

## Protect Our Waterways

Water that flows into local waterways and storm drains flow directly into our rivers, creeks, sloughs, and the Delta, rather than our treatment plant, and carry with it many pollutants that are harmful to humans and wildlife.

Animal service facilities play a unique role in helping to protect the Delta and surrounding waterways. By following these best management practices, our Delta and surrounding waterways will be available for future generations to enjoy.

*Only Rain Down the  
Storm Drain!*



## Mercury Awareness

Mercury pollution in stormwater runoff is a leading cause of waterway impairment. In high quantities, mercury can be harmful to humans. High levels of mercury are partly caused by the improper disposal of:

- Fluorescent lights (including CFLs)
- Electrical switches
- Thermometers
- Pressure and vacuum gauges

San Joaquin County residents can drop off these waste items for free at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility:

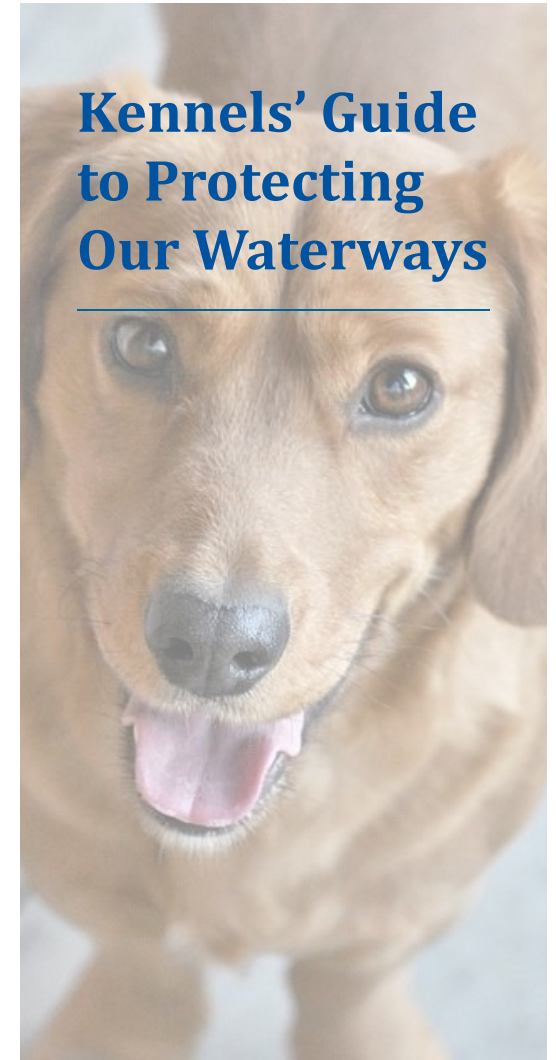
7850 R A Bridgeford Street  
Stockton, CA 95206

City of Stockton Municipal Utilities  
Department Stormwater Program:  
209.937.8700

2500 Navy Drive  
Stockton, CA 95206  
[www.stocktonca.gov/mud](http://www.stocktonca.gov/mud)

San Joaquin County Stormwater Program:  
866.755.4955

## Kennels' Guide to Protecting Our Waterways



## Animal Service Facilities' Guide to Protecting Our Waterways

Pollutants such as bacteria, nutrients, soaps, and pesticides are used and/or generated when providing animal cleaning and housing services. These Best Management Practices (BMP) reduce pollution at most animal service facilities.

### General

- ✚ Use a dry cleaning method to clean outdoor kennel areas. Do not wash floors or adjacent areas. Never discharge wash water into storm drains, gutters or streets.
- ✚ Check that drains on the property and in housing areas are not directly connected to the storm drain system.
- ✚ Maintain your facility grounds. Move or cover activities and materials to prevent contact with stormwater.
- ✚ Label your onsite storm drains.

### Animal Cleaning

- ✚ Wash animals in an area that drains to the sewer or wash over a vegetated or lawn area, thus keeping water from going into the storm drain.



### Animal Housing

- ✚ House animals in paved and covered areas whenever possible.
- ✚ If housing animals in covered areas is not possible, cover the ground with vegetation or some other type of ground cover, such as mulch.
- ✚ Use a dry cleaning method, such as vacuuming or sweeping, to clean areas where animals are bathed.
- ✚ Dispose of droppings, uneaten food, and other potential contaminants into a contained trash bin. Do not wash out to storm drains, gutters, or streets when cleaning the area.
- ✚ If water must be used for cleaning housing areas:
- ✚ Do not discard wash water to storm-water drains or other local waterways.
- ✚ Block the storm drain and contain the runoff.
- ✚ Wash water should be collected and discharged to the sewer and should not drain into the gutter.

### Spill Control

- ✚ Keep plenty of spill cleanup materials, easily accessible in case of a spill.
- ✚ Spot clean leaks and rips routinely.
- ✚ Clean up leaks, drips and other spills with as little water as possible. Use rags for small spills, a damp mop for general cleanup and dry absorbent material for larger spills.
- ✚ Throw away used materials in the trash bin. If items are wet, bag them to prevent the liquid from leaking into the streets, gutters or storm drains.
- ✚ Do not use bleach or disinfectants; keep rinse water away from streets, gutters or storm drains.

### Employee Training

- ✚ Train employees on the proper maintenance of your facility, spill containment, and cleanup procedures.
- ✚ Establish a regular training schedule, train all new employees and conduct annual refresher training.
- ✚ Use a training log or similar method to document training.

