









Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program

www.mcstoppp.org • mcstoppp@marincounty.org • 415-473-3202

# The Choices You Make, Make a World of Difference

# Our Water — Our World www.ourwaterourworld.org

Fifteen local stores partner with the Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program (MCSTOPPP) to help their customers make more informed decisions when selecting products to manage pests. Next time you shop, ask staff in these stores to assist you in making choices that are better for you, your pets, and the environment.

#### **Store Partners**

- Bayside Garden Center
- Fairfax Ace Lumber & Hardware
- Goodman Building Supply
- Jackson's Hardware
- Marin Ace Hardware
- Orchard Supply Hardware (OSH)
- Pini Ace Hardware
- Sloat Garden Centers (5 stores)
- Sunnyside Nursery of Marin
- The Home Depot
- Toby's Feed Barn

Get a personalized response to your pest-related question online, free of charge, by going to the **Ask Our Expert** section of the website at www.ourwaterourworld.org.



#### Who Ya Gonna Call?

How do I drain a pool? What native plants can I use in my garden? Is a creek permit necessary for my new driveway? Where can I report someone pouring something in the storm drain? These and other questions can be answered through the Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention website at www.mcstoppp.org.

The new design will help you find what you need quickly. If not, you can always email staff at mcstoppp@marincounty.org or call 473–3202.

#### Pick It Up . . . Prevent Pollution!

By picking up after your pet, you can prevent it from contributing bacteria to local creeks, wetlands, bays, and the ocean. Pet waste left on sidewalks, streets, yards or other open areas can be carried by rainwater and washed into storm drains that flow directly to local waterways. Help keep Marin County's waterways clean for recreational activities by picking up after your pet and disposing of the waste properly!



#### Choose A Bay-Friendly Landscaper!

The Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program and the Marin Municipal Water District have been offering a 20-hour **Bay-Friendly Professional Landscape Maintenance Training and Qualification Program** since 2008. The following companies have one or more professionals on staff that are graduates of the bay-friendly program in Marin County and can help you create a landscape that protects our creeks, bays, and ocean!



Alesha Nichole Fine Gardening 415-658-5650

Ann Joseph Consulting 707-373-9611

April Philips Design Works, Inc. 415-457-2774

**Art Gardens** 415-519-0201

AvidGreen Fine Landscaping, Vineyards and Backyard Farms 415-461-8477

Barbara Huntingdon Landscape Design 415-297-6401

Bay-Friendly Landscape & IPM Consulting and Training 415-454-9615

Bertotti Landscaping 707-559-7077

**Buchholz Landscaping Co., Inc.** 415-259-0325

Cagwin and Dorward 800-891-7710

Checo's Gardening 415-388-9067

Civic Center Landscapes 415-929-9017

Clean Air Lawn Care 415-602-5296

Coast Landscape Mgmt. 707-251-8872

Frederick S. Sommers Landscaping/Irrigation 415-608-7015

Furlong & Sons Landscape 707-878-9396

Galvan Landscaping 415-755-8117

Gardening By Nature's Design 510-501-0243

Gardens and Gables 415-499-0331

Garden Guidance 415-846-0190

Gardeners Guild, Inc. 415-457-0400

**Garth's Gardens** 415-505-7034

Gillian Bolter Fine Gardening 415-407-0224

**Goldsmith Garden** 415-830-1799

Gonlo's Great Gardening 415-233-3146

Good Dragon Landcare 415-446-8550

**Greendale Gardens** 415-450-0100

**Green Monster Gardens** 510-914-6653

Green Roots Design 415-994-7251 North Bay Landscape Management, Inc. 707-762-3850

O'Connell Landscape 415-462-9729

Olivotti Landscape 415-819-1939

**Organic** 415-482-0184

Pacific Landscapes 707-829-8064

Pedersen Associates, Inc. 415-456-2070

**Plannedland** 415-420-9128

Quinn's California Landscapes 415-246-2380

**Ronald K. Omori** 415-699-6008

**Roth LaMotte** 415-451-8211

Sacred Space Gardens 415-412-4159

Scandia Landscaping 707-996-7298

S. Jordan Landscaping & Design 415-331-8616

Shades of Green Landscape Architecture 415-332-1485



#### Keep That "Baby" Clean!

Considerable effort goes into keeping our vehicles clean. Let's use the same amount of effort to keep our creeks clean!

When washing your vehicle, prevent dirty, soapy wash water from entering local creeks via storm drains. Even biodegradable soaps are toxic to fish and other aquatic life. If you wash your vehicle in the street, do it the fish-friendly way:

- # Equip your hose with a trigger nozzle to avoid using too much water.
- \* Use soap sparingly in a bucket of water. Pour the dirty water into an indoor drain connected to a sanitary sewer (e.g., a sink or toilet).
- # If possible, park your car in an area where wash water can be diverted into the ground and away from storm drains.

The best way to clean your vehicle is by using a commercial car wash. These facilities send wash water to the wastewater-treatment plant, where it is cleaned before being discharged to the bay.

#### Go for the Green - Cart, That Is

Keep raked leaves away from creeks and city streets. In creeks, piles of leaves can introduce nutrients that feed algae and deplete oxygen needed for fish to survive. On streets, leaves can clog storm drain systems and may contribute to localized flooding. Use leaves in your backyard compost or put them in your green cart supplied by your hauler for yard waste and food scraps (in many areas).



#### Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program

MCSTOPPP Staff:

Terri Fashing • Program Manager

Howard Bunce • Engineering Technician

Gina Purin • Community Outreach Coordinator

Calendar:

Design • Laura Lovett | By Design Printing • P & B Productions

415-473-3202 • mcstoppp@marincounty.org • www.mcstoppp.org

If you are a person with a disability and require materials in alternative formats, please call 473-4381 (voice) or CRS 711 or email disabilityaccess@) marincounty.org.

#### Thank You to Our Sponsors:

Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program
Marin County Wastewater Treatment Agencies
Marin Independent Journal
Marin Municipal Water District
Zero Waste Marin

Marin Independent Journal

Coffey Landscape 415-455-1003

Coleman Cosby Landscape Design & Installation 415-606-7993

Dig Your Garden Landscape Design 415-453-8591

DK Landscaping 707-280-3632

**Doniel Ellis Designs** 415-637-3941

**Dri-Water, Inc.** 707-588-1444

**Earthscapes** 415-531-8499

Edger Landscape Design 415-328-7772

**EM2 Designs** 415-300-7411

**Equinox Landscape** 415-456-6480

Fairfax Lumber & Hardware 415-453-4410

Farias Garden Service, Inc. 415-479-8301

Favorite Gardens 415-686-1987

Firma Design Group 707-792-1800

Flora & Fauna Landscaping 415-847-4520

Florashanti Gardens 415-331-2663

Forester Landscaping 415-381-0740

Green Visions Landscape Design Studio 415-895-1975

**H & H Garden Service** 415-300-6586

Hamlin Landscape Irrigation 415-479-0701

Heritage Landscapes 415-458-8151

**Hines** 415-398-8655

Integrated Landscape Services 415-378-0644

Iris Landscaping, Inc. 415-720-4808

Janscapes Landscape Designs 415-302-3619

Jasmin Landscape 415-382-0385

J Mora Landscaping Services 415-250-0506

Joan Hasselgren Healing Gardens 415-351-9751

Kaiser Gardens, Inc. 415-699-7423

**Kent Johnson Landscaping, Inc.** 415-388-1056

Linda's Landscape Design & Pruning 415-846-8810

Lisa Canepa Garden Design 415-515-2418

Linda J. Novy & Associates 415-457-5268

Marizco Landscape Management 415-584-9100

Simmonds & Associates Landscape Architects 415-460-0460

Terra Cognita Design & Consulting 707-695-9360

Terra Ferma Landscapes, Inc. 415-929-0333

**Terrasophia** 415-306-6618

The Land Collaborative (TLC) 415-272-3284

Tigerlily Gardens 415-218-3037

U Chang Shim Garden Design 415-892-8364

Urban Flora Landscape Design 510-612-0639

Vaca Landscape 415-847-7332

ValleyCrest Companies 925-924-8900

Wave Hill Irrigation & Landscaping 415-408-8301

Yarish Landscape Consulting 707-779-9012

# PUBLIC AGENCIES WITH BAY-FRIENDLY GRADUATES

City of Rohnert Park
City of San Rafael
Marin County Parks
Marin Municipal Water District
Reed Union School District
Solano Community College
Town of Ross











Stay out of creeks during the rainy season (October through May), when fish are laying eggs and/or hatching.

In order to thrive, salmon need clean water and a complex habitat in the creek. This includes deep pools to stay cool, large fallen trees and rocks to hide under, shallow areas with pea- to orange-size gravel for spawning, and a dense, native creekside forest to provide shade, nutrients, and other benefits. Due to urbanization, creek channels have eroded, removing crucial habitat and introducing fine sediment that can smother salmon eggs and fill in pools.



Marin has over 100 creeks that are home to endangered coho salmon and threatened steelhead trout.

January

### Be Creek and Fish Friendly

- \* Reduce erosion in creeks by minimizing stormwater runoff from your property. Check out MCSTOPPP's booklet Slow It. Spread It. Sink It! at http://tinyurl.com/l6daawc.
- \* Maintain existing native vegetation along creeks. If you remove invasive vegetation, plant native trees and shrubs where soil is exposed.
- \* Allow wood to stay on banks and in creeks as long as it doesn't impede creek flow and threaten property.
- Use straw, mulch, or similar materials to suppress weeds, reduce evaporation, and prevent soil from running off your landscape.
- \* Before placing anything in, over, or near a creek or its bank, contact your local stormwater coordinator for information on permits and creek setback requirements.

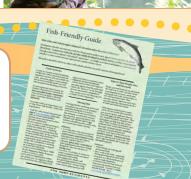


In their early stage of development, salmonids are often invisible to the eye.

| SUNDAY  | MONDAY  | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY               | SATURDAY        |
|---|---|---------|---|---|----------------------|-----------------|
| DECEMBER 2013           S         M         T         W         T         F         S           1         2         3         4         5         6         7           8         9         10         11         12         13         14           15         16         17         18         19         20         21           22         23         24         25         26         27         28           29         30         31         8         8         8         10 <th>FEBRUARY  S M T W T F S  1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28</th> <th></th> <th>new moon 1</th> <th>2</th> <th>3</th> <th>4</th> | FEBRUARY  S M T W T F S  1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 |         | new moon 1  | 2   | 3                    | 4               |
| 5   | 6   | 7       | first quarter   8   | 9   | 10                   | 11              |
| 12  | 13  | 14      | 15  | full moon O 16  | 17                   | 18              |
| 19  | 20  Martin Luther King, Jr. Day   | 21      | 22  | 23  | last quarter 24      | 25              |
| 26  | 27  | 28      | 29  | new moon ● 30   | 31  Chinese New Year |                 |
|   | trackersbay.com   |         | Some creeks in Marin<br>fishing. Refer to state<br>Attend a free fishing c<br>to fish at www.fishing<br>www.trackersbay.com | fishing regulations.<br>linic and learn how<br>inthecity.org or |                      | trackersbay.com |

TAKE ACTION! **Learn more about protecting our creeks** and the fish that live there! Contact the Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program at 473-3202 or mcstoppp@marincounty.org and request a free copy of this *Fish-Friendly Guide*.

......



# Detain The Rain

Diverting your downspout to a rock-lined swale (shown above in June 2013) or a rain garden slows down water before it leaves your property.

Looking forward to re-designing your garden this summer? How about doing it with our creeks in mind! Consider directing runoff from your roof or driveway to a swale or a rain garden (a shallow depression with mulch and plants that can fill with water during a storm). Both landscape features are designed to absorb more rainfall before it runs off your property into storm drains and creeks. Reducing the amount and speed of runoff entering our creeks will help prevent erosion.



Overflow from the rock-lined swale flows to a rain garden that drains within 48 hours (shown in March 2011).

february

### **Help Protect Our Creeks!**

\* Use splash guards that allow water to spread out and sink back into the ground.



\* Buy a hose adapter that connects a standard garden hose to a downspout. The hose can be moved to different locations to prevent any one area from becoming saturated in a heavy rain.



\* Install rain barrels that capture roof runoff and store it for future use.



| SUNDAY   | MONDAY  | TUESDAY                                 | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY           | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY  |
|--|---|---|-----------|--------------------|---|---|
| parking lot. It has remove some poll   | retention area) collect<br>a greater capacity to<br>utants because of a sp<br>laced under the visible | absorb water and<br>pecial soil mix and |           | Kristine Pillsbury |   | 1   |
| 2<br>Groundhog Day   | 3   | 4                                       | 5         | first quarter • 6  | 7   | 8   |
| 9  | 10  | 11                                      | 12        | 13                 | full moon 14  | 15  |
| 16   | 17  Presidents' Day observed  | 18                                      | 19        | 20                 | 21  | last quarter 22 Washington's Birthday   |
| 23   | 24  | 25                                      | 26        | 27                 | 28  | Washington's Diffinday  |
| Consider a swale! Swales are shallow channels designed to SLOW down rainwater, SPREAD it out, and SINK it into the soil. A swale can be filled with native grasses or with rocks that mimic a creek bed (called a rock-lined swale). |   |   |           |                    | S M T W T F S   1 2 3 4 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 | MARCH  S M T W T F S  1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 |

TAKE ACTION!

### Learn how to "detain the rain" on your property.

Go to www.mcstoppp.org and look under Residents | Publications and Resources | Rainwater Management at Home. Be sure to read Slow It. Spread It. Sink It!





Glorious blooms "spring" up after winter's rain.

A smart irrigation controller is like a high-tech brain for your irrigation system. Unlike standard controllers, which operate on a fixed schedule, a smart controller self-adjusts based on real-time weather and site conditions like rainfall, wind, temperature, humidity, solar radiation and soil type. By automatically applying water only when needed, a smart controller can help prevent overwatering and reduce runoff. And by giving your garden just what it needs, you'll have happier plants, too!



Keep plants happy and healthy with just the right amount of water.

March

# Get the Most Out of a Smart Controller

- \* Give your irrigation system a complete check-up to make sure it is in good working order.
- \* Group plants with similar water needs together and avoid mixing different types of irrigation (for example, drip and spray) within the same zone.
- \* Look for a controller that carries the
  U.S. Environmental
  Protection Agency's
  WaterSense label.
- \* Consider hiring a professional to install and fine-tune your smart controller.



Find smart irrigation controllers at many local irrigation-supply houses.

| SUNDAY                      | MONDAY               | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY  | THURSDAY                                       | FRIDAY    | SATURDAY   |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|---|--|--|-----------|--|
|                             |                      | Water<br>irrigat  | don't have a smart coing Schedule at marinion runtimes. The sch                                | water.org for recomm<br>edule is updated every | ended     | new moon ● 1   |
| 2                           | 3                    | 4   | 5<br>Ash Wednesday   | 6  | 7         | first quarter   8  |
| 9<br>start of daylight      | 10                   | 11  | 12   | 13   | 14        | 15   |
| saving time  full moon 0 16 | 17 St. Patrick's Day | 18  | 19   | 20 Spring begins                               | 21        | 22   |
| 23                          | last quarter 24      | 25  | 26   | 27   | 28        | 29   |
| new moon ● 30               | 31                   | FEBRUARY  S M T W T F S  1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 | S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 |  | amoena is | flower clarkia<br>named after<br>rk of the Lewis<br>xpedition. |

TAKE ACTION **Get geared up for irrigation season** with a smart irrigation controller rebate from the Marin Municipal Water District. Rebates for high-efficiency toilets and clothes washers are also available. Conditions apply. Find complete details at **marinwater.org/rebates.** 





Don't be in the dark about litter—it can pollute our creeks and harm wildlife!

We'd all like to see litter-free streets, creeks, bays and oceans. But how do we make this a reality? Inspiring anti-litter campaigns may provide some answers. From the Cigarette-Eater-Meter in San Rafael to the interactive Digital Landfill, creative minds are motivating us to stop littering and become role models by picking it up and putting it where it belongs—in the trash or recycling bin.



This Cigarette-Eater-Meter provided two cents per butt for a local charity. Learn more at www.sanrafaelclean.org.

# **april**

# Have Fun Keeping Litter Out of Storm Drains!

- \* Join the grassroots digital landfill!

  Get a free Instagram app. Then,

  when you see a piece of litter, take
  a picture, post it to your Instagram,
  and hashtag it #Litterati. It will be
  added to a database. Learn more at
  www.litterati.org.
- \* Go to www.bethestreet.org to view great youth-produced videos and share them with friends.
- \* Support San Rafael businesses that have taken the No Litter Pledge. Go to www.sanrafaelclean.org.
- \* Adopt a highway through the Marin Clean Highway website at marincleanhighways.blogspot.com.



This plastic, washed ashore at Kehoe Beach, is later used to make thought-provoking art, reminding us that what is carelessly tossed away comes back. Learn more at www.beachplastic.com.

|   | SUNDAY   | MONDAY                             | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY                                 | THURSDAY | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY   |
|---|--|------------------------------------|---|---|----------|---|--|
|   | Join a creek cleanup April 26 to celebrate Earth Day. Learn more at www.myearthdaymarin.org. |                                    | April Fool's Day  | 1 2                                       | 3        | 4   | 5  |
|   | 6  | first quarter 7                    |   | 9   | 10       | 11  | 12   |
|   | 13  Palm Sunday  | Passover begins at sunset          | full moon O 1   | 5 16                                      | 17       | 18 Good Friday  | 19   |
| ٩ | 20 Easter Sunday   | 21                                 | last quarter 22   | 2 23                                      | 24       | 25  | 26   |
|   | 27   | 28                                 | new moon 29   | 30  |          | MARCH  S M T W T F S  1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 | MAY  S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 |
|   |  | collect trash on<br>Coastal Cleanu | n the Gallinas Creek<br>Coastal Cleanup D<br>p Day takes place o<br>er! Learn more at w | ay in 2013. This year,<br>n September 20. |          |   | Alex Kahl  |

TAKE

**Find out about marking storm drains** with a "No Dumping—Drains to Creek" message by calling your local stormwater contact (see back cover).



# Water Plants, Not Sidewalks



A good nursery can help you select the right plant for the right location.

Local governments and local water districts require property owners in Marin County to prevent irrigation water from running off their properties. Irrigation runoff can wash pesticides, motor oil, and other pollutants from your garden and driveway into local storm drains that flow directly to local creeks and other waterways. Your efforts to prevent this type of pollution will save water and protect water quality in creeks.



Ask knowledgeable nursery staff about native or drought-tolerant plants to reduce your water use.



# Tips for Watering Your Lawn and Garden

Help reduce runoff and prevent pollution of local waterways:

- Aim sprinkler heads correctly.
- Conserve water by using mulch.
- Water early in the morning to reduce evaporation.
- Turn off automatic irrigation systems if rain is forecast.
- Use check-valves to prevent line drainage and overspray onto walkways.
- Use on/off valves or trigger nozzles when hand watering.
- Check for leaks and repair them within 48 hours.



Succulents add color and beauty while decreasing water use.

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY   | TUESDAY                   | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY       | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--|---------------------------|---|----------------|--------|----------|
| S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 | S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 |                           |   | 1              | 2      | 3        |
| 4  | 5<br>Cinco de Mayo   | 6                         | first quarter -   | 7 8            | 9      | 10       |
| 11  Mother's Day   | 12   | 13                        | full moon O 14  | 15             | 16     | 17       |
| 18   | 19   | 20                        | last quarter 2.   | L 22           | 23     | 24       |
| 25   | 26  Memorial Day   | 27                        | new moon  28  | 3 29           | 30     | 31       |
| Annie's Annuals  |  | with little<br>clevelandi | nts add color to the<br>water, once establi<br>i; right: showy milk<br>l; top: Indian pink (£ | weed (Asclepia |        |          |

TAKE ACTION! **Learn about the wonders of mulch for conserving water** and reducing weeds. Call MCSTOPPP at 473-3202 for the free booklet A *Bay-Friendly Landscaper's Guide to Mulch*.





Pyrethroid-related toxicity has been documented in nearly every major urban watershed in the State.

Pyrethroids have become the pesticides of choice for insect control. Because they are often applied outdoors, water can carry pyrethroids through the storm drain system into our creeks. Researchers in California are now finding pyrethroids in water and sediment of urban creeks at levels known to cause toxicity to sensitive aquatic organisms.



MCSTOPPP works with Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Advocates to promote the least toxic alternatives and to create educational displays.



# IPM Advocates and You Make a Difference!

- ★ In Northern California, over 77% of store managers working with Integrated Pest Management Advocates reported increased sales of less toxic products from 2011 to 2012. Over 70% of these stores increased shelf space for less toxic products based on consumer interest in purchasing them!
- ★ In response to last year's calendar survey, 43% of Marin County residents indicated they don't shop for pesticides. The best way to reduce water pollution caused by toxic pesticides is to avoid using them in the first place! However, if you must use a product, use the least toxic one available.
- \* Avoid pyrethroids: read the active ingredients on product labels and avoid those ending in "thrin." Learn more at www.ourwaterourworld.org.



Encourage ladybugs in your garden—they eat lots of insect pests!

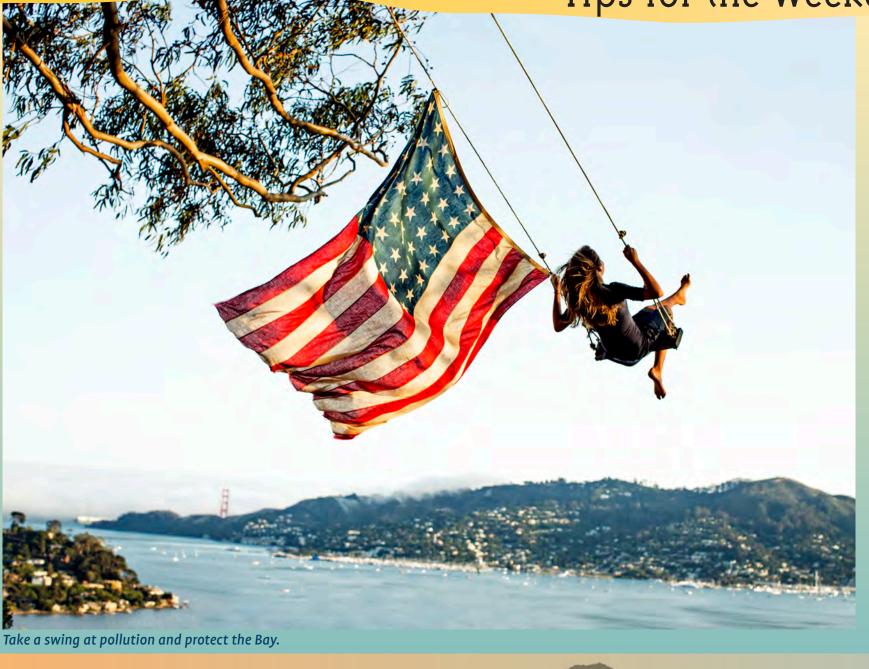
| SUNDAY   | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY   | SATURDAY                 |  |  |
|--|--------|---------|-----------|---|--|--------------------------|--|--|
| 1  | 2      | 3       | 4         | first quarter ¶ 5   | 6  | 7                        |  |  |
| 8  | 9      | 10      | 11        | 12  | full moon O 13   | 14                       |  |  |
| 15<br>Father's Day   | 16     | 17      | 18        | last quarter 19   | 20   | 21 Summer begins         |  |  |
| 22   | 23     | 24      | 25        | 26  | new moon ● 27  | Ramadan begins at sunset |  |  |
| 29   | 30     |         |           | MAY  S M T W T F S  1 2 3  4 5 6 7 8 9 10  11 12 13 14 15 16 17  18 19 20 21 22 23 24  25 26 27 28 29 30 31 | JULY  S M T W T F S  1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 |                          |  |  |
| The syrphid fly (left) can be mistaken for a honeybee (right). Both are beneficial insects that are harmed by the increasing use of toxic pesticides in our gardens. |        |         |           |   |  |                          |  |  |

TAKE ACTION!

#### Learn more about the IPM Advocates program

and managing pest problems without using toxic chemicals! Go to www.ipmadvocates.com.

# Tips for the Weekend Warrior



When tackling a weekend project, take a moment to consider how it might impact our local bays and creeks. In Marin, all storm drains flow directly to our creeks or bays or the ocean. Any project you work on that allows water, dirt, or debris to wash into the gutter and down a storm drain negatively affects water quality. With good practices and planning, however, you can protect our water resources.



Some local paint stores will accept leftover paint for recycling. Go to www.paintcare.org/locator to find one in your neighborhood.



# Be a True Weekend Warrior and Help the Environment!

- \* Take pesticides, pool chemicals, solvents, paint, and other household hazardous waste to your local hazardous-waste facility. Never place them in the trash. See the back cover for more information.
- \* Ensure projects that disturb soil (e.g., repairing a driveway) will be completed before the rainy season.
- \* Don't drain your pool or spa water to the street. Call MCSTOPPP for a free brochure on maintenance tips. Call your sanitary district (see back cover) for proper draining methods.



\* Report illegal discharges to creeks and storm drains anonymously: go to www.mcstoppp.org, or call your local stormwater coordinator (see back cover).

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY  | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY  | SATURD            | ΑY |
|--|---|---------|-----------|------------|---|-------------------|----|
|  |   | 1       | 2         | 3          | 4   | first quarter     | 5  |
|  |   |         |           |            | Independence Day  |                   |    |
| 6  | 7   | 8       | 9         | 10         | 11  | full moon         | 12 |
| 13   | 14  | 15      | 16        | 17         | 18  | last quarter      | 19 |
| 20   | 21  | 22      | 23        | 24         | 25  | new moon          | 26 |
| 27   | 28  | 29      | 30        | 31         |   |                   |    |
| S   M   T   W   T   F   S   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10   11   12   13   14   15   16   17   18   19   20   21   22   23   24   25   26   27   28   29   30 | S M T W T 5 S 1 2 S S S S M S T W T S M S M S M S M M M M M M M M M M M M |         |           | rain is fo | per: don't leave bare so<br>precast, and revegetat<br>ot from running off the | e quickly to keep | )  |

TAKE ACTION! **Get informed!** Before working on your weekend project, contact MCSTOPPP at 473-3202 or mcstoppp@marincounty.org for free materials based on your needs.

# Prevent Oil Discharge from Boats



Keep your boat engine well tuned to prevent fuel and oil leaks.

Zero Waste Marin is partnering with local marinas to distribute free oil absorbents and to collect and dispose of used ones. When oil from a boat gets into the bay, it can harm plants and animals living there, as well as migrating birds that pass through. By using absorbents, we can avoid impacts to wildlife, the bay, and the shoreline.



To locate a marina in Marin County that is part of the free Absorbent Pad Exchange Program, go to www. zerowastemarin.org/OAEP.

# august

# Help Keep Our Bays Free of Pollution

- \* Use a pump-out station. Many marinas in Marin are equipped with them, and mobile services are also available. To learn more, download the S.F. Bay Area Clean Boating Map from the California Coastal Commission at www.coastal.ca.gov or request a copy from the commission at vmatuk@ coastal.ca.gov.
- \* Never use soap to disperse fuel and oil spills. It's illegal and harmful to the environment.
- \* Scoop up floating debris and dispose of it properly on land.
- \* When changing your own oil, use a portable oil-change pump, available at marine-supply stores.
- \* Place an oil-absorbent pillow under your boat's engine and wrap absorbent sheets around leaky hoses or engine parts to avoid oil pollution.

| parts to avoid on politicism. |             |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
|                               | Brad Damitz |
| *                             |             |
| The same                      |             |
|                               |             |
|                               | ••          |

| I | SUND        | AY     | MONDAY   | TUESDAY                            | WEDNESDAY  | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY   |
|---|-------------|--------|--|------------------------------------|--|------------|---|--|
|   | Janua Keane | [N. 1. | Y CAN IN WAY & ST.   | gre                                | arn to be a clean and<br>een boater at www.<br>atingcleanandgreen.co | om. PATING | 1   | 2  |
|   |             | 3      | first quarter <b>4</b>   | 5                                  | 6  | 7          | 8   | 9  |
|   | full moon 🔵 | 10     | 11   | 12                                 | 13   | 14         | 15  | 16   |
|   | ast quarter | 17     | 18   | 19                                 | 20   | 21         | 22  | 23   |
|   |             | 24     | new moon ● 25  | 26                                 | 27   | 28         | 29  | 30   |
|   |             | 31     | Minimize boat cle<br>maintenance in tl<br>best to save these<br>your boat is on di | he water. It's<br>e projects until |  |            | S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 | SEPTEMBER  S M T W T F S  1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 |

TAKE ACTION! **Keep oil-absorbent sheets on hand in case of spills,** and always keep a fresh, absorbent pillow in the bilge. If your marina doesn't collect used oil absorbents, take them to your local hazardous-waste facility (see back cover).

# Get S.E.R.I.O.U.S.



Our pets may be attractive, but the ants that invade their food bowls are not!

Do you have uninvited "guests" like ants as a result of feeding your pet? You can prevent ant invasions without using toxic chemicals. If a product is necessary, use the least toxic one available, and one designed to target only the pest you don't want around. Try to avoid sprays that disperse chemicals and reach unintentional targets like beneficial insects such as ladybugs, dragonflies, and yes, even spiders!



Many products are now available (like this AntsOut bowl) that use a water barrier to surround pet food, creating a pesticide-free way of managing ants!

# september

### **Before You Have** Another Ant Invasion. Get S.E.R.I.O.U.S.

- **S**pot where they're coming from.
- Eliminate crumbs, messes, and spills.
- Rinse ants away with soap and water.
- Isolate food and water sources.
- Obstruct entryways by sealing cracks.
- Use bait if ants won't leave after a few days.
- **S**tick to it to keep ants away.



Chestnut-backed chickadees are voracious consumers of insects, including ants, aphids, whitefly, caterpillars, and earwigs.

|                   | SUNDAY             | MONDAY                 | TUESDAY               | WEDNESDAY                         | THURSDAY | FRIDAY               | SATURDAY   |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|----------------------|--|
|                   |                    | 1                      | first quarter 1       | 3                                 | 4        | 5                    | 6  |
|                   |                    | Labor Day              |                       |                                   |          |                      |  |
|                   | 7                  | 8                      | full moon O           | 10                                | 11       | 12                   | 13   |
| -                 |                    |                        |                       |                                   |          |                      |  |
|                   | 14                 | 15                     | last quarter 16       | 17                                | 18       | 19                   | 20   |
|                   |                    |                        |                       |                                   |          |                      | Coastal Cleanup Day                                |
| 2                 | 21                 | 22                     | 23                    | new moon  24                      | 25       | 26                   | 27   |
| יאווויכננכ בשאווכ |                    |                        | Autumn begins         | Rosh Hashanah<br>begins at sunset |          |                      |  |
|                   | 28                 | 29                     | 30                    |                                   |          |                      |  |
|                   |                    |                        |                       |                                   |          |                      |  |
|                   | To solve ant probl | ems, try bait stations | Ants take the hait h  | ack to their                      | 2 11     | AUGUST               | OCTOBER  |
|                   | nest to share with | others. In this way, t | he entire nest can so | metimes be                        |          | 1 2<br>3 4 5 6 7 8 9 | 1 2 3 4<br>5 6 7 8 9 10 11<br>12 13 14 15 16 17 18 |

eliminated. Bait can be washed away with rain or sprinklers outdoors. To learn more, go to www.ourwaterourworld.org/FactSheets.aspx.



TAKE

Learn more at the Get S.E.R.I.O.U.S. website: Go to www.gotantsgetserious.org and take the pledge to use non-toxic practices—or the least toxic products available—the next time you have an ant problem.



# Mobile Cleaners Are On the Go



Exterior decks eventually need to be power washed and cleaned.

Thinking of hiring someone to pressure wash your patio or driveway or clean your carpets? These days, mobile cleaners are available for a variety of needs. Mobile cleaning activities can generate a significant quantity of wash water that may contain dirt, debris, soap, oil, grease, acid solution, solvents, paint chips, and metals. If you hire one or if you do the job yourself, remember to keep the wash water out of storm drains!



Mobile services are even offered for grooming pets.

october

### **Tips for Exterior Cleaning**

- Find out how your mobile cleaner plans to collect, contain, and/or treat wash water before you hire them.

  Dirty wash water should not be allowed to flow into a storm drain.
- Sweep the area or use absorbents to clean up any small spills.
- Use berms, storm drain covers, containment pools, or vacuums and pumps to keep wash water out of storm drains.
- \* Contact your local sanitary district (see back cover) if you plan to discharge to the sanitary sewer.

  You can direct wash water to a landscaped area if the water is free of hazardous materials, doesn't create runoff, and leaves no debris or residue.
- Take any unwanted cleaning products or chemicals to your local hazardouswaste facility (see back cover).

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY   | TUESDAY   | WEDNE         | SDAY | THURSD   | AY | FRIDAY                         | SATURDAY |
|--|--|---|---------------|------|----------|----|--------------------------------|----------|
|  |  |   | first quarter | 1    |          | 2  | 3                              | 4        |
|  |  |   |               |      |          |    | Yom Kippur<br>begins at sunset |          |
| 5  | 6  | 7   | full moon 🔾   | 8    |          | 9  | 10                             | 11       |
| 12   | 13 Columbus Day observed   | 14  | last quarter  | 15   |          | 16 | 17                             | 18       |
| 19   | 20   | 21  |               | 22   | new moon | 23 | 24                             | 25       |
| 26   | 27   | 28  |               | 29   |          | 30 | first quarter 4 31             |          |
| SEPTEMBER s m t w t f s  | NOVEMBER s m t w t f s   |   |               | , ,  | . ,      |    |                                |          |
| 1 2 3 4 5 6<br>7 8 9 10 11 12 13<br>14 15 16 17 18 19 20<br>21 22 23 24 25 26 27<br>28 29 30 | 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 | Plan to wash with possible. Even bio harm aquatic eco | degradable cl |      |          |    |                                |          |

TAKE ACTION **Make a plan to manage waste and wash water** before cleaning a sidewalk, parking area, deck, patio, or the exterior walls of your house. Learn more by going to www.mcstoppp.org and search for Interior and Exterior Cleaning.

# Don't Be a Drain on the Bay



hemicals found in some items flushed down indoor drains find their way to the bay.

Wastewater from our showers, sinks, toilets, and other indoor drains flows through a series of underground pipes to a treatment plant. At the plant, the wastewater is cleaned before being discharged into the Bay. Products like herbicides, pesticides, solvents, and pharmaceuticals should never be flushed down toilets or other drains. Some of the chemicals in them pass right through the treatment plant and enter our local waterways.



Bring pharmaceuticals and controlled substances to one of many Marin locations for disposal (see back cover).

# november

# Keep Hazardous Materials from Reaching the Bay

- Residents and businesses can take things like polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), pesticides, herbicides, pool/ spa chemicals, cleaners, paints, copper algaecides, and cyanide to their local hazardous-waste facility (see back cover).
- Mercury-containing thermometers, thermostats, and fluorescent/ compact fluorescent tubes can also be brought to a local hazardous-waste facility, or taken to the Bulb and Battery TakeBack Program (households only). Learn more at www.zerowastemarin.org/BnB.



Many sport fish in San Francisco Bay—and some fish outside the Bay—contain mercury that can be passed on to humans who eat the fish. For more information, go to www. oehha.ca.gov/fish.html.

| SUNDAY                      | MONDAY  | TUESDAY          | WEDNESDAY                            | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY                                 | SATURDAY           |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|---|------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|--------------------|--|--|--|
|                             | S M T W T F S           1         2         3         4           5         6         7         8         9         10         11           12         13         14         15         16         17         18           19         20         21         22         23         24         25           26         27         28         29         30         31         III | DECEMBER         | best method for<br>is mechanical rei | per-based root-control<br>getting rid of tree root<br>moval. Brake pads are<br>v. Learn more at www. | ts in sewer pipes<br>another source of | 1                  |  |  |  |
| end of daylight saving time | 3   | 4                | 5                                    | full moon O  | 7                                      | 8                  |  |  |  |
| 9                           | 10  | 11  Veterans Day | 12                                   | 13   | last quarter 14                        | 15                 |  |  |  |
| 16                          | 17  | 18               | 19                                   | 20   | 21                                     | new moon ● 22      |  |  |  |
| 23                          | 24  | 25               | 26                                   | 27 Thanksgiving  | 28                                     | first quarter 4 29 |  |  |  |
| 30                          | Flushable wipes cause big problems in the sewers and at treatment plants. Tissues cause problems, too! As with flushable wipes, they don't break down in water like regular toilet paper. Avoid clogged drains: don't allow these items in your pipes. Learn more at www.wipesclogpipes.com.  |                  |                                      |  |  |                    |  |  |  |

TAKE ACTION! **Help keep our bay clean!** For proper disposal of hazardous materials and an up-to-date list of drop-off locations for pharmaceuticals, go to www.savrbay.com or call 1-800-SAV-R-BAY (1-800-728-7229 ext. 4).



# Grow Gardens from Garbage



During the holiday season, large amounts of food scraps are generated. Give the scraps new life by composting them!

Give food scraps new life through backyard composting (see below) and/or by using the green cart provided by your hauler. To learn what can and cannot be placed in the cart, go to zerowastemarin.org.

Because this food waste goes to an industrial recycler where temperatures get much hotter than in a backyard system, things like pizza boxes, bones, and meat are generally accepted. Avoid the use of bioplastics, however, as no hauler accepts them.



Compost is the key ingredient in keeping your soil healthy.

# December

# The Many Benefits of Backyard Composting

- Keeps plants healthy and resistant to pests.
- Avoids the need for pest-control products.
- Improves the fertility of the soil even clay soils!
- Eliminates the need to buy fertilizers, saving you money.
- Saves water by adding organic materials to the soil that hold moisture.
- Reduces solid waste going to landfills.

Attend one of Zero Waste Marin's backyard-composting classes offered throughout the year. Attendees can purchase a compost bin at a discounted rate. Go to zerowastemarin.org and look under Zero Waste 101 | Composting Courses or call 473-6647 for more information.



| SUNDAY             | MONDAY      | TUESDAY                      | WEDNESDAY              | THURSDAY      | FRIDAY                                      | SATURDAY                                     |
|--------------------|-------------|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|---|--|
|                    | 1           | 2                            | 3                      | 4             | 5   | full moon O                                  |
|                    |             |                              |                        |               |   |  |
| <u> </u>           | 0           |                              | 10                     | 11            | 4.2   | 42   |
| 7                  | 8           | 9                            | 10                     | 11            | 12  | 13   |
|                    |             |                              |                        |               |   |  |
|                    |             |                              |                        |               |   |  |
| last quarter 14    | . 15        | 16                           | 17                     | 18            | 19  | 20   |
|                    |             |                              |                        |               |   |  |
|                    |             | Hanukkah begins<br>at sunset |                        |               |   |  |
| 21                 | new moon 22 | 23                           | 24                     | 25            | 26  | 27   |
|                    |             |                              |                        |               |   |  |
|                    |             |                              |                        |               |   |  |
| Winter begins      |             |                              |                        | Christmas Day | Kwanzaa begins                              |  |
| first quarter 1 28 | 29          | 30                           | 31                     |               | NOVEMBER s m t w t f s                      | JANUARY 2015                                 |
|                    |             |                              |                        |               | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8                             | 1 2 3<br>4 5 6 7 8 9 10                      |
|                    |             |                              |                        |               | 9 10 11 12 13 14 15<br>16 17 18 19 20 21 22 | 11 12 13 14 15 16 17<br>18 19 20 21 22 23 24 |
|                    |             |                              | New Year's Eve         |               | 23 24 25 26 27 28 29<br>30                  | 25 26 27 28 29 30 31                         |
| ZE                 | RØ 'Tis th  | e season! Don't forget       | to give your tree a ne | w life as     |   | Mahaffie                                     |

ZERØ WASTE MARIN

'Tis the season! Don't forget to give your tree a new life as well. Check out the Recycling, Reuse and Disposal Guide at zerowastemarin.org, and keep your eye out for ads in local newspapers for green recycling options!

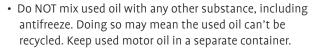


TAKE ACTION **Request a copy** of Growing Gardens from Garbage: A Guide to Composting, Mulching and Grasscycling from mcstoppp@ marincounty.org, or read it online at www.mcstoppp.org.



#### **USED MOTOR OIL AND FILTER COLLECTION**

The following locations accept used motor oil, filters, batteries, and antifreeze as indicated. Call centers for hours of operation and quantities accepted.



• If your oil is contaminated with another substance, bring it to your local hazardous-waste facility.



**KEY CODE:** O = Used motor oil F = Oil filters A = Antifreeze

B = Car batteries

| CITY              | NAME                       | ADDRESS              | PHONE    | KEY CODE |
|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|----------|----------|
| Corte Madera      | D & K Auto Services        | 34 Corte Madera Ave. | 924-3510 | OFAB     |
| Mill Valley       | Jiffy Lube                 | 374 Miller Avenue    | 383-6416 | OFA      |
| Novato            | O'Reilly Auto Parts        | 1400 S. Novato Blvd. | 897-5338 | ОВ       |
|                   | Novato Recycling Center    | 7576 Redwood Blvd.   | 892-7344 | OFAB     |
|                   | Oil Changer                | 133 Vintage Way      | 897-0134 | 0        |
|                   | Pennzoil 10-Min Oil Change | 908 Diablo Avenue    | 898-5823 | OFAB     |
|                   | Ron Cromwell Chevron       | 1549 S. Novato Blvd. | 892-5393 | O F      |
| Pt. Reyes Station | Bracken Auto Service       | 11401 State Route 1  | 663-0633 | OFAB     |
| San Rafael        | Heynneman European         | 3155 Kerner Blvd.    | 499-1234 | OFAB     |
|                   | O'Reilly Auto Parts        | 75 N. Bellam Blvd.   | 454-5881 | OF B     |
|                   | O'Reilly Auto Parts        | 1323 Second Street   | 454-2963 | OF B     |
|                   | HHW Facility               | 565 Jacoby Street    | 485-6806 | OFAB     |
|                   | Pennzoil 10-Min Oil Change | 1524 Second Street   | 457-5823 | OFAB     |

#### **DISPOSAL OF HOUSEHOLD PHARMACEUTICALS, SHARPS & SYRINGES SUBSTANCES**

For the most up-to-date list, go to http://tinyurl.com/96l98vy. Drop-off locations for sharps provide free collection containers.

**P** Pharmaceuticals **S** Sharps & Syringes

| Central Marin Police Authority    |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Golden Gate Pharmacy P            |  |  |
| HHW Facility, Novato <b>\$</b>    |  |  |
| HHW Facility, San Rafael <b>S</b> |  |  |
| Jack's Drug Store <b>P S</b>      |  |  |
| Kaiser Perm. Pharmacies <b>S</b>  |  |  |
| Lucky Pharmacy, Larkspur <b>S</b> |  |  |
| Marin AIDS Project <b>S</b>       |  |  |
| MCC Pharmacy <b>P S</b>           |  |  |
| Marin Med. Pharmacy <b>P S</b>    |  |  |

P Mill Valley Police Dept. P Novato Com. Hospital Lab **S** Novato Police Dept. P Pharmaca Integrative, Novato \$ Ross Valley Pharmacy **P S** Safeway Pharmacies \$ Sausalito Police Dept. P Sheriff's Office/Coroner P\* Walgreens Pharmacies \$ West Marin Pharmacy P S

\* no liquids

## **DISPOSAL OF** CONTROLLED

Mill Valley Police Department Novato Police Department Sausalito Police Department Central Marin Police Authority



www.mcstoppp.org mcstoppp@marincounty.org

#### WASTEWATER TREATMENT **PLANTS AND SANITARY DISTRICTS**

#### www.savrbay.com

| Almonte Sanitary District                | 388-8775   |
|--|------------|
| Alto Sanitary District                   | 388-3696   |
| Bolinas Co. Public Utility               | 868-1224   |
| Central Main Sanitation                  | 459-1455   |
| City of Belvedere                        | 435-3838   |
| City of Mill Valley                      | 388-4033   |
| City of Sausalito 289-410                | o ext. 106 |
| County Sewer Maintenance District        | 473-6524   |
| Homestead Sanitary District #1           | 388-4796   |
| Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District    | 472-1734   |
| Novato Sanitary District                 | 892-1694   |
| North Marin Water District               | 897-4133   |
| Richardson Bay Sanitary District         | 388-1345   |
| Sanitary District #1 (Ross Valley)       | 259-2949   |
| Sanitary District #2 (Corte Madera)      | 927-5057   |
| Sanitary District #5 (Tiburon/Belvedere) | 435-1501   |
| San Rafael Sanitary District             | 454-4001   |
| Sausalito-Marin City Sanitary District   | 332-0244   |
| Sewerage Agency of So. Marin             | 388-2402   |
| Tamalpais Comm. Service District         | 388-6393   |
|  |            |

#### STORMWATER CONTACTS FOR ILLEGAL DISCHARGES

To report illegal discharges to storm drains, creeks, or wetlands, call the numbers below or file a complaint online at www.mcstoppp.org. After normal business hours, call the County Sheriff's non-emergency line at 499-7233.

| Belvedere       | 435-3838          |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| County of Marin | 473-6528          |
| Corte Madera    | 927-5057          |
| Fairfax         | 453-1584          |
| Larkspur        | 927-5017          |
| Mill Valley     | 388-4033          |
| Novato          | 899-8246          |
| Ross            | 453-1453 ext. 163 |
| San Anselmo     | 258-4600          |
| San Rafael      | 485-3355          |
| Sausalito       | 289-4100 ext. 106 |
| Tiburon         | 435-7354          |

#### DISPOSAL OF HOUSEHOLD **HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW)**

Household hazardous waste such as TVs, computer monitors, pesticides, paint, antifreeze, used oil and filters, aerosol sprays, fluorescent tubes, and solvents can be brought to the facilities listed below. No fees are charged for residential drop-off.

Items not accepted include explosives, ammunition (call the police dept.), radioactives, compressed gas cylinders (BBQ propane cylinders are accepted), bio-waste, infectious waste, and laboratory waste. If you are unsure whether an item will be accepted, call first.

#### ALL OF MARIN (Except Novato)

Marin Household Hazardous Waste Facility 565 Jacoby Street, San Rafael. 485-6806 Funded by the Marin County Solid and Hazardous Waste Joint Powers Authority

Open 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, go to www. MarinHHW.com.

Satellite sites: These are one-day events offered twice a year, by appointment only, in towns throughout West Marin. Call 485-3309 for dates and locations.

#### **NOVATO RESIDENTS ONLY**

Novato Household Hazardous Waste Facility 7576 Redwood Blvd., Novato. 892-7344 Funded by Novato Sanitary District and City of Novato Open 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m on the 1st and 3rd Sundays and Mondays of each month. For more information, call 892-7344 or go to www.novatosan.com.

#### **BUSINESS HAZARDOUS WASTE**

Businesses generating very small amounts of hazardous waste can use the Household Hazardous Waste Facility in San Rafael or Novato by appointment. A fee will be charged at both facilities. To participate, a business must provide an EPA ID number. To get one go to www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/upload/ GISS\_-FORM\_1358.pdf.

For more information:

Novato businesses, call 892-6385 All other businesses in Marin, call 458-5549