

## PARKING LOTS



**P**ollutants discharged to local creeks, lakes, and San Francisco Bay during storms or through illegal dumping significantly contribute to water pollution, and harm aquatic life. In response to recent Federal and State regulations and requirements, municipalities in Contra Costa County have joined to form the Contra Costa County Clean Water Program (CCCCWP).

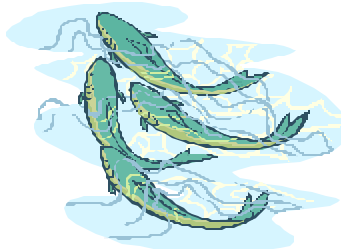
**I**n addition to reviewing their own practices, municipalities in Contra Cost County have launched a public education campaign and inspection program. Inspectors work with businesses to identify and control potential discharge of pollutants to the storm drain system.

**S**torm water runoff from parking lots contributes to urban runoff pollution. Automotive fluids, food wastes, grease, pesticides, litter and landscape wastes are only some of the pollutants that get into the storm drain system.

**O**wners and operators of parking lots can apply Best Management Practices (BMPs) to their daily activities to significantly reduce their contribution to storm water pollution. Some of these BMPs are identified on the reverse side of the page.

**I**f you have any questions concerning urban runoff, contact you Clean Water Program Representatives Nancy Voisey 724-9037 or Bill Mattick 741-2065 at the City of Pinole Clean Water Program.

**WATER IS LIFE. RESCUE IT!**



# BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs) for CLEANING PARKING LOTS

- Sweep parking lots frequently: at least weekly, daily is preferable. Do not wash down with water unless you collect the wash water and dispose in indoor sink or drains that discharge to the sanitary sewer. Small areas can be swept with a broom; larger areas may need a vacuum truck or mechanical sweeper. Dispose of sweepings properly.
- Post signs to control litter and prevent patrons from working with automobile fluids in your parking lot (changing oil, adding transmission fluid, etc.). You could be liable for their mess on your property!
- Use absorbent material to clean up automotive fluids on the parking lot. Dispose of absorbent properly. Automotive fluids are considered hazardous materials and disposal must comply with hazardous materials disposal requirements.
- Pick up litter daily; dispose of debris in the garbage.
- Keep dumpster areas free of litter and lids on garbage and tallow bins closed.
- Wash water from all cleaning operations must be discharged to the sanitary sewer.
- If cleaning with water and detergent is needed, use a mobile washing unit that is self-contained; do not allow the wash water (whether or not it is soapy) to discharge to the storm drain system.
- If using a self-contained mobile cleaner is not feasible, collect the wash water and dispose in indoor sinks or drains for discharge to the sanitary sewer.