SECURE YOUR LOAD, SAVE OUR WATERS

You know the old saying: "April Showers Bring May Flowers!" But April showers can bring more than just new spring blooms, they bring water pollution as well. When it rains, excess water runs across our roads, neighborhoods and lawns, picking up pollutants as it travels into our storm drain system. Water in the storm drain system aka stormwater isn't treated; any pollutants picked up along the way travel directly to our creeks and Bays. Help keep your local waters clean this spring and all year long with these easy tips!

Use Secure Tie-Downs

When securing your load, use heavy duty straps or cargo nets specifically designed for fastening vehicle cargo. Avoid using bungee cords, which can stretch out at high travel speeds and allow cargo to slip free.

Organize Your Cargo

Consider how heavy your cargo is before you load your vehicle. If you drive a pickup truck, position heavier items closer to the cab, which helps keep your vehicle from becoming back-weighted and can cause poor handling and steering.

Secure Cargo on at Least Two Sides

Using your cargo straps, secure your load on at least two sides of your vehicle. When possible, secure your ties to the load itself, providing additional security when traveling.

Secure Cargo on at Least Two Sides

Before you start traveling, check to make sure your load is secured. Check each item individually by pushing and pulling on each item. If you are traveling for a long distance, safely check your load after the first 10 minutes of driving to ensure nothing has shifted and your cargo is secure for the remainder of your journey.

Regardless of how well you have secured your cargo, try staying in the right lane of the highway and driving at no more than the speed limit. Preventing debris from falling out of vehicles helps prevent accidents and helps protect our waters from pollutants.

Visit www.cccleanwater.org for more information and tips to help you protect waterways and keep water clean in Contra Costa County.