

CURB CUTS



Drainage systems like curb cuts (weep holes) bring stormwater from your roof drains, turf areas and pool drains into the street. However, they can also transport pollutants like pesticides, herbicides, sediment and fertilizers with them if overwatering occurs. Since the storm drain system is not connected to the sewer system, anything that flows into the storm drain can flow untreated into our creeks, rivers, bays and, ultimately, the ocean. It's up to all of us to prevent pollutants from flowing through our curb cuts and into our waterways.

WARNING SIGNS TO LOOK FOR

- ◆ Standing pools of water at the outlet in the curb.
- ◆ Continuous drainage or plant growth in the weep hole.
- ◆ Mildew, algae or plant growth on pavement or the side of your home.

WAYS TO PREVENT DRAINAGE ISSUES

- ◆ **Prevent overwatering.** Redirect sprinkler heads away from your yard drain, temporarily cover your yard drain with a bowl or mat when watering, repair any leaks in your sprinkler system immediately and use a moisture meter. Slip, trip and fall accidents that occur from algae growth in the curb/gutter that is shown to be from your property can result in responsibility for accident claims.
- ◆ **Encourage proper drainage.** Install a dry creek bed, a rain garden or gravel in necessary areas, shift your downspout to drain to a rain garden and ensure your yard has enough slope to drain away from your home.
- ◆ **Maintain your yard.** Use dry methods like sweeping to clean your yard and patio, properly dispose of your yard debris like leaves and yard trimmings, hose down items like patio furniture away from your yard drain and clean gutters frequently.



Curb cut with proper drainage.



Warning signs of improper drainage.



Well maintained yard drain.

To report stormwater pollution in San Diego, call the **Think Blue Hotline: (619) 235-1000**. | thinkblue.org

You can also use the **Get It Done app** at sandiego.gov/get-it-done.

