



# EMERALD KEEPERS

EMERALDKEEPERS.ORG

For an Emerald Green, Ocean Blue Coronado



# DOWN THE DRAIN

## AVOID RUNOFF, KEEP STREETS CLEAN TO EASE WATER POLLUTION

**T**he National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration considers polluted runoff the greatest threat to coastal waters in the United States.

Coronado's storm drains, like most of the region's drains, connect directly to the bay or ocean. Whatever runs into the street gutters — trash, dirt, motor oil and chemicals — is not treated or cleaned prior to entering our waters.

Toxic chemicals, bacteria, plastics and metals can all be washed directly into the ocean and bay, poisoning sea life and damaging the fragile underwater ecosystem.

### WHAT CAN WE DO?

- **Avoid using pesticides and fertilizers**, especially on lawns since irrigation tends to overflow to the street and down a storm drain. The

herbicide glyphosate — the most commonly used herbicide in the world used in weed-control products such as Roundup — can affect fish behavior including courtship and the ability to escape from predators.

- **Go to a carwash.** If you wash your car on the driveway or street, dirty water containing soap, exhaust residue, brake dust, rubber and oil will wash into the storm drain.

- **Move your car on street sweeping days.** Street sweepers run weekdays between 7 and 11 a.m. (except holidays and rainy days). Orange Avenue, Ocean Boulevard, and Silver Strand Boulevard are swept daily, and most residential streets in the village and Cays are swept once a week. Check the QR code to see when the sweeper will be on your street and be sure to give it full access. Not only do sweepers

remove toxins before they hit the water, they also remove objects such as leaves, plastic and trash that can clog drains and cause flooding.

- **Pick up after your dog.** Pet waste can carry bacteria, viruses, and parasites. Decomposing pet waste in the water also uses up oxygen, leaving less for plants and sea life that depend on it.

- **Be vigilant.** Report spills, discharges (including irrigation runoff) to Public Services (619) 522-7380 during working hours.

Remember, only rain in the storm drain to help keep Coronado Emerald Green, Ocean Blue.



### SUPPORT EMERALD KEEPERS

Emerald Keepers is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.

