



2021 Stormwater Tip of the Month

MONTH	TIP OF THE MONTH
January	Did you know that you are the answer to storm water pollution? Visit your City's Stormwater Management webpage (Buellton or Solvang) to learn more about stormwater pollution prevention. You can also visit the Less is More website to learn how you can participate in a community cleanup day.
February	Did you know that the local household hazardous waste collection events are FREE for residents? Bring your unwanted chemicals to your City's next event. Visit your City's Solid Waste webpage (Buellton or Solvang), or the Less Is More website for information about household hazardous waste collection events in the Santa Ynez Valley. Solvang Residents: You can schedule a FREE home pickup of your household hazardous waste via Waste Management's new At Your Door Special Collection Service. Visit Waste Management website for details.
March	Prepare for spring cleaning early by exploring the Less Is More website to learn how to reduce, reuse and recycle at home or at your business. This webpage is a great place to find a home for the items you want to donate!
April	Using less-toxic products at home to help reduce pesticide pollution in your community. Look for Eco-Friendly tags on the product shelves of nurseries and hardware stores to help you identify less-toxic alternatives. Visit the Our Water Our World (OWOW) website or the Windmill Nursery's OWOW brochure display for less-toxic product alternatives to use on specific garden pests.
May	Did you know, before discharging swimming pool and spa water, the water must be dechlorinated to undetectable levels (< 0.1 mg/L)? This can be done with chemicals or by not adding chlorine to an uncovered pool or spa for 10 days. Visit your City's Stormwater Management webpage (Buellton or Solvang) to learn how to properly manage backwash and wastewater from your swimming pool or spa.
June	If washing your car at home, make sure the wash water drains safely to a landscaped area to reduce stormwater pollution. Visit your City's Stormwater Management webpage (Buellton or Solvang) to learn more about implementation of Best Management Practices at home or when using mobile cleaners to clean your vehicle.
July	Did you know Residents can schedule two (2) FREE bulky item pick-ups per calendar year at no additional charge? Visit your waste disposal provider's website (Waste Management or Marborg) for more information or contact them directly at least 24 hours in advance of your service day.
August	Repair leaking equipment and vehicles quickly. Clean-up oil using absorbent material (kitty litter) and dispose of it properly. Visit your City's Stormwater Management webpage (Buellton or Solvang) to learn about stormwater pollution prevention or the Less Is More website for information about household hazardous waste collection events in the Santa Ynez Valley.
September	By inspecting your drainage before it rains and removing accumulated sediment and debris from your property, you can help reduce stormwater pollution and prevent blockage in the curb and gutter that could lead to flooding at you or your neighbor's property. It's important to repair any damage to your drainage system but DO NOT alter or re-grade slopes without consulting an expert. Visit your City's Stormwater Management webpage (Buellton or Solvang) to learn more about stormwater pollution prevention.
October	Did you know that unattended pet waste washes into storm drains polluting our creeks, rivers, and the ocean with bacteria harmful to people, pets, and marine life? Let's Close the Poop Loop by continuing to pick up after our dogs and toss the waste in the trash. Visit your City's Stormwater Management webpage (Buellton or Solvang) or our Close the Poop Loop website to find out the Truth About Dog Poop.
November	Help reduce food waste this Thanksgiving by either cutting recipes in half or being creative with leftovers. Visit the Less Is More website to learn more about preventing food waste, donating edible food, and how to compost food waste at home.
December	Recycle your Christmas tree by either placing it curbside or cutting it up and putting it into your green waste bin along with your holiday wreath. Don't forget to remove all decorations including tinsel, lights, ornaments, tree stands, and/or metal frames before placing your tree on the curb or in the green waste bin. Visit your waste disposal provider's website (Waste Management or Marborg) for more information about Holiday Tree Recycling.