

## **This Storm Water Message is Important to You Because....**

### **Clogged storm drains lead to flooding.**

- ◆ Water that goes into the storm drains does not go to the sewer treatment plant to be cleaned. Instead, storm water seeps into rockwells or flows directly into neighborhood park retention basins, detention ponds, TID canals, or the Tuolumne River.
- ◆ State and federal requirements mandate that cities and counties take measures to prevent pollution. Residents and businesses must be part of the storm water solution.

### **Keep storm drains free from pollution by practicing these tips:**

- ◆ Keep litter, debris, grass clippings and animal waste out of storm drains.
- ◆ Loose leaves and limbs cut in lengths of 4 feet or less must be placed in the street at least one foot from the gutter. Grass clippings need to be placed in your wastewheeler/dumpster. Do not put grass clippings in your blue recycling toter.
- ◆ Do not wash left-over concrete and sand into gutter.
- ◆ Wash vehicles on the lawn or gravel to avoid soapy water flowing into the storm drain. Or use a car wash facility that recycles water.
- ◆ Repair vehicles to prevent oil leaks. Properly recycle oil and oil filters.
- ◆ Use water-based paints and rinse buckets and brushes in the sink or bathtub instead of outside where the polluted water can run into the street.
- ◆ If needed, purchase pesticides and fertilizers that are least toxic and use sparingly. Check out the “OUR WATER—OUR WORLD” website, [www.ourwaterourworld.org](http://www.ourwaterourworld.org) to learn more about “pesticides and water quality” and to find local stores in Stanislaus County that sell “safer alternatives”.
- ◆ Take unwanted chemical products to the Stanislaus County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility, 1716 Morgan Rd., Fridays and Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., except holidays, 525-4123.

**Polluting the storm drain system is against the Ceres Municipal Code. Violators are subject to fines.**

### **City of Ceres**

To report illegal dumping into storm drains, call the Public Works Department, 538-5792, Monday–Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Call the Public Safety Department after hours, 538-5712.

