

## REPORT ILLEGAL DUMPING:

Call the Moraga Police Department  
(925) 888-7055

For more information regarding  
storm drains and drainage structure  
maintenance please contact:

**Moraga Public Services**  
(925) 888-7026

Information from this brochure  
was obtained from the following  
sources:

- ◆ Contra Costa Clean Water Program  
[www.cccleanwater.org](http://www.cccleanwater.org)
- ◆ Honolulu Department of  
Environmental Services  
[www.protectingwater.com](http://www.protectingwater.com)
- ◆ California EPA  
[www.calepa.ca.gov](http://www.calepa.ca.gov)
- ◆ NPDES  
[www.npdes.com](http://www.npdes.com)
- ◆ EBMUD  
[www.ebmud.com](http://www.ebmud.com)
- ◆ Earthwater Stencils  
[www.earthwater-stencils.com](http://www.earthwater-stencils.com)

Please visit any of these sites  
for additional information.



Moraga Public Services

329 Rheem Blvd  
Moraga, CA 94556  
Phone: (925) 888-7026



# RESIDENTS GUIDE TO STORM DRAINS AND PRIVATE DRAINAGE STRUCTURES

VISIT THE TOWN OF MORAGA'S WEBSITE AT [WWW.CI.MORAGA.CA.US](http://WWW.CI.MORAGA.CA.US)



## WHAT IS A STORM DRAIN?

A storm drain is very different from the drains inside a home. Any water that leaves your house through a kitchen or bathroom drain flows to a sewage treatment facility. At a sewage treatment facility, the water undergoes a cleaning process.

Water that flows down a storm drain does not make its way to a water treatment facility. Instead, **whatever flows down a storm drain flows directly to a creek, canal, lake, or other body of water.**






In Contra Costa County, storm drains flow directly to local creeks, San Francisco Bay, and the delta with no treatment. Storm water pollution is a serious problem for wildlife dependent on our waterways and for the people who live near polluted streams or baylands.

**In the Town of Moraga it is the RESIDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY to maintain the drainage structures on their private property.** These drainage structures usually consist of concrete lined swales that empty into a catch basin that drains to the town maintained storm drain system at the street.



## COMMON SOURCES OF POLLUTION.

Storm drain pollution can come from many commonly used household, automotive, construction, and landscaping products:

-  Spilled oil, fuel, and fluids from vehicles and heavy equipment.
-  Runoff of detergent from washing cars in driveways or in the street.
-  Construction and paving debris: concrete, asphalt, paint, glue, and other hazardous materials.
-  Landscaping runoff containing leaves, grass clippings and other yard waste, pesticides, weed killers, fertilizer and other toxins.
-  Pet and other animal waste.

According to the EPA, storm water runoff is the **#1** source of surface water pollution and nearly **40%** of US waterbodies are polluted.

Up to **80%** of all storm water pollution comes from residential runoff.



## WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?

There are many steps that homeowners can take to ensure that all residential waste is disposed of properly and drainage structures are properly maintained.

### Drainage Structures

- Clean out debris from concrete lined swales and drains during the summer months.
- Check for leaf debris periodically during autumn and before the heavy rains.
- After a rain storm check to see that all structures are free of debris and draining properly.

### Storm Drains

- Always take used oil, batteries and other fluids to a repair shop for proper disposal. Call **1-800-NO-DUMPING** for disposal information.
- Do your best to prevent runoff of household, automotive, construction, paving, or landscaping debris or animal waste from going into the street.

