Painting Contractors

Stormwater Best Management Practices

Storm drains are found in our streets and parking lots. You probably walk by a few of them a day, but just don't think much about them. Storm drains are put in place to gather stormwater runoff and bring to our local waterways (rivers, lakes, washes, and retention basins). Storm drains don't remove any pollution before entering our waterways. Stormwater runoff is now one of the leading causes of water pollution in the United States. Stormwater will pick up dirt, trash, oil, grease, chemicals, and other pollutants as it flows over parking lots and streets. So, if painting contractors aren't careful, they could be harming the environment. With the right knowledge, staff can prevent pollution from entering storm drains, therefore, helping to improve the water quality in local waterways.

What Can I Do?

Paint Prep and Removal

- Store products used for painting indoors or outside in an area not exposed to rain or runoff.
- Protect or cover storm drains when removing paint with pressure washer.
- Use drop cloths during paint removal, mixing and application.

Painting Clean-Up

- Never clean brushes or rinse equipment where the wastewater may run into the storm drain system.
- For water-based paint, rinse and dispose of wastewater in sanitary sewer.
- For oil based paints, use paint thinner; dispose of as hazardous waste. To locate facility, call 602-506-4006.
- Reuse or recycle leftover paint or dispose of properly. Maricopa County Transfer Stations do not accept paint unless it is completely dried out and the lid is removed from the can.

Spills

- To avoid spills, place lids on paint cans when not in use.
- Use dry methods to clean-up spills; do not hose down outside spills.

Make Clean Storm Drains Happen.

Sam the Sonoran Tiger Salamander

MARICOPA COUNTY ARIZONA

ES Environmental Services Department