Everything that flows into campus storm drains goes without any treatment into the Pacific Ocean, Rose Canyon Creek, or Los Peñasquitos Lagoon.

Pollutants picked up by storm water and urban runoff can cause public health problems and result in beach closures. Pollution can harm both wildlife and aquatic life, along with their habitats.

Our beaches and ocean are a great treasure for all to enjoy. We need your help to protect them.
Causes of Water Pollution

Storm water that comes in contact with pollutants such as oil, litter, heavy metals, pesticides, fertilizers, and sediment already on the ground causes water pollution.

Improper disposal of pollutants onto the ground (such as food waste, paint waste, wash water, and automotive fluids) also pollutes our water.

Common Water Pollutants

- Litter (plastic bags, cigarette butts, food, packaging, flyers and newspaper)
- Oil and grease (leaky cars and kitchen waste)
- Nutrients (fertilizers)
- Chemicals (pesticides, detergents)
- Coliform bacteria (from trash, animal or human excrement)
- Heavy metals (copper and zinc from vehicle brake pad dust and tire wear)
- Sediment (erosion and construction activities)
- Wash water (outdoor washing)

What You Can Do

- Don’t dump anything in the storm drains
- Pick up litter; cover trash cans and dumpsters
- Pick up after your pet
- Don’t throw cigarette butts on the ground
- Wash your car where the wash water won’t get in a storm drain
- Make sure your car doesn’t leak oil or other fluids
- Don’t over-water your lawn and minimize use of fertilizer and pesticides

Reporting

Report non-storm water discharges into storm drains:

EH&S: (858) 534-3660

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