








PROTECT OUR
WATER & WILDLIFE
HELP KEEP OUR CREEKS, WETLANDS AND BAY CLEAN!



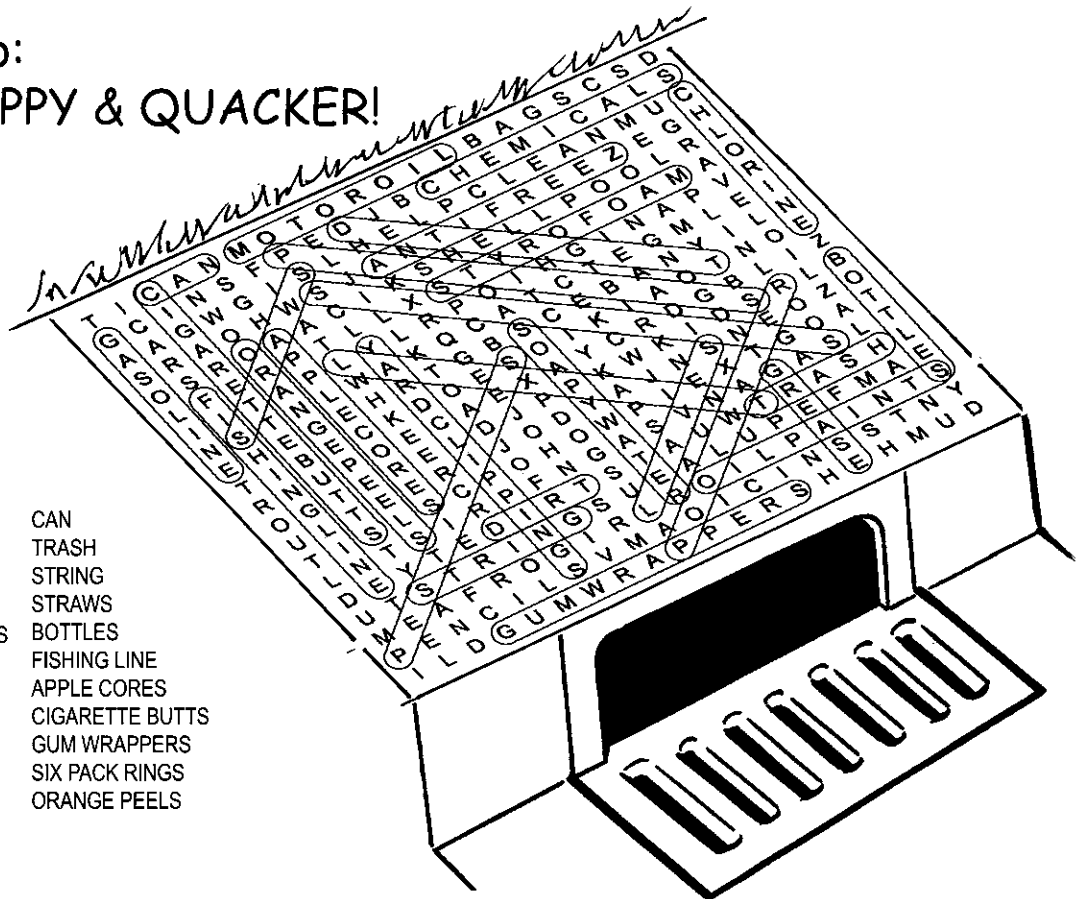
ZERO WASTE - YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN!

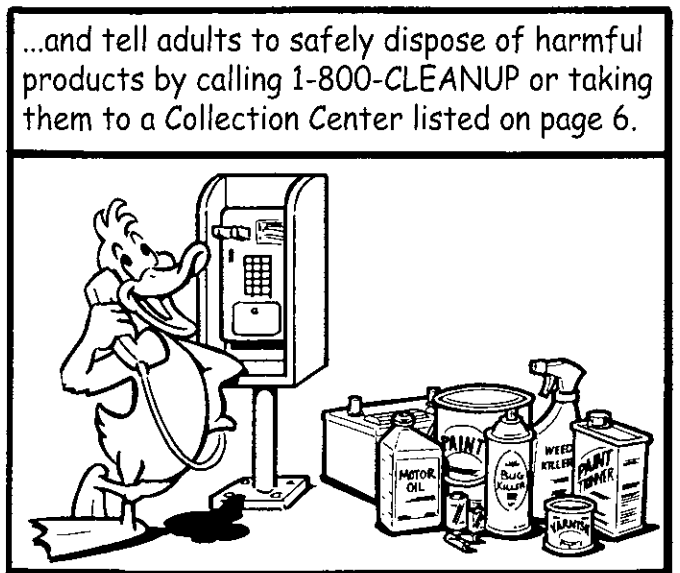
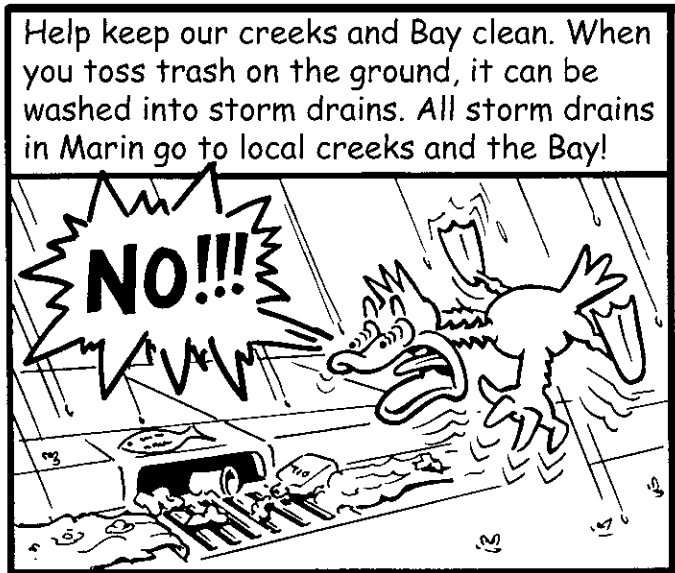
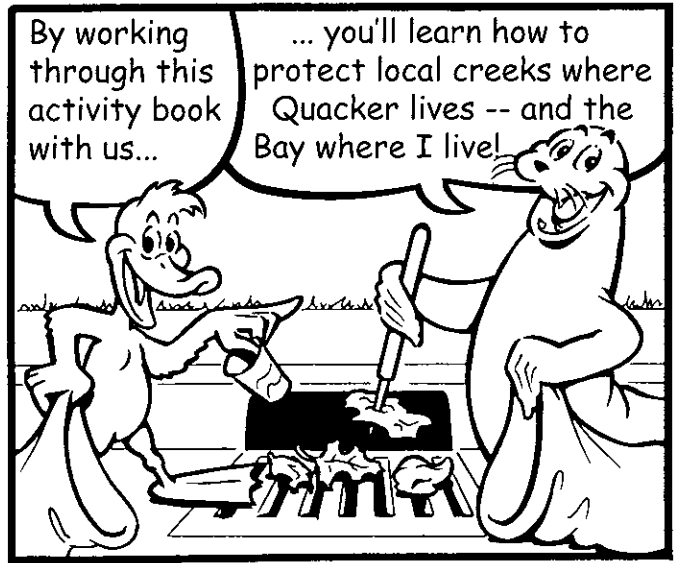
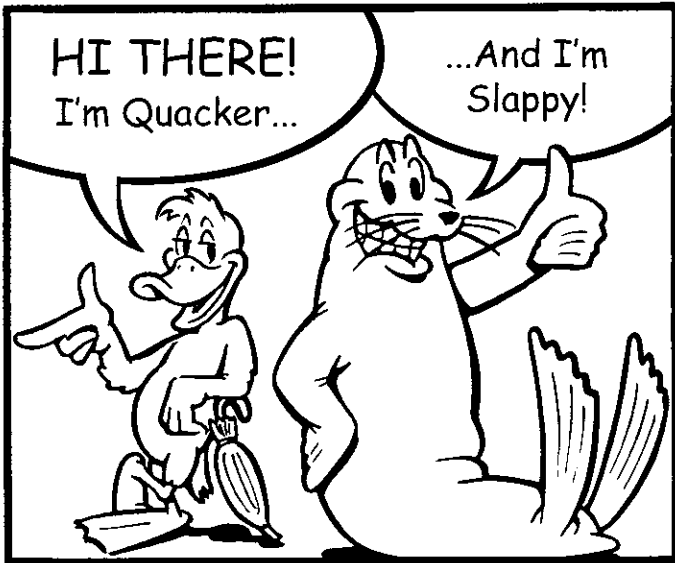
Answers to: WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE? (page 9)

-  Several trees, that lined the creek bank and provided shade, have been chopped down. Since fish need cool water to live and spawn, the creek no longer provides suitable habitat.
-  Someone is chopping tree limbs and letting them fall in the creek. They can be washed downstream and block the flow of water.
-  Someone is tossing a stick for his dog and letting the dog run through the creek. This stirs up the creek bottom and muddies the water, making it difficult for fish to breathe and to catch insects. If this is done during spawning season, the dirt from the bottom of the creek could settle over the eggs, smothering them. Avoid walking in creeks (and having your pet romp in them) during the months of October through June when salmonids migrate upstream, lay their eggs, or the baby fish hatch.
-  The woman is applying a dangerous pesticide close to the creek. The spray can be washed into the creek.
-  The man is cutting his lawn and the clippings are going into the creek.
-  Someone piled a bunch of leaves on the creekbank and they are falling into the creek. If many people did this, it could affect the oxygen level of the creek and kill fish and other aquatic life. (Leaves and other organic waste gives off nitrogen as they decompose. The more nitrogen in the water, the less oxygen there is for the fish and aquatic life.)
-  A large bundle of woody debris formed under the bridge--potentially blocking the flow of the creek and causing a flood. However, woody debris isn't always a bad thing. For example, when a tree falls in a creek, it can provide habitat for creek critters and slow the flow of rushing water. For information on managing woody debris properly, have an adult call Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program at 499-6528.

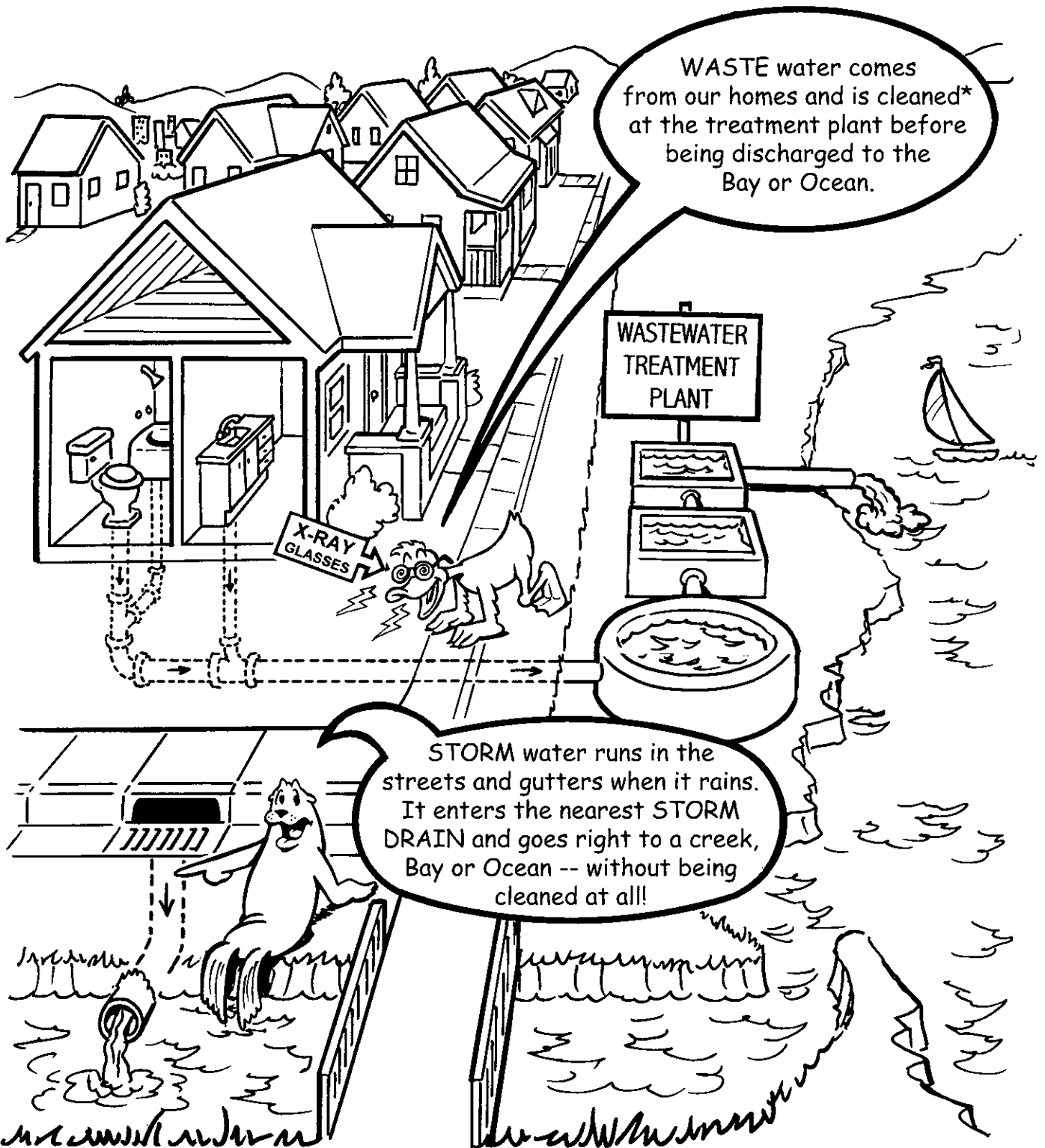
Answers to: SAVE SLAPPY & QUACKER! (page 10)

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| MOTOR OIL | CAN |
| GREASE | TRASH |
| ANTIFREEZE | STRING |
| DETERGENT | STRAWS |
| CHLORINE | BOTTLES |
| CHEMICALS | FISHING LINE |
| GASOLINE | APPLE CORES |
| OIL PAINT | CIGARETTE BUTTS |
| LATEX PAINT | GUM WRAPPERS |
| PESTICIDES | SIX PACK RINGS |
| YARD CLIPPINGS | ORANGE PEELS |
| SOAPY WATER | |
| POOL WATER | |
| STYROFOAM | |
| PLASTIC BAGS | |
| LEAVES | |
| DIRT | |





WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN "STORM" WATER AND "WASTE" WATER?



ACTIVITY:

Color the path of the STORMWATER from the storm drain to the creek and the Bay BLUE. Color the path of WASTEWATER from the house to the treatment plant YELLOW.

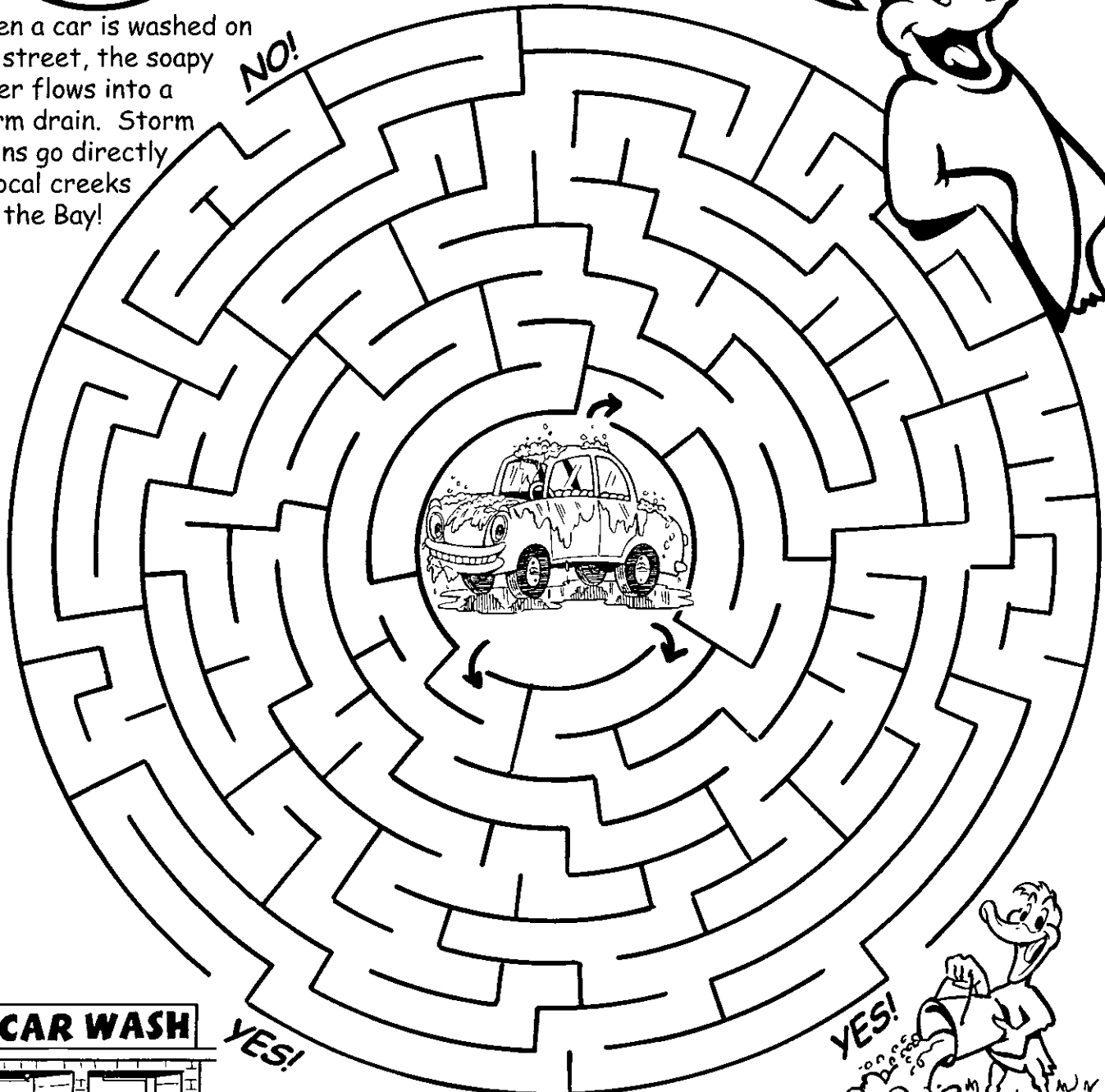
* Some chemicals (like paints, pesticides and motor oil) that are found in households, pass right through the treatment plant and into the Bay or Ocean.



All soap, even biodegradable, can hurt fish. Help protect the fish by making sure this car is washed properly. Find the way to the car wash or the grassy area.

When a car is washed on the street, the soapy water flows into a storm drain. Storm drains go directly to local creeks and the Bay!

NO!



Soapy water is recycled or sent to the waste water treatment plant.

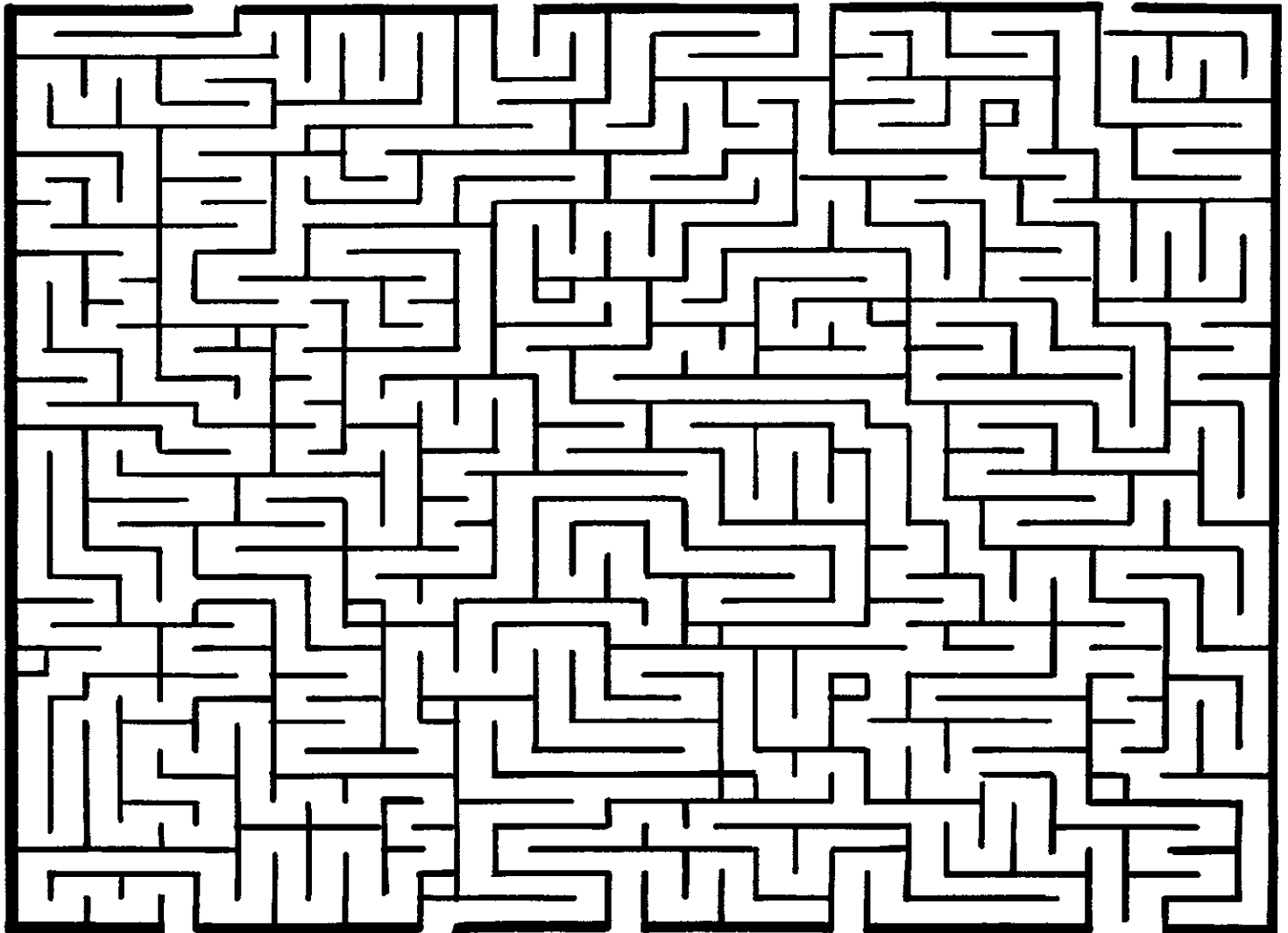
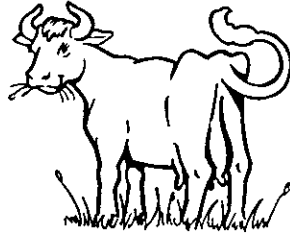
Do you know of anyone that is having a **CAR WASH** to raise money? If so, have them call Marin County Pollution Prevention at 499-6528 to borrow a free "fish-friendly" car wash kit. It will keep soapy water from entering storm drains.



YES!

Soapy water is soaked up by grass, dirt, or gravel and does not flow into a storm drain.

EVERYBODY POOPS, but not in the creek! Make sure the poop from these animals finds its way to the trash instead of the creek!



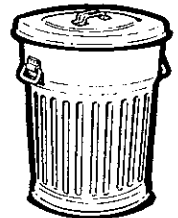
NO

NO

NO

NO!!

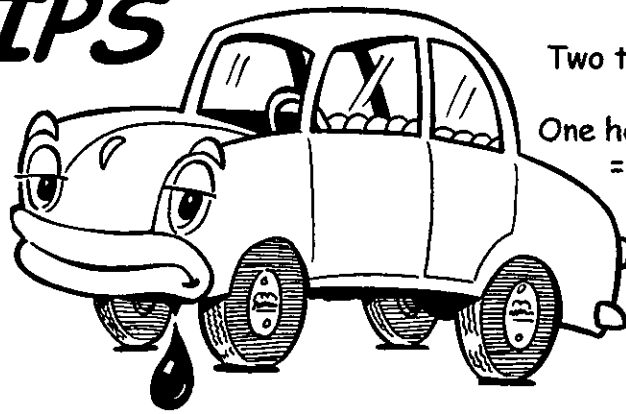
YES!



ACTION: Pick up after your pet! Your pet's poop can contain bacteria and viruses which could spread to other wildlife. Horses and cows should not poop in or near creeks or other bodies of water. Their poop contributes to algae growth, which uses up oxygen in the water that fish need to survive.

DUCK ^{THE} DRIPS

You will need 4 coins and a friend. Give one coin to your friend and keep one for yourself (these will be your playing pieces). The remaining two coins get flipped on each player's turn.



Two tails = 1 space
 One head + One tail = 2 spaces
 Two heads = 3 spaces

If you land on a space with an oil drip, follow the oil slick down and wait for your next turn to try again. **GOOD LUCK!**



START

FINISH	29	28	27	26
21	22	23	24	25
20	19	18	17	16
11	12	13	14	15
10	9	8	7	6
1	2	3	4	5

ACTION: Make sure your family's car doesn't have any drips! Drips collect on streets, parking lots, and driveways and wash into the storm drain when the rains begin.

HAZARDOUS PRODUCT WORD SCRAMBLE

Many products used in your home and garden can be harmful to people and pets.

Unscramble the following words that may be found on product labels.

If any of these words appear on the label, you will know that the product should be used VERY carefully-- and only by adults.

- RIWNANG _ _ _ _ _
- TANOCIU _ _ _ _ _
- RANGED _ _ _ _ _
- BAMALEFML _ _ _ _ _
- SOIPON _ _ _ _ _
- SOCREVRIO _ _ _ _ _
- RAMLUHF _ _ _ _ _
- ZODRAHUSA _ _ _ _ _
- COTIX _ _ _ _ _
- RANITIRT _ _ _ _ _

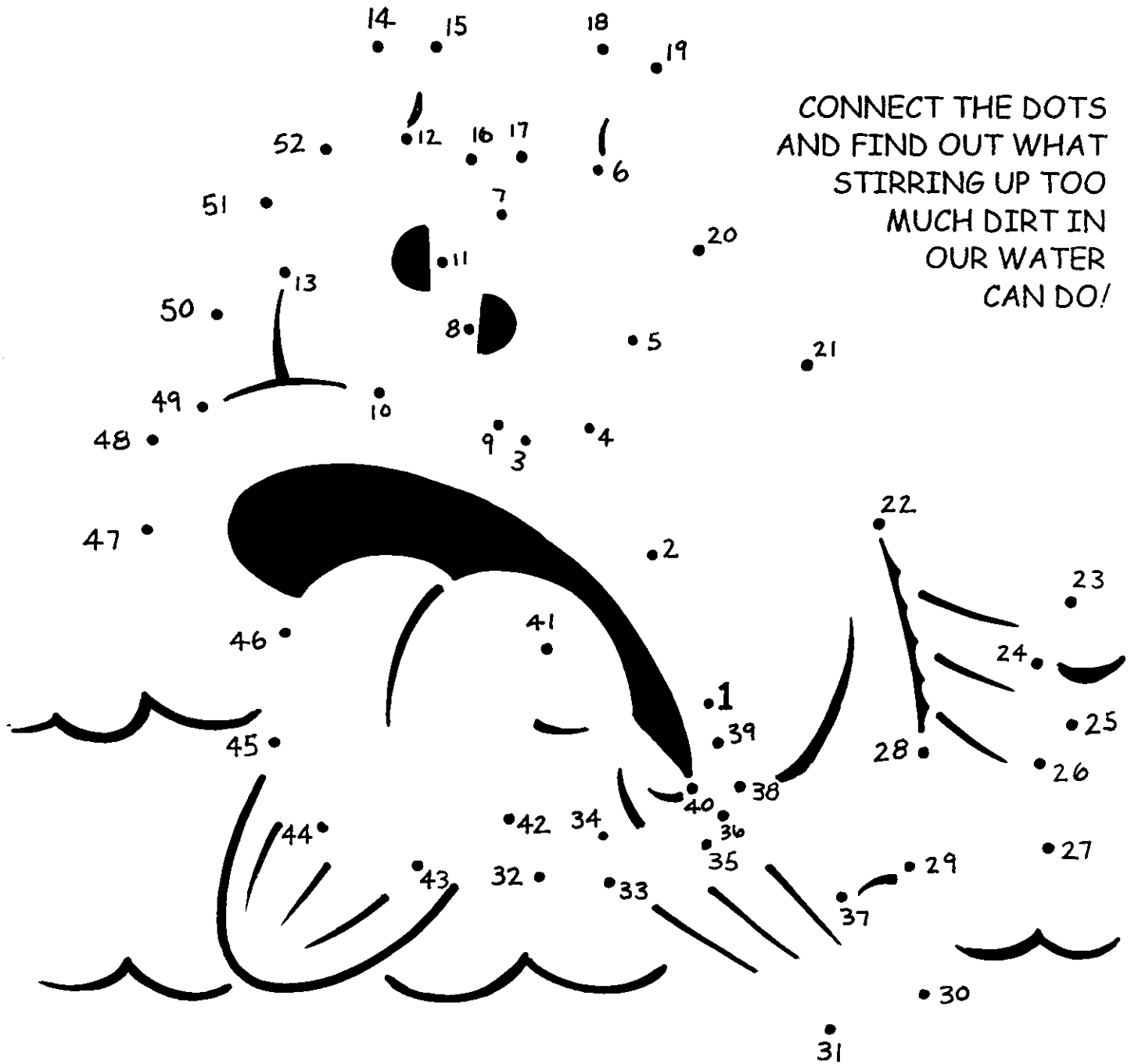
ACTION for ADULTS:
Harmful products, like those pictured below, should be taken to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center.

In Novato, call 892-7344.
In all other areas of the County, call 485-6806.

Answers: warning, caution, danger, flammable, hazardous, toxic, irritant, poison, corrosive, harmful, flammable, danger, caution, warning, irritant, toxic, hazardous, flammable, poison, corrosive, harmful, warning, caution, danger, flammable, hazardous, toxic, irritant



Dirt is a natural part of a creekbed; however, when dirt is disturbed, tiny dirt particles can muddy the water. This can clog the gills of fish, making it difficult for them to breathe.



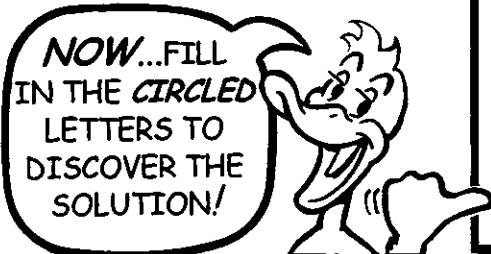
HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO:

1. Be careful if you or your dog walk through a creek. Try not to stir up the dirt from the creekbed. This is especially important from October through June when fish are spawning and hatching from their eggs. The dirt can cover their eggs, causing them to suffocate.
2. Avoid walking in deep pools where fish take refuge during the summer.
3. When hiking or biking, stay on marked trails. This helps prevent erosion and protects our native plants from being trampled.



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
SECRET	•	••	•••	/	^	△				L	U	Γ	□
CODE	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
	□	/	∕	∕	:		○	⊙	⊖	⊗	▽	≡	∕

Water that comes from your or from the garden , is piped to us from our local drinking water supplier. Our water supplier this water for us to drink by adding very small amounts of a disinfectant to the water—such as or chlorine. In order for swimming pools to be safe for us to in, we also add very small amounts of chlorine to the water. Chlorine kills and that could make us sick, but it is also very to fish or water containing chlorine or chloramine should not go down a storm drain because all storm drains flow to local and the -home to fish and other wildlife.



NOW...FILL IN THE CIRCLED LETTERS TO DISCOVER THE SOLUTION!

ACTION:
 If water from a pool or spa needs to be drained, call the _____ district or wastewater treatment plant near you for information on how to drain it correctly.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?

Never dump clippings and leaves from your yard into creek banks or into the creek. It may seem natural, but this material can pile up and kill native creek vegetation which protects the bank from erosion. Compost your yard clippings away from the creek. If your garbage company offers green waste recycling, ask your parents to participate.



To see how many mistakes you identified, refer to the inside front cover.

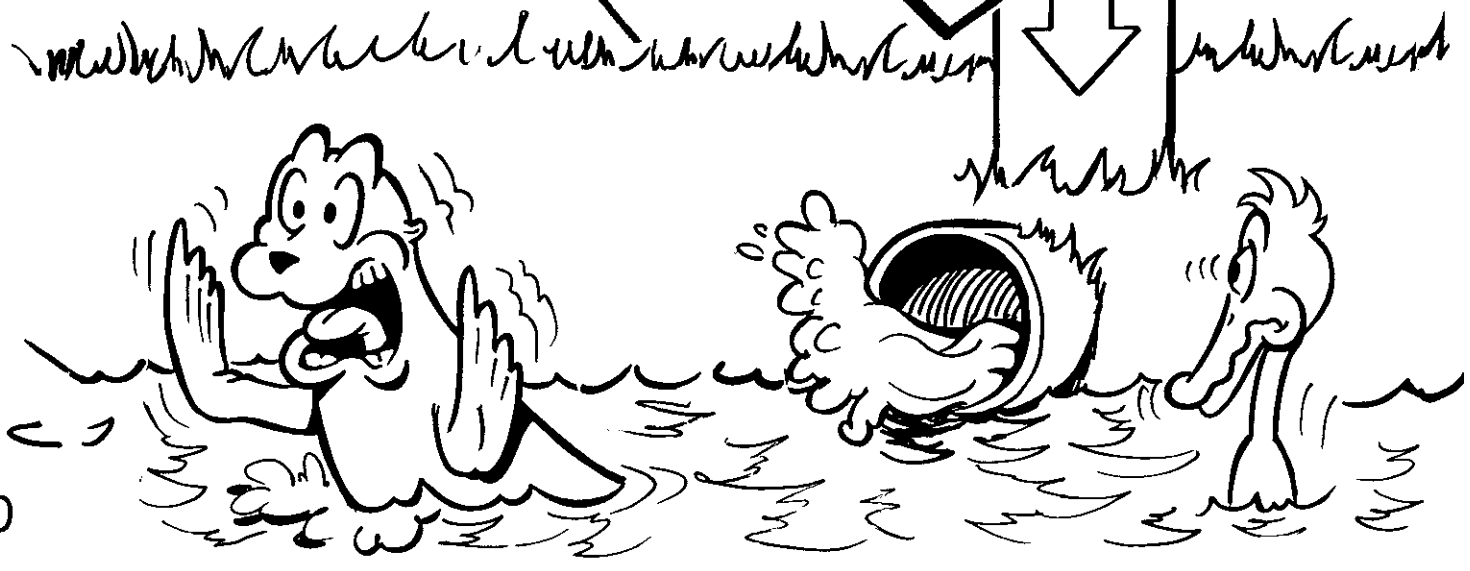
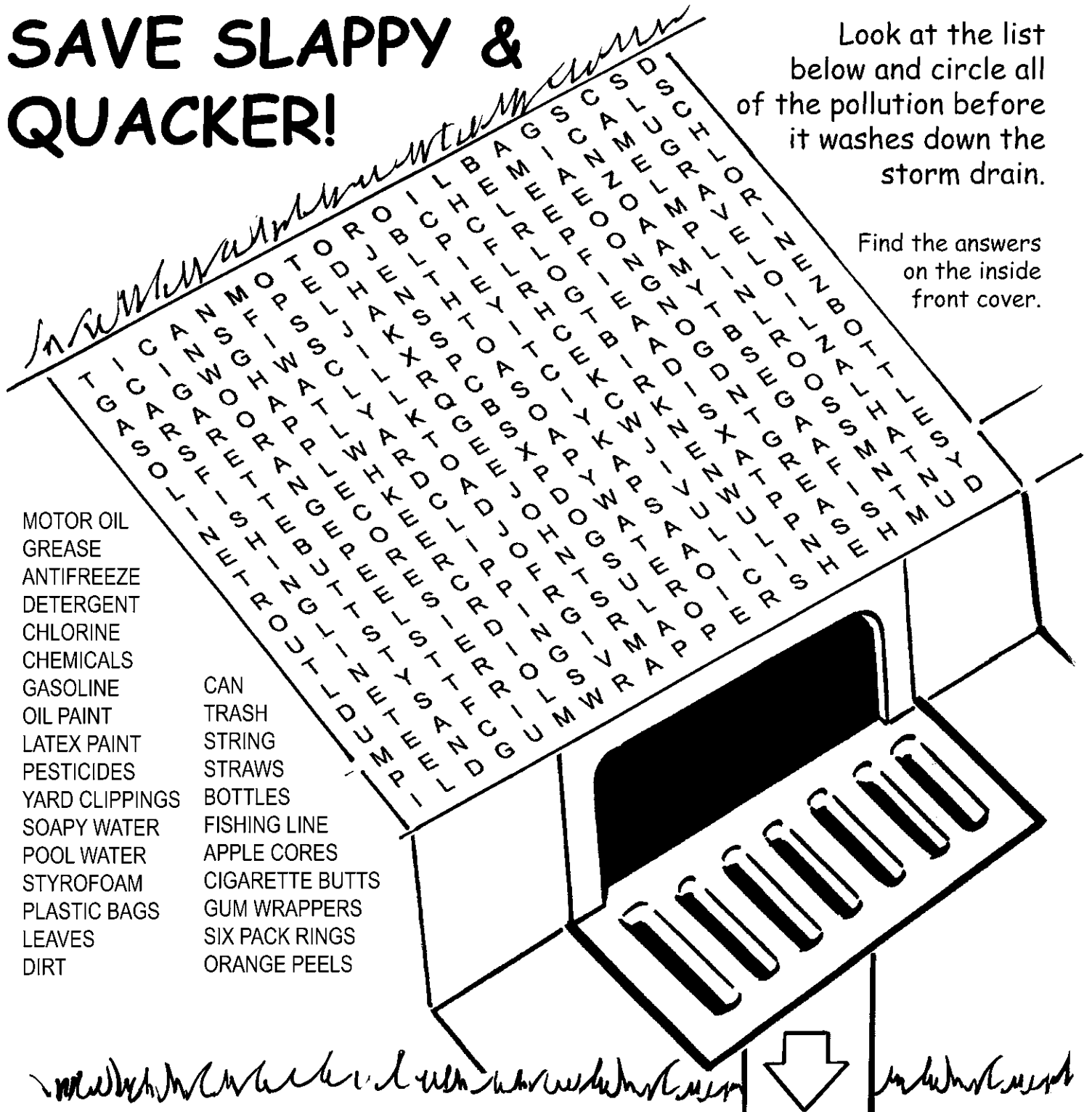
SAVE SLAPPY & QUACKER!

Look at the list below and circle all of the pollution before it washes down the storm drain.

Find the answers on the inside front cover.

- MOTOR OIL
- GREASE
- ANTIFREEZE
- DETERGENT
- CHLORINE
- CHEMICALS
- GASOLINE
- OIL PAINT
- LATEX PAINT
- PESTICIDES
- YARD CLIPPINGS
- SOAPY WATER
- POOL WATER
- STYROFOAM
- PLASTIC BAGS
- LEAVES
- DIRT

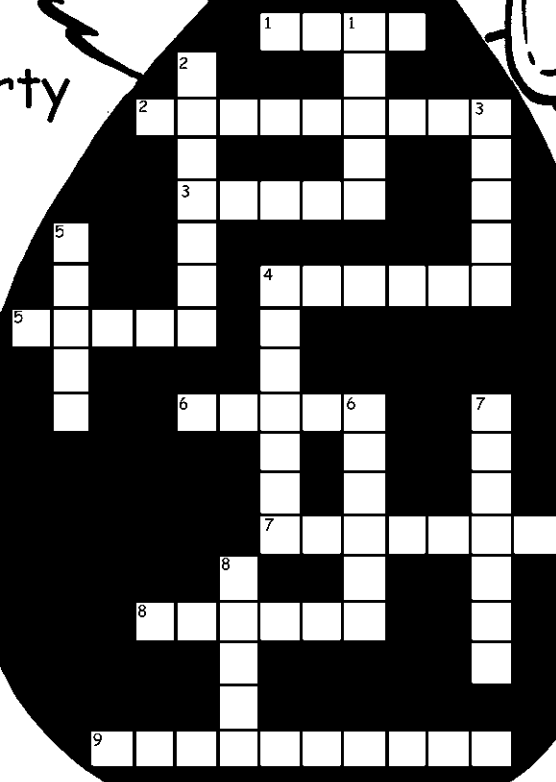
- CAN
- TRASH
- STRING
- STRAWS
- BOTTLES
- FISHING LINE
- APPLE CORES
- CIGARETTE BUTTS
- GUM WRAPPERS
- SIX PACK RINGS
- ORANGE PEELS



Motor oil is great for a car (it won't run without it) but it's not great in my home! Just one 16 ounce beverage will pollute an area of water the size of a football field!



Oil doesn't wear out--it just gets dirty! And dirty oil can be recycled and turned back into new oil. It's called **re-refined** oil. Ask adults to look for it next time they shop!



DOWN

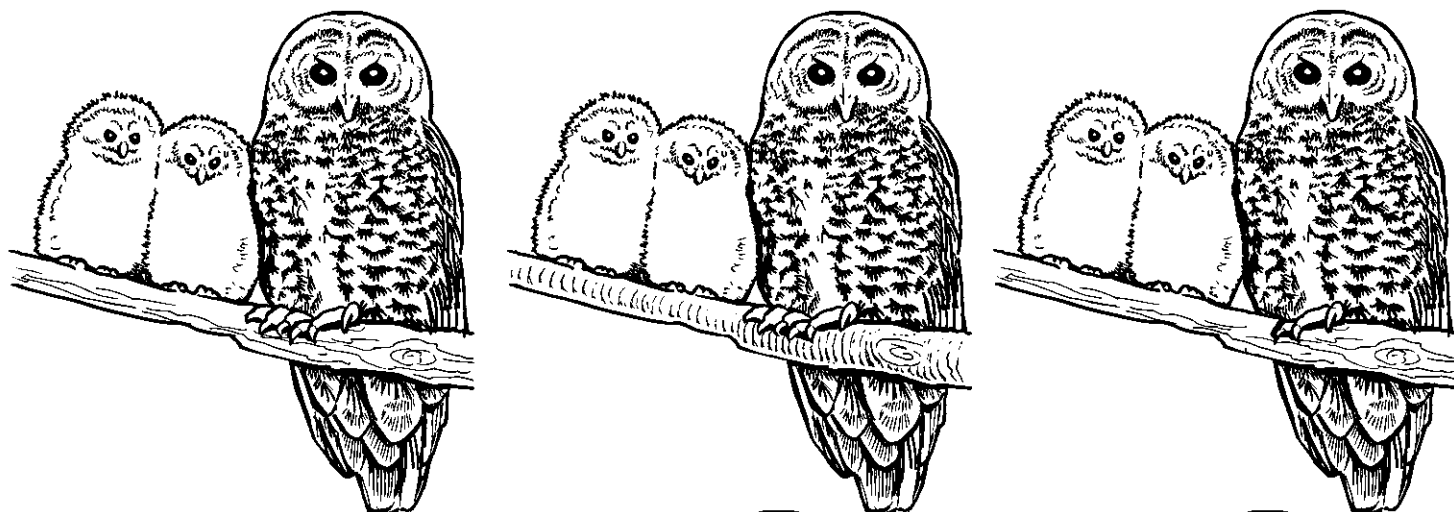
- 1 When it _____, pollution can wash into a stormdrain.
- 2 Always _____ used motor oil, NEVER throw it away!
- 3. _____ oil can be cleaned and used again and again.
- 4 Call 1-800 _____ to find out where used oil can be taken for recycling.
- 5. Check to make sure your car does not have any oil _____.
- 6 Wildlife can be hurt or _____ by oil.
- 7 Marin County has over 15 oil collection _____.
- 8 40% of the pollution in America's waterways is from used _____ oil.

ACROSS

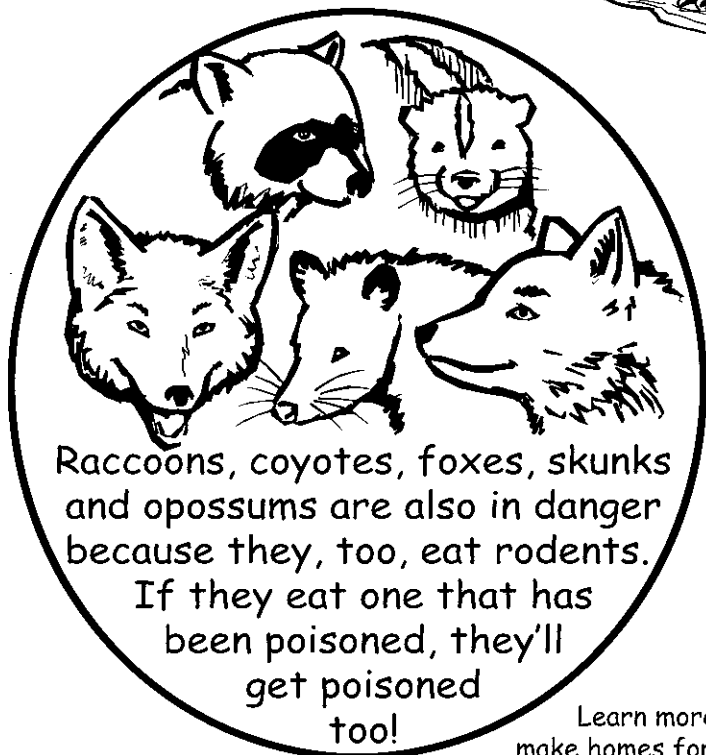
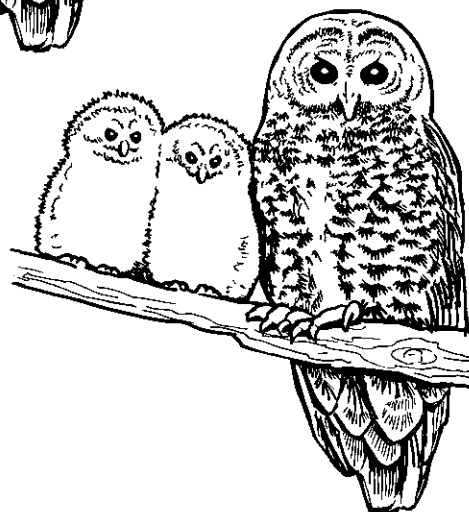
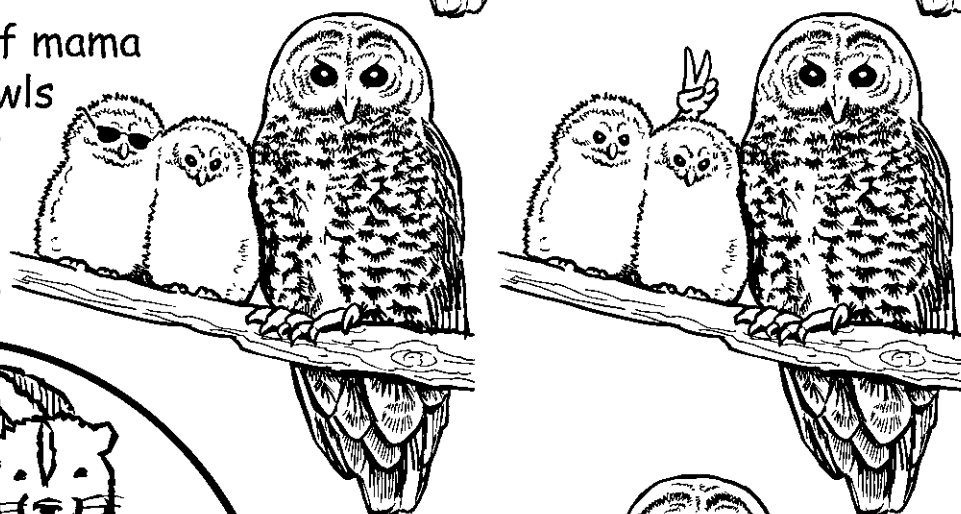
- 1 Motor Oil is used by _____ and other vehicles.
- 2 Recycled Motor Oil is called _____ oil.
- 3 Oil damage is not easy to cleanup, it can last for many _____.
- 4 Help keep Marin _____ clean.
- 5 Crude oil is a limited resource, the more we _____, the less will be available.
- 6. Color of used oil.
- 7 One quart of oil can _____ more water than 30 people will drink in a lifetime!
- 8 When oil is dumped in the dirt, it can seep down into our _____ water.
- 9 Water that flows into a _____ goes directly to our creeks and the bay.

ANSWERS: DOWN: RAINS, RECYCLE, DIRTY, CLEANUP, LEAKS, KILLED, CENTERS, MOTOR
ACROSS: CARS, REREFINED, YEARS, COUNTY, WASTE, BLACK, POLLUTE, GROUND, STORMDRAIN

OWLS are nature's pest control! Baby barn owls eat their weight in food every night--feasting on rodents like moles, rats, gophers, mice, and voles. Sometimes people try to get rid of such rodents by poisoning them. This also puts the owls in danger because if the owl eats a rodent that ate some poison, it will poison the owl as well!



These six pictures of mama and baby Spotted Owls look similar, but only two are exactly alike. Can you find the two that match?

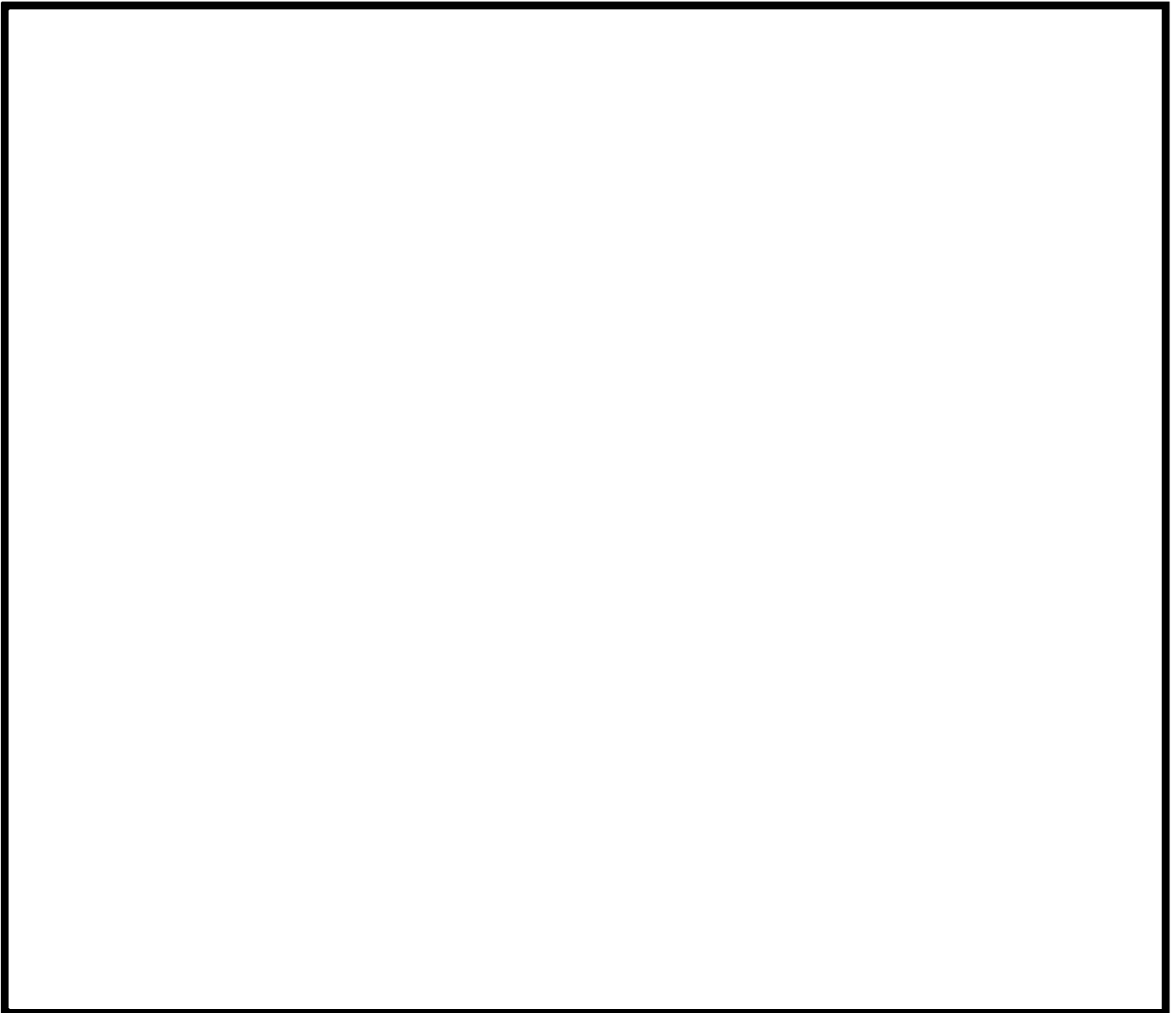


Raccoons, coyotes, foxes, skunks and opossums are also in danger because they, too, eat rodents. If they eat one that has been poisoned, they'll get poisoned too!

Learn more about owls, their role as nature's pest control, and how to make homes for them. Visit The Hungry Owl Project at www.hungryowl.org or call them at 454-4587. And for safer ways to manage rodents and other pests without toxic chemicals, have mom or dad visit this website: www.ourwaterourworld.org







MAKE A PROMISE, MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Draw a picture of an animal found in or around a creek in Marin. Make a promise to do something that will help protect this animal from pollution. Write your promise below.



I promise to protect the _____ (type
of animal you drew) by _____



-  All storm drains lead to local creeks and ultimately the Bay and ocean--home to a variety of wildlife.
ACTION: Help keep thier homes clean by putting litter in the trash where it can't enter storm drains.
-  Balloons and plastic bags can be swept hundreds of miles out to sea by currents. Deflated balloons and bags are mistaken for food by some animals (e.g. sea turtles and dolphins) who end up starving because the plastic interferes with their digestive systems.
ACTION: Don't release balloons into the environment and do toss your plastic lunch bags in the trash (or save and re-use them).
-  Wildlife can become injured by 6-pack rings, fishing lines, plastic and styrofoam.
ACTION: When picnicking, don't forget to take ALL of your trash and recyclables with you.
-  Dirty water can contaminate a creek and be harmful to fish and other aquatic life.
ACTION: When camping, if you MUST take water from a creek for washing dishes, pour the dirty water on vegetated ground--far away from the creek.
-  Erosion can create too much loose dirt in creeks. The dirt clouds the water and makes it difficult for fish to breath. (This can also happen when you or your pet run through the creek--stirring up dirt from the creekbed.) Erosion can also cause the creek banks to slip away, removing important creek vegetation.
ACTION: When hiking or biking, stay on marked trails. This will help prevent erosion.
-  Pesticides can be harmful to our health and the environment.
ACTION: Learn about plants that attract "good" bugs (called beneficials) to a garden. These beneficial bugs feed on garden pests, reducing the need to use pesticides or bug killers. Call Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention at 499-6528 to get your free copy of *A Kids Guide to Backyard Bugs*. Also visit www.mcstoppp.org

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