STORMWATER POLLUTION

Metal Pollution Is More Common Than You Think

- Clean waterways start with clean storm drains.
- Clean storm drains start with clean highways.
- Clean highways start with you.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Metals add to stormwater pollution by entering our waterways via stormwater runoff. They can cause a variety of negative effects on our health and the environment.
- Vehicle tires and brakes are a source of metal pollution.
- Road and highway runoff flow into storm drains often leading directly to waterways.

COMMON METALS IN HIGHWAY RUNOFF

- Lead: leaded gasoline, lubricating oils and grease
- Zinc: tire wear, motor oil and grease
- Copper: brakes and engine wear

REDUCE POLLUTION AT THE SOURCE

Take steps to reduce stormwater pollution from metals:

- Maintain your vehicle and protect the quality of our water. Well-maintained vehicles pollute less; even a small leak of oil, antifreeze or other toxic auto fluids can find their way into a storm drain.
- Consider alternative transportation. Exercise your commuting options by carpooling, using public transportation or riding a bicycle. Fewer vehicles on California’s highways and roadways reduce pollution that can flow into storm drains.

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