

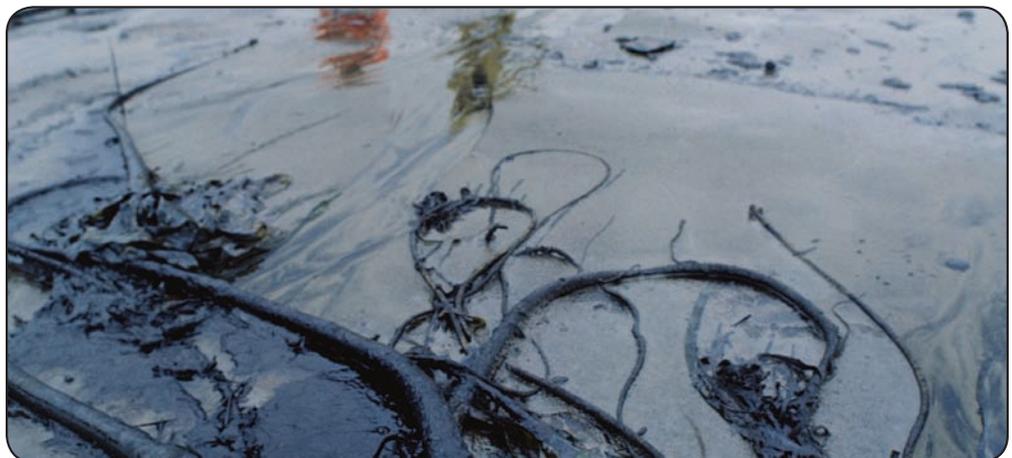
*...working together*

## How to File an Environmental Complaint

Important information about potential violations of environmental laws oftentimes comes from vigilant members of the public. If you have seen an activity which you believe may be a violation of water quality or water rights laws, the Water Boards and Cal/EPA would like to know about it. The complaints can be filed anonymously, but should contain some basic information, such as the nature of the problem, time and date when the problem occurred or was observed, and the source of the pollution or problem (if known). You can file a complaint by phone, mail, and e-mail to both the State and Regional Boards. On-line complaints may be filed at [http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/database/CalEPA\\_Complaint/index.cfm](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/database/CalEPA_Complaint/index.cfm)

Complaints received by Cal/EPA are assigned to one or more state agencies to investigate. Those relating to water are assigned to and handled by the Water Board. Whether or not a violation of water related laws is found, you will be notified and informed of the status and outcome of the complaint if you provide a phone number or email address in your complaint. You may also file your complaint anonymously, but please be aware that it is often more difficult for an agency to take an enforcement action based on an anonymous complaint. A copy of the online complaint form is found on the next page.

You can also report instances of pollution by using CalTIP. CalTIP (Californians Turn In Poachers and Polluters) is a confidential secret witness program that encourages the public to provide the Department of Fish and Game with factual information leading to the arrest of poachers and polluters. CalTIP gives Californians an opportunity to help protect the state's fish and wildlife resources. The toll free telephone number operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You do not have to give your name. The number is 888 334-2258.





## Cal/EPA Environmental Complaint Form

If you have observed an activity, physical evidence of an activity or have knowledge of what you think may be a possible illegal act or unauthorized release that caused harm or damage to California's public health or environment, the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) would like to know about it. Use this Environmental Complaint Form to file an environmental complaint with Cal/EPA.

If you have a customer service question or would like to provide information to Cal/EPA about your experiences with its Boards, Departments or Office, please [complete our Customer Survey Form](#). We are interested in hearing about your experiences, both positive and negative.

If you are a member of Cal/EPA's Complaints Staff and wish to enter a complaint, please log in first: [Complaints Staff Log In](#)

Cal/EPA Complaints Staff may access the Cal/EPA Environmental Complaint Form - Tracking and Maintenance pages here (login required): [Maintenance](#)

**Is this an emergency?**  Yes  No **Is this a spill?**  Yes  No

### Cal/EPA Staff Information:

Check here if complaint is an Enforcement/Confidential issue.

Complaint Received By (pick one):

- Mailed-in Complaint Form  Letter  E-Mail  Walk-in  Phone  
 Complaint Filed by Cal/EPA Employee

Cal/EPA Board, Department, or Office Receiving Complaint (pick one):

- Cal/EPA  ARB  CalRecycle  DPR  DTSC  OEHHA  SWRCB/RWQCB

Cal/EPA Staff Person Receiving Complaint:

First Name:  Last Name:

Phone:  (xxx)xxx-xxxx Email:

Cal/EPA Staff Comments/Additional Information:

### Complainant Information:

Complainant identity to be kept confidential?  Yes  No [About Complainant Privacy](#)

Provide information about Cal/EPA's handling of this complaint.

(Be sure to get a contact method from complainant.)  Yes  No

Name: