

This brochure is one of a series of pamphlets describing storm drain protection measures for specific types of construction industry activities. Other pamphlets include:

- **General Construction and Site Supervision**
- **Landscaping, Gardening and Pool Maintenance**
- **Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application**
- **Roadwork and Paving**
- **Earth Moving Activities**
- **Heavy Equipment Operation**
- **Painting and Application of Solvents and Adhesives**
- **Dewatering Activities**
- **Home Repair and Remodeling**



*BASMAA gratefully acknowledges the City of Palo Alto and Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program for the original concept and text of this brochure.*

For more information from countywide storm drain protection programs, and additional brochures, contact the storm-water program in your area (listed below) or by calling 1-888-BAYWISE.

### **Local Stormwater Quality Management Programs**

Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program  
951 Turner Court, Hayward, CA 94545  
510-670-5543

Contra Costa Clean Water Program  
255 Glacier Drive, Martinez, CA 94553-4897  
925-313-2360

Fairfield-Suisun Urban Runoff Management Program  
1010 Chadbourne Road, Fairfield, CA 94585  
707-429-8930

Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program  
P. O. Box 4186  
San Rafael, CA 94913  
415-499-6528

San Mateo Countywide Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program  
555 County Center  
Redwood City, CA 94063  
650-599-1406

Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program  
699 Town & Country Village  
Sunnyvale, CA 94086  
800-794-2482

Vallejo Sanitation and Flood Control District  
450 Ryder Street, Vallejo, CA 94590  
707-644-8949

Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA)  
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400  
Oakland CA 94612  
510-622-2326 or 1-888-BAYWISE

### **State Agencies**

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
San Francisco Bay Region (510) 622-2300

Department of Toxic Substances (for questions about hazardous waste, call the Public and Business Liaison Hotline, Regional Duty Officers at (800) 728-6942 or (800) 72TOXIC)

# *Storm Water Pollution Prevention for Sawcut Slurry*



*Best Management Practices for the  
Construction Industry*

## **Why is Sawcut Slurry a Problem?**

The slurry created when pavement is cut can enter storm drains and flow directly to local waterways. This slurry can be toxic to wildlife in a local creek, the creek, bay or ocean. It can also clog drains and cause flooding.

**CAUTION:** *If sawcut slurry from your job enters a storm drain, you have broken the law!*

Allowing slurry or other pollutants to enter a storm drain, or directly to a waterway, is a violation of local, state, and federal regulations. Violators are subject to fines and cleanup costs.

*By following this three-step procedure when saw cutting you can protect the storm drain system, help environment, and avoid fines.*

### **Minimize and Contain Slurry**

Before you begin saw cutting, block the path to the nearest storm drain by placing sand bags (or equivalent) in the gutter or around the storm drain inlet. If you can lift the grate over the drain, place filter fabric underneath.

Even if the nearest drain is several blocks away, place a barrier in the gutter as near your site as practical to contain the slurry.

Use as little water as possible, to reduce the amount of slurry you must collect.

Barricade area where slurry is drying to prevent tracking by cars and foot traffic.

### **Collect Slurry**

Clean up slurry with a wet vac as you work. Where wet slurry cannot be vacuumed, allow it to dry and then sweep up with a stiff broom at the end of the day.

### **Dispose of Slurry**

Empty wet slurry into a well-contained area (where it will not run off into a gutter, street, or creek) and allow it to dry. A small amount of slurry may be mixed with dirt and left on the construction site. Where this is not possible, sweep up the dry slurry and dispose in the trash.