



Non-Point Source Pollution?

What's That?

Valley Women's Club

Environmental Committee for San Lorenzo Valley

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 ***Reduce your contribution to pollution!***



More Information...

SLV Recycling Centers & Environmental Information • 831-338-1728

Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Office • 831-454-2022

Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule & Locations • 831-454-2606

When a drip of this and a drop of that all add up...a wicked soup of chemicals pervades the air and goes to ground and ends up in our watershed!

Here are common Toxic Soup ingredients:

Our Everyday Activities Add Up to this Recipe:

- * **Drips of motor oil, antifreeze & fluids from all vehicles**, motors and lawn mowers wash from the ground or roads into the ground water, aquifers, streams & river
- * **Brake pad and tire residue** runs off from all roadways
- * **Exhausts from vehicles** settles on soil and roads and washes into waterways
- * **Battery acid** leaks and improperly disposed batteries put toxics in the environment
- * **Roadway litter**, chemical-laden cigarette butts and poorly managed garbage end up in soil or streams, harming many creek creatures
- * **Medications** that are flushed are a major health threat to our drinking water & wildlife
- * **Storm drains** flush all runoff directly to creeks and the San Lorenzo River
- * **Harsh cleansers** for vehicles and pets wash right into soil and storm drains
- * **Disinfectant sprays** and anti-bacterial soaps are airborne and waterborne toxics
- * **Overflow of chlorinated water** from spas and pools
- * **Pet wastes** left to wash into the watershed create biological hazards
- * **Cat wastes and litter** when flushed put harmful bacteria into the water that can kill wildlife, including otters
- * **Livestock wastes** can leach into ground water and waterways as a biological hazard
- * **Fertilizers and pesticides** used on lawns, gardens, golf courses, agricultural lands, roadside and median strip landscaping are major sources of non-point pollution
- * **Airborne overspray** from building painting and treatments lands on soil and water

- * **Exhaust gas** from tented termite exterminations adds to the soup
- * **Sedimentation** caused by erosion from bare soil chokes creeks and streams, adding greatly to the cost of drinking water treatment
- * **Particulate material** from wood and brush fires settles on soil and streams and plants and eventually enters the watershed



We all need to reduce our contribution to pollution!

Here's the Healthy Ecology Diet!

- * **Get regular vehicle & motor service to stop drips.**
- * **Recycle oil and anti-freeze at the Ben Lomond Transfer Station.**
- * **Go Biodegradable!** Try products by Ecover, Simple Green, Next Generation & others.
- * **Ban Chlorine at your home.** Use non-toxic and biodegradable alternatives, even for spas and pools.
- * **Go Organic!** NO toxic sprays—use non-toxic options and integrated pest management.
- * **Dispose of all pet wastes in the garbage—not soil or septic.**
- * **Dispose of batteries as hazardous waste—ziplock bag them, place in recycling bin, take to centers, or drop at Batteries Plus.**
- * **Fluorescent bulbs are hazardous waste—take to Ben Lomond Station's hazardous waste collection on special days.**
- * **Unneeded over-the-counter and Rx medications can go to the Ben Lomond Station's hazardous waste collection on special days.**
- * **Go Natural!** Buy all-natural products from paper goods to cosmetics and foods. Buying local produce reduces transportation pollution.
- * **Handle with Caution!** Carefully contain all chemicals, paints and solvents.
- * **Manage livestock wastes through composting and protection from rain and runoff.**
- * **Go Native!** Native plants can control erosion to reduce sedimentation.
- * **Use chimney filters and clean them frequently.**