

# Water Pollution Prevention

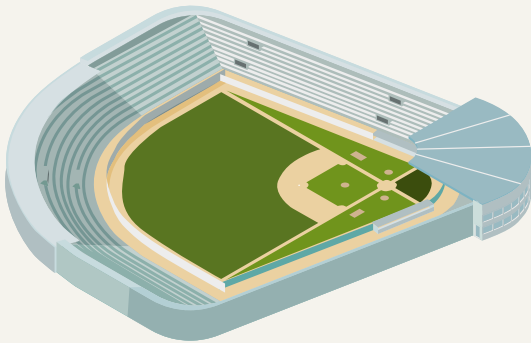
Stormwater runoff is one of LA County's biggest sources of water pollution. When trash, chemicals or debris wash into storm drains, they flow straight to our waterways. Thankfully, simple actions can protect the waterways we all enjoy. We all have a role in ensuring our rivers, lakes, streams, bays and ocean are healthy and safe for our communities and ecosystems.



## When It Rains, It...Pollutes?

Unlike wastewater, stormwater isn't treated before it's sent out to the ocean. If stormwater is polluted, it can lead to closed public beaches or risks to local ecosystems and wildlife. Luckily, stormwater pollution is preventable!

## How You Can Help



**Every two weeks, LA County generates enough trash to fill Dodger Stadium. If even a fraction of that doesn't make it into trash cans, it can have a massive effect on our environment.**

Keeping our beaches and waterways clean is everyone's responsibility. Here's how you can help:



**Pick It Up:** Toss trash, plastic bags and dog waste in the trash, not the street.



**Skip the Plastic:** Use reusable water bottles and containers to reduce waste.



**Keep Drains Clear:** Remove leaves and litter near storm drains and report any clogs.



**Compost First:** Compost grass, leaves, tree branches and other green waste, so it doesn't wash into storm drains.



**Go Green:** Choose non-toxic pesticides and fertilizers and avoid applying before it rains.



**Clear Out Drain Spouts:** Keep gutters free of leaves and branches so water can flow freely.



**Stop Spills:** Don't let motor oil or sudsy water from working on your car run into the streets and down storm drains.



**Don't Paint the Town:** Rinse brushes indoors—never outside where runoff enters waterways.

## The Ballona Creek Interceptor™ 007

The Ballona Creek Interceptor™ 007 is a fully automated, solar-powered trash collection device designed to prevent litter from reaching Santa Monica Bay. Since its deployment, it has successfully collected more than 200 tons of trash.



### Learn More

To learn more about how you can prevent pollution in your community, visit [waterforla.com](http://waterforla.com).