



City of Oceanside Clean Water Program

Volume 1, Issue 1

Welcome to the first Oceanside Clean Water Program Newsletter!!!

As a coastal city Oceanside is very concerned about the water quality of our local creeks, rivers, lakes, lagoons and beaches; therefore we created the Clean Water Program. Due to the expanding programs and service opportunities our Oceanside Clean Water Program offers, we have designed a bi-yearly newsletter to keep you informed of our latest activities and water quality information. As an Oceanside resident, you will continue to receive fliers in your water utility bill about upcoming community cleanup events, as well as this newsletter. If you wish to be a part of the exclusive Oceanside Clean Water Program mailing list, or know others interested, please contact us and we will add your name(s) promptly. We hope you find this newsletter valuable.

Water Quality Laws You Should Know

Improved water quality for watersheds and beaches has become a very important public safety and political issue for the San Diego region. One of the most significant contributors to water-quality impairment is urban runoff or storm water pollution.



When pollutants on the streets and gutters mix with water, they are sent, through a storm drain, into the nearest body of water. Storm drains do not filter pollutants, so our local waterbodies are susceptible to a host of contaminants which ultimately flow to our beaches. Typical storm water pollutants are: pet waste, oil and other automobile fluids, soaps and phosphates, lawn waste, sediments, building materials, chemicals, heavy metals and trash. These contaminants not only degrade water quality but impact wildlife, cause public safety concerns at our local beaches and negatively affect our tourist economy when frequent beach closures occur. Children and people who spend a significant amount of time in the water, surfing and/or swimming, are particularly vulnerable to illnesses carried through storm drains to our local waterways.

In February 2001, new regulations were issued for all 18 San Diego Region cities, the Port of San Diego and the County of San Diego, mandating the improvement of jurisdictional water quality by prohibiting certain activities, and increasing education efforts for residents, businesses and municipal staff.



The new regulations prohibit many discharges resulting from commercial and municipal activities.

Residents should also be aware there are a few activities that are now banned in which they can be fined for violating.

For more information about runoff violations or to obtain a brochure on reducing pollution call Linda Isakson at 760-435-5807 or log on to the Oceanside Clean Water Program Website at www.oceansidecleanwaterprogram.org.

Clean Water Program Website Up and Running

The City of Oceanside Clean Water Program has just launched a fully comprehensive website, www.oceansidecleanwaterprogram.org.

Designed to educate the public about water quality and urban runoff issues, the Clean Water Program website features pages specifically designed for the needs of residents, commercial and industrial businesses, developers, students, teachers, community volunteers and children. The public is encouraged to use



the site in order to answer any question related to urban runoff in the City of Oceanside.

Through the new website, volunteers can access a calendar of events to easily search service opportunities. Additionally, photos from past events are displayed in our photo gallery. Volunteers can find pictures of family, friends, even themselves online! Don't be disappointed if you cannot find your picture though. Participants with pictures of themselves or their group from past cleanup events can simply submit their photos to us and we'll add them to the gallery. Send us the pictures, make sure to list the date and event, and we will do all the work.

2002 Cleanup Successes

2002 proved to be no quiet year for the Oceanside Clean Water Program. Over 3500 volunteers participated in the nine cleanup events hosted throughout the year, not including organizations that hosted private cleanup events with the Clean Water Programs' assistance. Let's recap 2002 events:



- ◆ March 2002, Oceanside Beach Cleanup with San Diego BayKeeper
- ◆ April 2002, Loma Alta Creek Cleanup
- ◆ May 2002, Oceanside Kids Beach Cleanup with I Love A Clean San Diego



- ◆ June 2002, Calaveras Creek Cleanup with Friends of Calaveras Creek
- ◆ August 2002, Libby Lake Cleanup with Oceanside Boys and Girls Club
- ◆ September 2002, Oceanside Beach Cleanup with San Diego BayKeeper
- ◆ September 2002, Buena Vista Creek/Lagoon Cleanup with I Love a Clean San Diego
- ◆ November 2002, Oceanside Beach Cleanup with San Diego BayKeeper
- ◆ December 2002, San Luis Rey River Cleanup



All these events prevented approximately 220 tons of litter and debris from polluting our waterways. That's a lot of garbage and a lot of effort on the part of the volunteers. Thank you to all who donated their time to help keep Oceanside waterways clean!!!



Oceanside Clean Water Program launches POW! kids campaign

In an effort to educate children about the importance of clean water, and just because we love kids, the Oceanside Clean Water Program has launched the "Protectors of Oceanside Water" or "POW!" campaign.



As part of POW!, Oceanside youth will receive an official membership certificate, work sheets and a coloring book, a letter of recognition for helping at cleanup events, stickers and other goodies. Most importantly, POW! members get the satisfaction of knowing they are helping the environment and making Oceanside a cleaner place to live. In return, each member must pledge to help at one cleanup event each year.

To become a POW! member send us an email or mail us your name, address, phone number and the name of your school. Clean Water Program/POW!, Attention: Linda Isakson, 300 North Coast Highway, Oceanside, CA 92054.

Report a Violation

The Oceanside Clean Water Program has a hotline for residents to call if they see a violation or potential violation of urban runoff pollution occurring in the City of Oceanside: 760-435-5800. If you call during normal working hours, a Code Enforcement officer will be alerted. After-hours calls are routed to Police Dispatch where Public Works duty crews will respond if necessary. If you live outside Oceanside, contact your local city for their hotline number. Help protect our local waterways and call the Clean Water Program hotline 760-435-5800.

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