

Landscaping and gardening

Open ground and topsoil piles can easily wash into our waterways and harbours, blocking sunlight and smothering aquatic life.

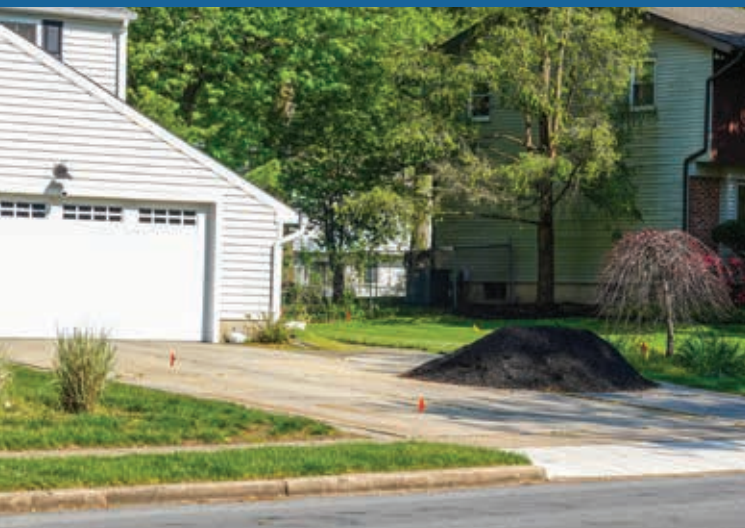
Garden waste dumping can increase nutrients which can degrade habitats and create algal blooms.



- ✘ Don't leave piles of dirt uncovered near the road
- ✘ Don't dispose of garden chemicals and fertilisers down the drain



- ✓ Cover any exposed ground or stockpiles
- ✓ Take your garden waste and unwanted chemicals to a transfer station
- ✓ Compost your garden waste at home



Pollution of our waterways can affect our land, plants, native animals, sea life and can also impact safe swimming for our community.

We all have a role to play to protect our beautiful environment – the Coromandel Peninsula.

Remember:

- Outside drains send water straight to our streams, beaches and harbours. Prevent anything other than rain entering this system.
- Many homes have roof gutters that flow straight to our stormwater network.
- Even small quantities of seemingly harmless materials can add up and cause damage to the environment.
- If you see something that doesn't look right, please contact the Council.



Phone 07 868 0200



Protect our waterways

Help stop harmful contaminants entering our stormwater drains



Car washing

Dirty water from washing cars can contain chemicals and other contaminants like oils and heavy metals which pollute our waterways and endanger aquatic species.

Even biodegradable detergents are harmful to wildlife.



- ✘ Avoid washing your car on your driveway where the water can run into the stormwater drains
- ✘ Don't drain oil and antifreeze where it could reach stormwater



- ✔ Take your car to a commercial car wash where water is contained
- ✔ Wash your car on the grass so that it soaks into the ground



Paint, plaster and concrete wash

Wash water from these activities can smother aquatic plants and creatures.



- ✘ Don't tip paint or plaster wash down outside drains
- ✘ Don't let concrete wash or cutting water run into stormwater drains
 - Concrete wash is harmful to aquatic life
 - Concrete wash from one driveway killed more than 200 eels



- ✔ Use buckets to wash brushes, rollers and other equipment. Empty wash water onto soil where it will soak away
- ✔ Take unwanted paint back to the store

Exterior washing and water blasting

Run-off from exterior cleaning and water blasting is much more harmful than run-off caused by rain. Detergents like moss and mould remover contain chemicals that can harm aquatic life if they reach waterways.



- ✘ Don't let the water from any exterior washing or water blasting flow to the road and enter the stormwater network



- ✔ Disconnect your down pipes prior to cleaning your roof
- ✔ Direct wash water onto unsealed ground such as grass, so that it will soak into the ground

