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STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD • REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Did You Know...

California's beaches are among the most visited in the world and our beach waters are closely monitored. This monitoring sometimes reveals the presence of organisms that can pose a threat to our health. When this happens, a warning is posted or the beach is closed to swimming. Where do these organisms come from? Most come from urban runoff in storm drains and the rest are primarily caused by sewage spills.

So, let's keep our beaches safe for swimming by following these simple guidelines:

- Pick up after your dog; don't throw animal waste down storm drains
- Don't gutter flood! That water picks up pollutants, sending them directly to the beach
- Stop runoff from horses, cows and other animals from leaving your property
- Keep irrigation wash water out of the storm drain system
- Encourage your community to install natural treatment systems between pollution sources and sensitive receiving waters, like beaches!
- Support your sewer district in its efforts to have a well-maintained sewer system.
- Support your sewer district in having a contingency plan to quickly contain any sewage spill
- Report any vandalism to sewer/equipment
- Make sure trash cans and dumpsters are covered and can't drain pollutants into the storm drain

For further information on California's water protection programs, visit our web site at www.swrcb.ca.gov

Designed by: Sharon Perrin-Norton
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