



RainSmart HOAs: Protect Water Quality & Transform Your Landscapes with Rebates

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County of Orange – OC Watersheds
H2O for HOAs
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OC Stormwater Program (H₂OC)



Protects and improves surface water quality and maintains compliance with National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permits through stormwater and urban runoff management

Cooperative Effort

- All 34 cities in Orange County
- County of Orange
- Orange County Flood Control District



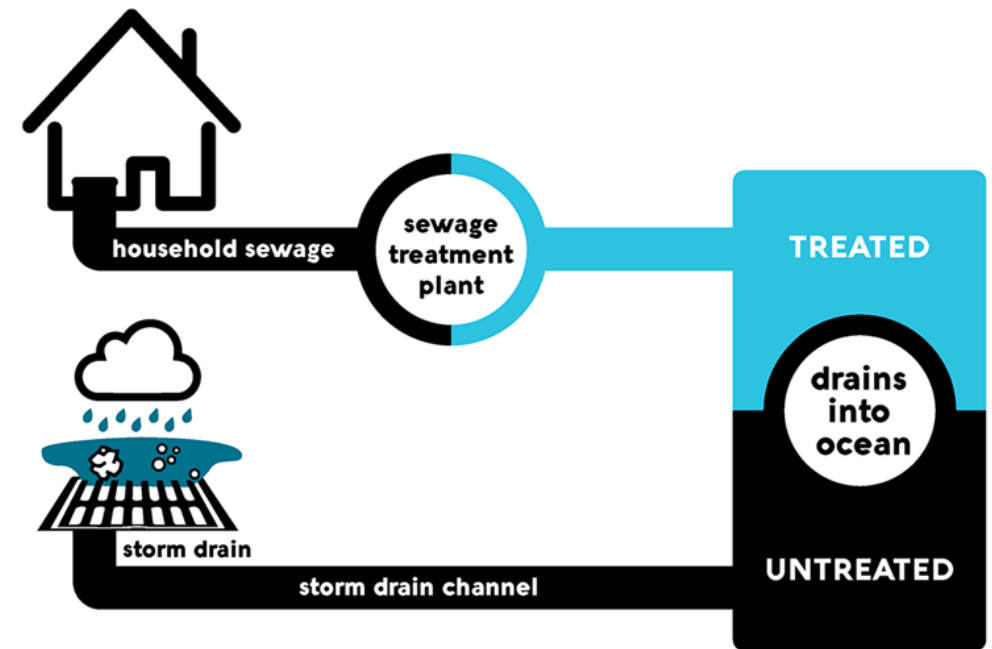
What is the Storm Drain System?



The storm drain system collects excess runoff from paved streets, parking lots, sidewalks, and roofs and discharges it to our waterways

Built for the purpose of flood control, the storm drain system intentionally and effectively moves water from the urban environment out to the ocean – **leaving rainwater as an untapped resource**

Water that enters the storm drain system is **not treated** before entering our waterways and should not contain pollutants



What is Runoff?

Stormwater runoff is water from rain events that runs off roofs, driveways, parking lots, yards, and other surfaces, and does not absorb into the ground

Urban runoff is water from outdoor water use that does not soak into the ground
Sources of urban runoff can include:

- Overwatering your lawn – **landscape irrigation runoff is prohibited in South Orange County**
- Washing your car on impermeable surfaces
- Spraying off your driveway or sidewalks



Common Pollutants in Runoff



home solvents



paint



engine oil



yard debris



pesticides



pet waste



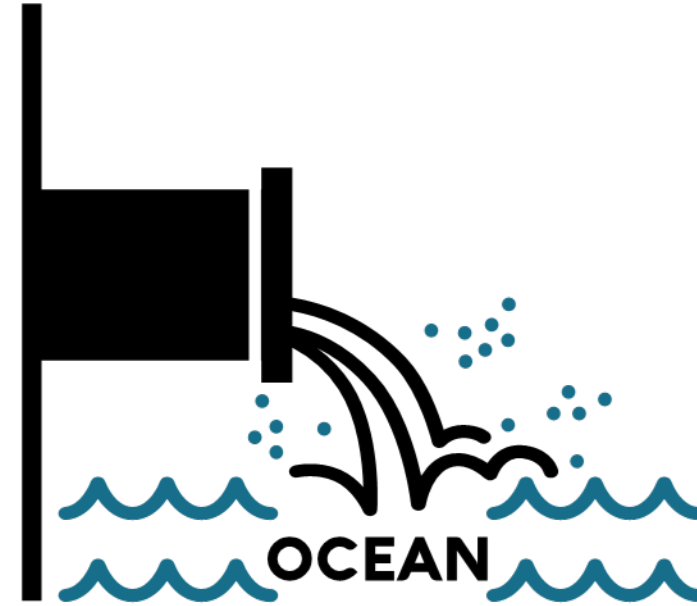
detergents



litter



fertilizers



STORMWATER POLLUTANTS

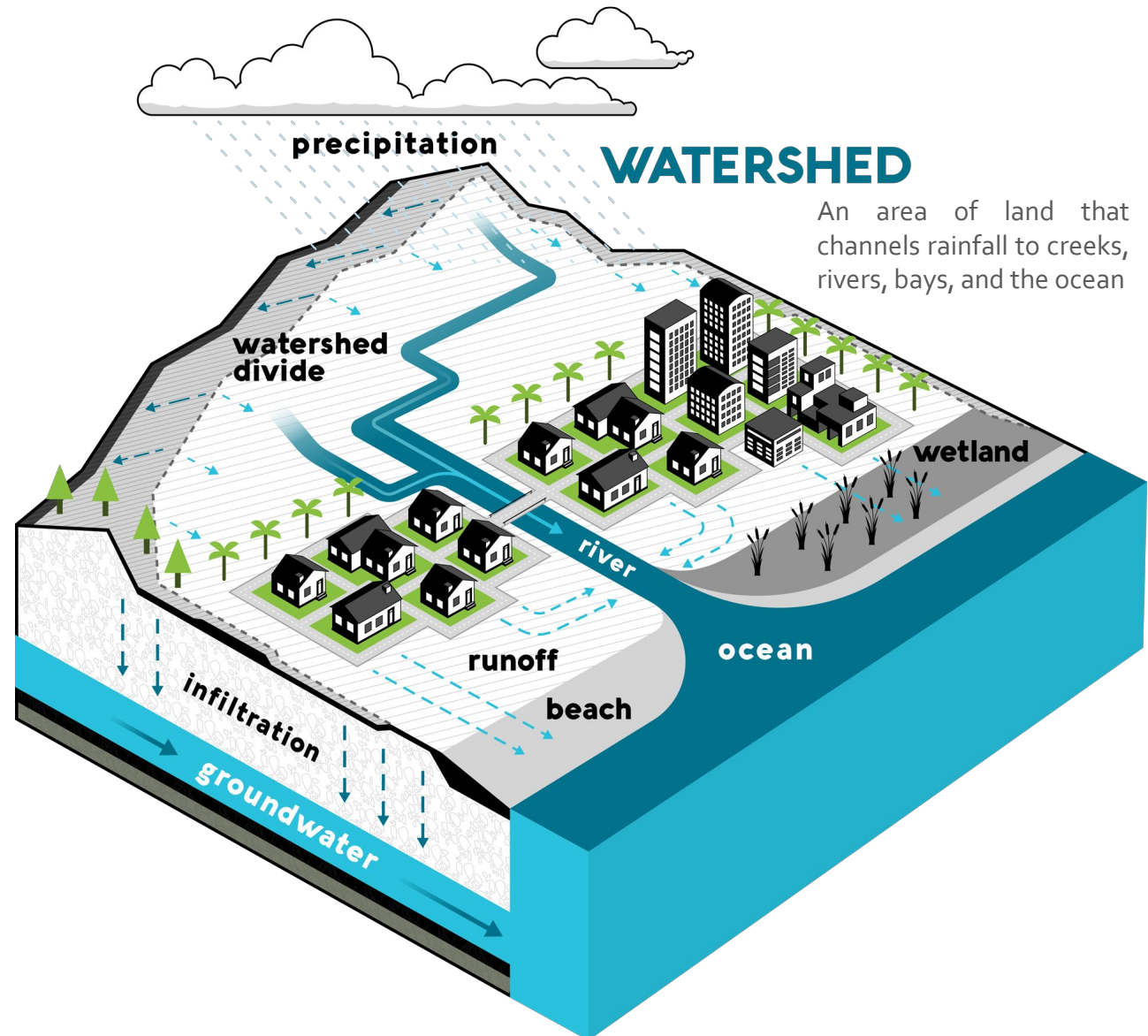
Protecting Our Water Resources



Water quality is more than a coastal issue

Pollution is picked up by **rain** and **urban runoff** and transported through watersheds to our receiving waters via the **storm drain system**

If we take steps to **protect and collect** rainwater, it can be an incredible resource for our community.



An area of land that channels rainfall to creeks, rivers, bays, and the ocean



How HOAs Can be Part of the Solution

Know Where Your Water Goes

Visit www.h2oc.org to learn about how you can prevent polluted runoff from entering our waterways

Our 'Where does your stormwater go?' tool tells you which watershed your HOA is in and shows you the path runoff takes from your property to the Ocean

Where does your stormwater go?

24932 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo, CA, 9

Welcome!

Search for an address to learn more about where water goes when it enters the storm drain. If you don't know the address, use one of these search methods:

- Click the search box and type in an address or choose **Use current location**
- Click within the map

Search Results

The location you selected is in drainage basin 4310. It is 33 acres in size, is part of the San Juan Creek watershed, and drains to The Pacific Ocean.

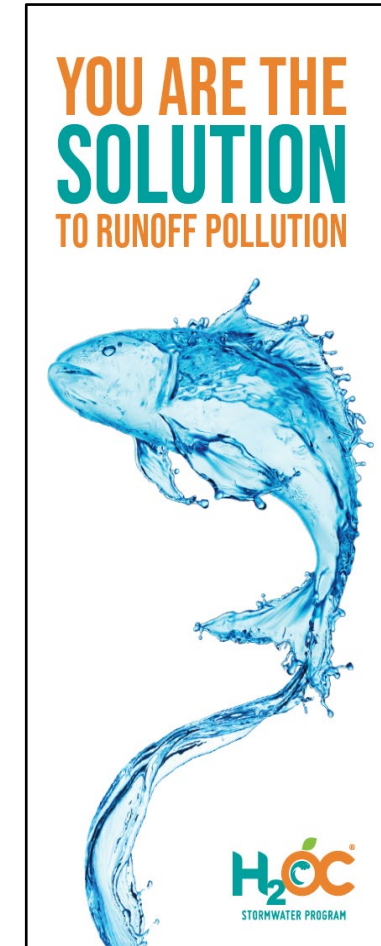
- [Zoom to subbasin](#)
- [Zoom to downstream](#)
- [Zoom to watershed](#)



Help Educate Your Residents

As an HOA board member, you are in a unique position to affect behavior change

- Provide residents with resources – we've developed a suite of materials that can help
 - Common issues such as pet waste, irrigation runoff, and home improvement
 - Digital and print versions available
 - Visit h2oc.org/resources/view-order-brochures
- Set an example for others in your community
- Start the conversation regarding water use efficiency in your HOA's common areas



Prevent Irrigation Runoff

There are many actions you and your residents can take to prevent irrigation runoff

- Adjust misaligned sprinklers to avoid watering sidewalks, driveways, or roads
- Repair broken or leaky sprinklers
- Water plants based on type and season to prevent overwatering that leads to runoff
- Skip watering before, during, and after it rains to unnecessary watering that can lead to runoff
- Hand water using a garden hose with an automatic shutoff nozzle
- Direct downspouts to flow towards vegetated areas



Together We Can Make A Difference

In 2023-24, OC's beaches were healthy and safe for our residents

- **95% OC beaches received A and B summer dry weather grades**
 - (6% higher than California average of 89%)
- **91% received A and B winter dry weather grades**
 - (25% higher than the California average of 66%)
- **89% received A and B wet weather grades**
 - (9% higher than the California average of 80%)

[2023-2024 Beach Report Card](#)





RainSmart Rebates

Earn Rebates for Upgrades

RAINSMART REBATES PILOT PROGRAM



Large Landscape Upgrade Program

LEARN MORE



Residential Rainwater Collection
Incentives Program

LEARN MORE

Eligible Water Providers

- City of San Clemente
- El Toro WD
- Laguna Beach CWD
- Moulton Niguel WD
- Santa Margarita WD
- South Coast WD
- Trabuco Canyon WD

Sign up at our table or visit
<https://h2oc.org/rainsmart/>

Large Landscape Upgrade Program

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE to
complete turf replacement projects

**REBATES STARTING AT \$4 PER
SQUARE FOOT** of grass replaced

50% DISCOUNT on design

**INCENTIVES FOR STORMWATER
FEATURES**

EXPERT HELP with homeowner
engagement, rebate applications,
and more

**ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES
MUST REPLACE AT LEAST
10,000 SQ. FT OF TURF**



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Stop Pollutants with Stormwater Features

- HOA landscapes can capture pollutants from many acres of hardscape with a stormwater feature
- Rainwater flowing into landscapes can keep plants healthy and reduce irrigation needs
- Get County assistance to create a beautiful and functional feature
- Be a leader and protect the health of your watershed



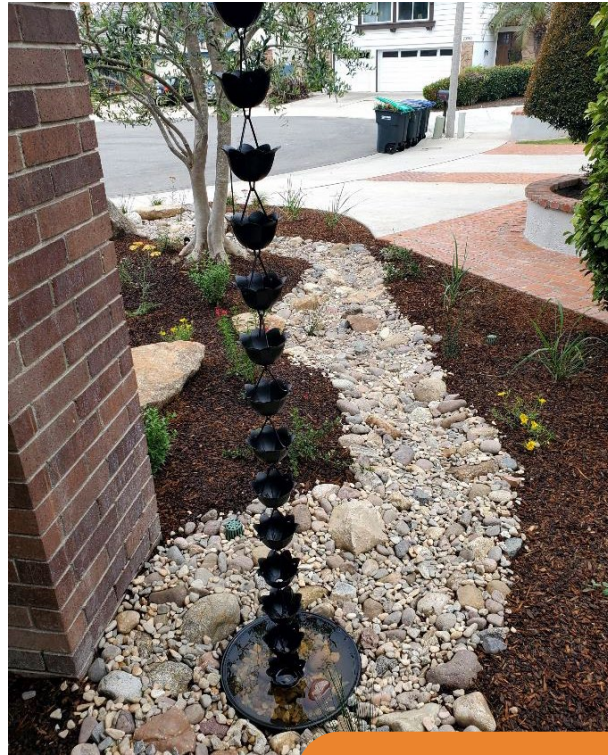
Rainwater Collection Incentives Program



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE to plan and implement projects

REBATES:

- **Up to \$1500 for rain gardens and containers.** An average home will treat 1,200 sq. ft. and receive \$900.
- **\$5/linear foot of new gutters installed.** An average home will install 70 feet and receive \$300.



Sign up at our table for information to share with residents

Thank you!

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