. Dispose of waste in the trash.
- Use drain screens to capture food waste and dispose of properly into the trash.
- Train employees about proper grease disposal and post "NO GREASE" signs near all sinks or drains.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:

**CITY OF IRWINDALE  
ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT  
(626)430-2264**

