



## SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION

### ■ Regulatory information

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act prohibits the discharge of any pollutant to navigable waters from a point source unless the discharge is authorized by a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The 1987 passage of the Water Quality Act established NPDES permit requirements for discharges of storm water. The NPDES permit program controls water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants into waters of the United States.

Industrial facilities and construction sites are regulated by the Regional Water Quality Control Board and State Water Resources Control Board, through general storm water permits. Most industrial, manufacturing or transportation businesses that store materials, products or equipment outdoors, or conduct vehicle washing or process operations outdoors are required to obtain coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board's General Industrial Activities Stormwater Permit. For more information about this permit, visit [www.swrcb.ca.gov/stormwtr/industrial.html](http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/stormwtr/industrial.html) or contact your local storm water coordinator.

If your business conducts construction activities, including clearing, grading, stockpiling or excavation that results in soil disturbances of at least one acre, you are subject to the State Water Resources Control Board's General Construction Activities Stormwater Permit. To find out more about this storm water permit for construction, visit: [www.swrcb.ca.gov/stormwtr/construction.html](http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/stormwtr/construction.html).

Cities and counties are regulated through permits issued by the Regional Boards. Since 1990, operators of large storm drain systems such as San Bernardino County's have been required to:

- Develop a storm water management program designed to prevent harmful pollutants from being dumped or washed by storm water runoff, into the storm water system, then discharged into local water bodies; and
- Obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

The NPDES permit programs in California are administered by the State Water Resources Control Board and by nine regional boards that issue NPDES permits and enforce regulations within their respective region.

San Bernardino County lies within the jurisdiction of the Santa Ana Region. This regional board issues a permit to the San Bernardino County Permittees, which includes the County of San Bernardino, San Bernardino County Flood Control District and incorporated cities of San Bernardino County. Since the program's inception, the County of San Bernardino has served as the principal permittee.



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### Documents & reports:

The following documents describe the regulations and programs for water quality in San Bernardino County. You can review the latest Basin Plan, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and Drainage Area Management Plan (DAMP).

- **Basin Plans:** The document for each region of the State Water Quality Board's jurisdiction, including Santa Ana, is the Water Quality Control Plan, commonly referred to as the Basin Plan. It is the foundation for the regulatory programs of each regional board. The Basin Plan documents the beneficial uses of the region's ground and surface waters, existing water quality conditions, problems, and goals, and actions by the regional board and others that are necessary to achieve and maintain water quality standards.

► [Water Control Plan for the Santa Ana River Basin](#)

- **Municipal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits:** The permits of each region outline additional steps for a storm water management program and specify requirements to help protect the beneficial uses of the receiving waters. They require permittees to develop and implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) to control/reduce the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States to the maximum extent practicable (MEP).

► [Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board Municipal NPDES Permit Order No. R8-2002-0012](#)

- **Report of Waste Discharge:** The Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) describes the San Bernardino Stormwater Program, implemented by the County and cities to comply with their jointly held stormwater permit. It is the principle policy and guidance document for the NPDES Stormwater Program.

► [Report of Waste Discharge 2000](#)

- **San Bernardino County Storm Water Program Annual Status Report:** The Annual Status Report is a requirement of the NPDES permit for submittal to the Regional Boards and United States Environmental Protection Agency. The report presents an analysis and assessment of permit compliance activities.

► [Annual report](#) - will be posted soon

For more information about how you can prevent stormwater pollution:

[www.sbcountystormwater.org](http://www.sbcountystormwater.org)