



Pollution Solution FACT SHEET 5

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
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Oahu is home to nearly one million residents who have a direct effect on our island environment and water quality.

WHAT IS POLLUTED RUNOFF?

When it rains, water flows over streets and yards carrying the pollutants it picks up into storm drains. This significantly impacts with quality of the water because unlike sanitary sewers, anything dumped into the storm drain system flows directly into the nearest stream or drainage channel without any treatment to remove contaminants.

A single gram of dog feces can contain 23 million fecal coliform bacteria.

With more than 20,000 storm drain inlets, and over 670 miles of storm drains to clean and maintain, we need your help.

WHAT ARE BMPs?

Many simple yet effective methods can be used to help reduce individual runoff. These are called Best Management Practices or BMPs.

Some storm water BMPs can be implemented when first planning and building the home and designing the landscape. Other can be incorporated into day-to-day activities. The cumulative effect throughout an entire watershed can contribute to improved storm water management.

WHAT ARE POLLUTANTS?

“Pollutant” means any waste, cooking or fuel oil, waste milk, waste juice, pesticide, paint, solvent, radioactive waste, hazardous substance, sewage, dredged spoils, chemical waste, rock, sand, biocide, toxic substance, construction waste and material, and soil sediment. The term also includes commercial FOG waste as defined under Section 14-5A.1.

**Environmental Concern Line 768-3300
Help protect our waters ... for life!**

PET WASTE



We can have a positive impact on our environment by minimizing runoff that drains into streams, estuaries, and the ocean. Sound environmental practices begin at home and at work. Here are nine simple actions we can incorporate into our daily activities to reduce pollution.

1. **Keep sidewalks, curbs, and gutters clean.**
2. **Prevent soil and debris from leaving your property.**
3. **Gather grass clippings, fallen leaves, shrub trimmings and fruits, and dispose as green waste, or compost your yard trimmings**
4. **If you change your own oil, use an oil change box. The best practice is to have your oil changed by a shop that recycles their waste oil.**
5. **Remove and dispose of pet waste before you leave an area.**
6. **Use water-based paint and discard properly.**
7. **Read the product label on fertilizers and pesticides and use as directed.**
8. **Wash your car on a lawn or gravel drive where the water will soak into the ground. Dispose of leftover soapy water in your bucket into a toilet or sink.**
9. **Keep household cleaning products from becoming hazardous waste.**

PET WASTE

- Always carry a plastic bag when you walk your dog.
- Use the bag as a glove to pick up the pet waste. Turn the bag inside out around the waste; pick it up, seal the bag, and dispose of it in a trash can.
- Don't place bagged or un-bagged pet waste in a storm drain or hose pet waste towards the street.
- Wash your hands with warm, soapy water after dealing with pet waste.



Laws and Ordinances

Revised Ordinances of Honolulu (ROH)

Section 14-12.23 Environmental Quality Control--Violation.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge or cause to be discharged any pollutant into any drainage facility which causes a pollution problem in state waters, or causes a violation of any provision of the city NPDES permit or the water quality standards of the State of Hawaii.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge or cause to be discharged any storm water runoff associated with industrial activity into any drainage facility which causes a violation of any provision of the city NPDES permit.

(c) It shall be unlawful to discharge domestic wastewater and industrial wastewater into any drainage facility or any separate storm sewer system.

It also shall be unlawful to discharge commercial cooking oil waste and commercial FOG waste, as defined under Section 14-5A.1, into any drainage facility or any separate storm sewer system.

(d) It shall be unlawful to discharge any storm water on any public right-of-way which creates a drainage problem or causes a nuisance.

(Sec. 16-6.23, R.O. 1978 (1987 Supp. to 1983 Ed.); Am. Ord. 92-122, 96-34, 02-14)

City and County ordinance against littering includes a provision that applies to animals. If your pet deposits feces on private or public property, you are required to clean it up.

Section 7-2.4(b) General Requirements.

Enclosures for animals, farm animals and poultry shall meet all applicable zoning and building code requirements for structures; shall not be located within any required front, side, or rear yard setback; and shall meet all other applicable sanitation requirements. Please note that these enclosures must have a roof.

Section 7-2.5 Special Requirements.

(c) Dogs. The number, four months of age or older, shall not exceed 10 per household.

(d) Chickens and peafowl. The number of chickens or peafowl shall not exceed two per household. (Added by Ord. 90-55; Am. Ord. 04-42)

Section 29-4.4 (2) (9) Prohibited Activities.

Permit an animal owned by such person or while in the person's custody to excrete any solid waste in any public place or on any private premises not the property of such owner; provided, however, that nothing herein shall affect the duty of the property owner or occupier to keep the premises free of litter and provided further that no violation shall occur if the owner of the offending animal promptly and voluntarily removes the animal waste.

Important Numbers

911 Contact the Honolulu Police Department to file a complaint

768-8159 Contact the City and County of Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting for information on residential code enforcement regarding animal structures and front, side or rear yard setbacks.

The Hawaiian Humane Society (HHS) can enforce on the animal nuisance law. The exception are rooster related nuisances that are enforced by HPD. Visit the HHS web site at <http://www.hawaiianhumane.org/animallaws/index.html>.

Discharging pollutants to the storm drain system is against the law. Violations of the Clean Water Act can result in fines of up to \$25,000 per violation, per day.

Know the law to avoid fines. The Clean Water Act gave the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) the authority to implement water pollution control programs. In an effort to comply with the EPA's mandate, the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, Section 14-12.23(a) Environmental Quality Control - Violation states, "It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge or cause to be discharged any pollutant into any drainage facility which causes a pollution problem in state waters, or causes a violation of any provision of the city NPDES permit or the water quality standards of the State of Hawaii."

Be A Part Of The Solution

The City and County of Honolulu, working under Federal Clean Water Act Guidelines, has a number of public education programs that focus on community involvement and targeted enforcement to reduce illegal discharge practices. Existing projects such as the storm drain stenciling, Adopt-A-Stream Workshops, World Water Monitoring Day, and Adopt-A-Stream/Adopt-A-Block cleanups, provide opportunities to train a committed neighborhood. To volunteer or donate call the Environmental Concern Line, 768-3300.



Report It, Who to Call

As a resident, you can make a difference, both on the job and in your community. When you're at home, share your knowledge with neighbors and family. As you drive to work, report any illegal discharge.

Spill Response (Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response)

- Local (HFD): 911 (24/7)

- State (HSERC): 586-4249 (business hours), 247-2191 (after hours)

To report illegal discharge that has already occurred, call 768-3300

NPDES permitting questions: 768-3242

Polluted runoff public outreach: 768-3248 (City), 586-4309 (State)