

Spring clean today for a cleaner Bay tomorrow

After spring cleaning your home this season, you may need to dispose of old products with ingredients that could pollute the environment.

Despite what labels may say, many household cleaning products should not be poured or flushed down sinks, toilets, floor drains or in the garbage.

When disposed of down indoor drains, these pollutants might not be removed by the wastewater treatment process. Instead they may pass through and end up in San Francisco Bay where they can be harmful to fish, aquatic species and wildlife.

Make sure the final step in your spring cleaning this year is the safe disposal of your household waste.



What can go down the drain?

Homemade cleaning products made with common household items like baking soda or white vinegar are safe to pour or flush down the drain.

What can go in the garbage?

Any empty and dry product container is safe to throw into the garbage.

What shouldn't go down the drain or in the garbage?

The following should not be disposed of down the drain or thrown in the garbage:

- Cleaning products such as those with the words toxic, corrosive, flammable or ignitable on the label.
- Automotive products such as motor oil, antifreeze or brake fluids.
- Garden supplies such as pesticides, herbicides or fungicides.
- Paints and solvents such as latex and oil-based paints, thinners or strippers.
- Art and hobby supplies such as glues, photographic chemicals or paints.

Instead, take containers of unwanted hazardous household waste to a collection facility in your area.

Alameda County

1-800-606-6066 www.household-hazwaste.org

Central Contra Costa County

1-800-646-1431 www.centrialsan.org

West Contra Costa County

1-888-412-9277 www.recyclenore.com



Learn more about how a clean Bay begins with you by calling 510-287-1651 or visiting www.ebmud.com/cleanbay.

Protecting our pipelines from earthquake and flooding

For 90 years, three aqueducts have delivered water from the Sierra to East Bay homes, schools, fire hydrants and businesses. These aqueducts are the first leg of a vast water distribution system that delivers drinking water to your tap.

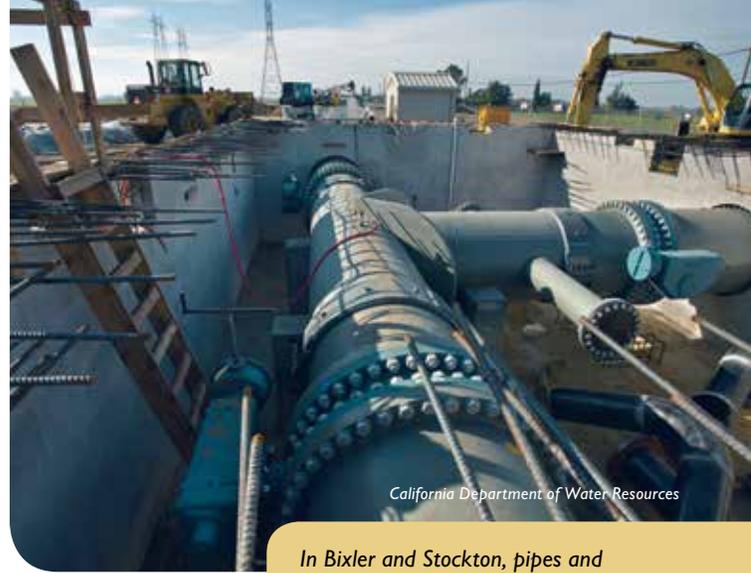
Aqueduct maintenance takes place year-round, and every year, different portions of the aqueducts are re-coated to control corrosion.

Across the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, these pipelines are either buried underground or elevated. Fifty miles of levees protect the aqueducts at the points where they are vulnerable to earthquakes and flooding.

Because a breach on the levees is a serious threat to the East Bay's water supply, EBMUD works closely with state and local agencies to secure the aqueducts by restoring and improving these levees.

This year, we are working with the California Department of Water Resources to complete an important project to interconnect the aqueducts at either end of the Delta. Should one or two of the aqueducts be damaged within the Delta, the interconnections will allow other sections of the pipelines to remain in use until repairs can be made.

Learn more about your water infrastructure, seismic safety improvements, Delta issues and EBMUD's budget at www.ebmud.com.



California Department of Water Resources

In Bixler and Stockton, pipes and valves have recently been installed between EBMUD's three aqueducts to connect them to each other. These interconnections will provide additional reliability in case one aqueduct is damaged in the Delta during an earthquake or flooding. The aqueducts deliver drinking water from the Sierra to East Bay homes, schools, fire hydrants and businesses.

Ecological successes on the watershed

Your high-quality drinking water originates in the protected watershed of the Mokelumne River in the Sierra. Before your water travels 90 miles west to your tap, it is a life source for numerous ecosystems.

EBMUD owns and manages thousands of acres in the Mokelumne watershed. These generally undeveloped lands protect the source of your water and provide natural habitat for native flora and fauna.

EBMUD collaborates with private and public agencies, community groups and businesses on habitat restoration projects across the watershed. Meadow restoration in Indian Valley inside the Mokelumne River watershed was completed last year in a

joint project with Coca-Cola, the United States Forest Service and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The watershed is the source of drinking water for 1.3 million people in the East Bay.

In the past couple years, local partnerships have led to ecological successes in the watershed including a rebound on the Mokelumne River of the Chinook salmon, increased optimism for the future of the endangered California tiger salamander and more habitat for meadow wildlife.

We are proud to manage the natural resources with which the public entrusts us. We believe the purer the source, the better the water we deliver to you will be.

United States Forest Service

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EBMUD Mission Statement

To manage the natural resources with which the District is entrusted; to provide reliable, high-quality water and wastewater services at fair and reasonable rates for the people of the East Bay; and to preserve and protect the environment for future generations.