Storm Drain Pollution from Construction Activities
Construction site runoff can contain a variety of wastes and pollutants, including:

• Chemicals from cleaning or painting, which can be toxic to fish and the aquatic environment.
• Fresh concrete and mortar, which can clog storm sewers and drain rock, or cover inlet with filter fabric
• Sodium bromide, used as an antifreeze in pool water, which is toxic to fish and the aquatic environment. Disposing of these materials to the storm drains is prohibited.
• Contaminated dirt from the construction site.
• Petroleum products, such as diesel fuel.

To prevent storm drain pollution, observe the following:

1. Never pour paint down a storm drain. Dispose of paint as hazardous waste.
2. Settle out sediment before applying water to the drainage ditch. Paint solids will not settle out.
3. Do not use diesel as a lubricant on concrete forms, tools, or trailers.
4. Keep pollutants off exposed surfaces. Place trash cans away from storm drains and waterways, where runoff can enter them. Risks are even greater in the spring, when the snow melts and water courses flow.

Erosion and Sediment Control Field Manual (construction, 2003)
California Stormwater Quality Control Act
Water Pollution Control Plant (408) 730-7270 for information.

Protect all aquatic life. Never pour paint or concrete down a storm drain. See also Storm Drain Pollution from Construction Activities.

Doing the Job Right
General Business Practices

1. Ensure that your business is in compliance with all state and local regulations and environm