

## Preventing Pollution: It's Up to US

The City Of Greeley has two drainage systems – the sanitary sewers and the **storm drains**. The storm drain system was designed to prevent flooding by carrying excess rainwater away from city streets to the rivers.

Because the system contains no filters or treatment, it now serves the *unintended* function of carrying urban pollution straight to the Cache La Poudre and South Platte Rivers.

Rain, industrial and household water mixed with urban pollutants creates stormwater pollution. The pollutants include: oil and other automotive fluids, paints and construction debris, yard and pet wastes, pesticides and litter.

Concrete washout is high in pH, contains harmful chemicals, and is concentrated with sediments. This pollution damages the environment; and may kill plants and fish.

The City Of Greeley is required by federal and state law to educate the public and businesses on stormwater concerns. Please join us in our effort to reduce stormwater runoff pollution.

### Storm Drain Pollution From Fresh Concrete and Mortar Applications

Fresh concrete and cement-related mortars that wash into lakes and rivers are toxic to fish and the aquatic environment. Disposing of these materials into the storm drains or detention ponds can block storm drains, causes serious problems, and is prohibited by law. Specifically, City Of Greeley Ordinance # 32, Chapter 14.16 – Prohibits Illegal Discharges to Stormwater Drainage system.

## Doing the Job Right

### General Business Practices

- ❑ Wash out concrete mixers only in designated wash-out areas in your yard, away from storm drains and waterways, where the water will flow into a temporary waste pit in a dirt area. Let water percolate through soil and dispose of settled, hardened concrete as garbage. Whenever possible, recycle washout by pumping back into mixers for reuse.
- ❑ Wash out chutes onto dirt areas at site that do not flow to streets or drains
- ❑ Do not use diesel fuel as a lubricant on concrete forms, tools, or trailers.

### During Construction

- ❑ Don't mix up more fresh concrete or cement than you will use in a two-hour period.



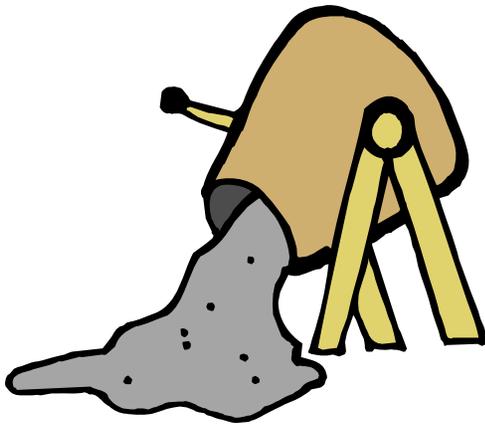
- ❑ Set up and operate small mixers on tarps or heavy plastic drop cloths.
- ❑ When cleaning up after driveway or sidewalk construction, wash fines onto dirt areas, NOT down the driveway or into the street or storm drain



- ❑ Protect applications of fresh concrete and mortar from rainfall and runoff until the material has dried.

## During Construction, continued

- Wash down exposed aggregate concrete only when the wash water can (1) flow onto a dirt area; (2) drain onto a bermed surface from which it can be pumped and disposed of properly; or (3) be vacuumed from a catchment created by blocking a storm drain. If necessary, divert runoff with temporary berms. Make sure runoff does not reach gutters or storm drains.
- Never bury waste material. Dispose of small amounts of excess dry concrete, grout, and mortar in the trash.
- Never dispose of washout in the street, storm drains, drainage ditches, canals or Cache La Poudre or South Platte Rivers.



## City Of Greeley Numbers:

Information line main number:

English – 350-9777

Espanol – 350-9595

Environmental Concerns:

- Adopt-A- Street 241
- Air Quality/Odor Complaint 242
- Household Hazardous Waste Disposal 246
- Recycling 247
- Sanitation Complaints: Weeds, Rubbish, Junk cars, etc 441
- Drainage – Clogged Stormwater Drain 601
- Drainage – Flooding from rain, runoff or irrigation ditches 602

**To report illegal dumping –  
call 970-336-4074**

**Stormwater  
Management  
Division**

# Fresh Concrete And Mortar Application

*Best Management Practices for  
the Construction Industry.*



## Who should use this brochure?

- Concrete delivery/pumping workers
- Mason and bricklayers
- Sidewalk construction crews
- Patio construction workers
- Construction inspectors
- General Contractors
- Home Builders
- Developers