# Stormwater: Make the Connection

Monterey Regional Stormwater Management Program (MRSWMP)

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## Rainfall on Natural Landscapes

- Natural, undisturbed soils permeable or pervious
- Rainwater can soak in (infiltrate) and be stored
- Natural Vegetation intercepts and uses rainwater for growth, process of evapotranspiration
- Vegetation and soil capture, slow, spread, soak, store, filter, evaporate and use rainwater where it falls
  - Little to no overland flow
- Hydrologic Cycle

#### Rainfall on Urban Areas

- Impervious Surfaces Roofs, streets, parking areas
  - Do not allow water to pass through them
- This rainwater flows faster and in greater amounts from these impervious surfaces
- Flows conveyed over parking lots, driveways, streets these surfaces may contain pollutants that are picked up
- Surface flows drain to creeks, underground pipes, and local waterways → Receiving water bodies



Source: Copyright (C) 2002-2009 Kenneth & Gabrielle Adelman, California Coastal Records Project, www.Californiacoastline.org

### What is Stormwater?

- Stormwater Surface flow of water after rain has fallen to the ground
  - Runoff, Urban Runoff

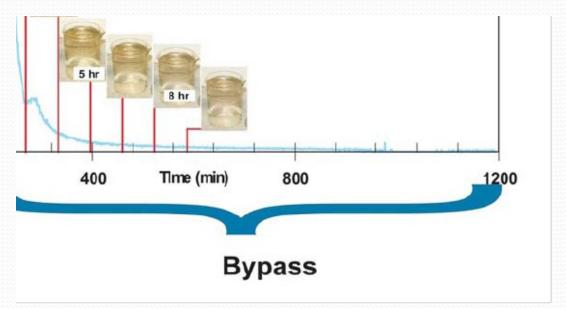
 Stormwater Pollution – Stormwater picks up pollutants along its flow path

 Pollutants such as oil, antifreeze, trash, metals, sediment, pet waste, bacteria, soaps

# Why does Stormwater Matter?

- Stormwater flows directly to local waterways, in most cases it is not treated
- Stormwater pollution can negatively impact local waterways / receiving water bodies
  - Trash and debris harm wildlife and reduce aesthetic
  - Bacteria and other pathogens health hazards and beach closures
  - Household/commercial hazardous wastes Poison wildlife and people (contaminated water and seafood ingestion
  - Sediment harms aquatic habitat
  - Downstream erosion
  - Excess nutrients Loss of oxygen

# Urban Runoff – Water Quality







### Stormwater is Regulated

- Porter–Cologne Water Quality Control Act (1969)
  - California Water Code, Division 7
  - Governs surface and groundwater quality
  - Point sources of pollution sewage treatment and industrial sources
  - Model for Clean Water Act (1972)
- State & Regional Water Quality Control Boards
  - Planning authority including:
    - Establishing water quality objectives
    - Develop new programs to meet WQOs
  - Permitting authority
  - Enforcement authority

## Stormwater is Regulated

- 1987: Clean Water Act Amended
  - Designated municipal stormwater runoff as a discrete pollution source
- 1990 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) for Phase I Permit (for Cities > 100,000)
  - Created by U.S. EPA
  - Administered/Enforced by State Water Resources Control Board - 9 Regional Boards (1996)
- 1999: National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) for Phase II Permit (for Cities < 100,000)
  - MRSWMP is formed (2003)

### Local Response

- Monterey Regional Stormwater Management Program:
  - Cities of Carmel, Del Rey Oaks, Monterey, Pacific Grove, Sand City, and Seaside; County of Monterey
- Goals:
  - Mitigate Pollution construction sites
  - Investigate/Enforce Illegal Dumping
  - Educate/Inspect Businesses
  - Good Housekeeping Practices
  - Engage the Community, Promote Volunteerism
  - Stormwater sampling First Flush
- www.MontereySEA.org









# Fast Forward to 2014: Post-Construction Requirements

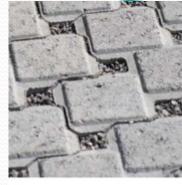
- Over 5 years in the making
- Supersede statewide requirements
- Apply to first project approvals granted after March 6, 2014
- **→** Low Impact Development

### Low Impact Development

- LID is an alternative method of land development that seeks to maintain the natural hydrologic character of the site or region
  - Reduce storm flows from site
  - Capturing, storing, evaporating, and using water on-site
  - Managing/controlling storm water at its "source"
  - Minimize water quality impacts from urbanization

#### Low Impact Development







Photos source: CASQA, EWRI, ASCE















### **Green Streets**











### **Next Frontiers for Stormwater**

- Trash Amendment
- Stormwater Resource Plan
- ASBS Compliance Plans

### Trash Amendment



### Stormwater Resource Plan

- Prop 1 Planning Grant (\$300,000)
- Prioritize Stormwater as a Resource per SB985



# **ASBS Compliance Plans**

#### Stormwater



Make the connection!