

## BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

### RESTAURANT AND FOOD INDUSTRY

Restaurants have been identified by both the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the State of Hawaii Department of Health as a major source of pollutants to storm water. Common pollutants from restaurants include leaking trash bins and wash water from cleaning dumpsters, parking lots, and oil and grease spills. Additional pollutants can be generated when fats, oils, and grease (FOG) waste is not properly managed and clogs the sewer pipe, which may back up the sewer and cause a sewage spill.

When it rains, storm water can pick up and wash trash and pollutants right into the City's storm drainage system, which flows directly into our streams and coastal waters. In order to prevent pollutants from being picked up by storm water, Best Management Practices (BMPs), methods and techniques found to be most effective and practical, should be implemented by restaurants and other food industry establishments. Implementing storm water BMPs is a vital part of protecting Hawaii's waters for life.



VISIT THE WEBSITE  
[www.CLEANWATERHONOLULU.com](http://www.CLEANWATERHONOLULU.com)  
OR  
CALL THE  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN LINE  
**768-3300**



**E Mālama I Ka Wai Ola**  
Protect our waters...  
**FOR LIFE**

**The Law:** The Federal Clean Water Act gave the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) the authority to implement water pollution control programs. Local statutes and ordinances address compliance and enforcement of the EPA's mandates.

**The Ordinance:** The revised Ordinances of Honolulu, Section 14-12-23(a) Environmental Quality Control-Violation states, "It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge or cause to be discharged any pollutant into any drainage facility which causes a pollution problem in state waters, or causes a violation of any provision of the City NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permit or the water quality standards of the State of Hawaii".

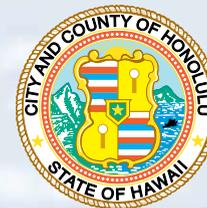
Discharging pollutants to the storm drain system is against the law. Violations can result in fines of up to \$25,000 per violation, per day.

# STORM WATER BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES



## RESTAURANT AND FOOD INDUSTRY

**BAKERIES • FOOD PRODUCERS AND DISTRIBUTORS  
GROCERY STORES • RESTAURANTS**



**City and County of Honolulu**  
Department of Environmental Services



5/2013

Photo: Forest & Kim Starr



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## STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PROTECTING OUR WATERS

Rain falling in urban areas flows along streets and gutters, and collects in drain inlets and catch basins. Storm water is then carried by drain pipes and channels into streams and the ocean. Dirt, debris, grime, automotive fluids, and other such loose materials on the ground can be picked up by storm water and end up polluting our island waters.

Streams and oceans are homes to fish, plants, and other aquatic life, and serve as major recreational areas for the Oahu community. They offer opportunities for activities such as fishing, swimming, surfing, diving, and paddling. Keeping storm water as clean as possible is in everyone's interest. The information in this brochure provides guidance on how to protect our streams and the ocean by reducing storm water pollution.



### EMPLOYEE AND CUSTOMER EDUCATION

- Employees can help prevent pollution when you include best management practice training in employee orientation and reviews.
- Post best management practices where employees and customers can see them.
- Showing customers that you help protect our local waters is good public relations.
- Explain best management practices to other food businesses through your merchant associations or chamber of commerce.

### MINIMIZE WASTE

- Use non-disposable products. Serve food on ceramic dishware rather than paper, plastic or Styrofoam. Use cloth napkins rather than paper ones.
- If you must use disposable products, use paper instead of Styrofoam.
- Buy the least toxic products available.
- Use water-based products.
- Use “recycled” and “recyclable” containers.

### STORAGE

- Place materials inside rigid, durable, water-tight and rodent-proof containers with tight fitting covers.
- Store materials inside a building or build a covered area that is paved and designed to prevent runoff from entering storm drains.

### TRASH STORAGE

- Keep dumpsters closed.
- Avoid exposing dumpsters to rainfall.
- Inspect dumpsters for leaks and repair them if needed.
- Do not dispose of uncontained liquids or leaking containers or garbage bags into a dumpster.
- Use dry methods (absorbent material and/or sweeping) to clean dumpsters and dumpster storage areas as much as possible.
- If washing of dumpsters or dumpster storage areas is necessary, contain and collect wash water, and dispose into the sanitary sewer. Do not allow wash water to go into the street or drainage system, where it will eventually flow into streams and the ocean.

### PROPER DISPOSAL METHODS

- Any business that discharges fats, oils and grease (FOG) must connect all kitchen fixtures to a grease interceptor in accordance with the City's rules. For more information, see [www1.honolulu.gov/env/wwm/envquality/pretreatment\\_requirements.htm](http://www1.honolulu.gov/env/wwm/envquality/pretreatment_requirements.htm).
- Maintain your grease interceptor in proper operating condition by having it cleaned and serviced on a frequency approved by City inspectors.
- Scrape grease and food scraps from trays, plates, pots, pans, utensils, and grills (or other cooking surfaces) into a can or the trash for disposal. Remove or absorb all liquid wastes prior to disposal.
- Don't pour grease into kitchen sinks, floor drains or toilets. Instead, recycle all used grease. For a listing of companies that recycle cooking oil, see [www.opala.org/solid\\_waste/archive/recycling\\_companies.html#cook](http://www.opala.org/solid_waste/archive/recycling_companies.html#cook).
- Be cautious of chemicals and additives (including detergents) that claim to dissolve grease.

Some simply pass grease down pipes where it can clog sewer lines in another area.

- Clean floor mats, filters, and garbage cans in a mop sink or over a floor drain. Pour wash water into a janitorial or mop sink. Do not pour wash water into a parking lot, alley, sidewalk, street, or storm drain, where it could pollute storm runoff.
- Use dry methods for oil and grease spill cleanup instead of hosing the spill into a drain, street, or parking lot.



**For More Information:**  
City's Environmental Concern Line at 768.3300  
or Online at [www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com](http://www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com)