

MURP Order

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How to Order:

Model Urban Runoff Program: A How-To Guide for Developing Urban Runoff Programs for Small Municipalities

Prepared by: City of Monterey, City of Santa Cruz, California Coastal Commission, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments, Woodward-Clyde, Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

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Model Urban Runoff Program: A How-to-Guide

The Model Urban Runoff Program (MURP) is a how-to-guide developed for local governments to address the issues of polluted runoff in the urban environment. Polluted runoff threatens the water quality of our oceans and streams and degrades our groundwater supplies. Storm runoff can flush a multitude of toxic chemicals, including oils and pesticides, into sensitive wildlife habitats. Ultimately, the combined effects of polluted urban runoff can have serious negative impacts on a community's economy- it is not simply an environmental health problem.

This guide incorporates the essential elements of a strong urban runoff program with examples of ordinances, best management practices, reporting forms and more from existing programs. The MURP was developed by a team of representatives from municipal, state, and federal government in cooperation with Woodward-Clyde Consultants and was funded by the California State Water Resources Control Board.

The MURP encourages a watershed management strategy for addressing urban runoff pollution while incorporating the necessary elements that small municipalities (population <100,000) are required to address through the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II process mandated under the Clean Water Act. Some of the major topics covered in this document include: program management structure, legal authority, fiscal resources and funding mechanisms, institutional arrangements and coordination, and implementation. Implementation topics include: public involvement and participation, public education and outreach, illicit connections and discharges, municipal operations, construction site, new development and redevelopment, commercial facilities, and industrial facilities. The guide provides flexible options which can assist small cities in developing their own urban runoff programs tailored to their particular needs and conditions.