

CONSERVATION CORNER

FREE OIL RECYCLING/FILTER EXCHANGE EVENTS

During the Bonita High School Auto Shop Car Show on March 19th, 2016, and the Cool Cruise Car Show in downtown on March 26th come visit the City of La Verne booth for **FREE** do-it-yourself oil changing supplies and much more!

On April 2nd bring your used oil filters to the La Verne Auto Zone from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. and receive vouchers for **FREE** brand new oil filters (up to two per person, while supplies last)!

CLEAN WATER STARTS WITH YOU!

The sewer takes all the water from inside buildings to a treatment plant where the water is cleaned and then released into the ocean. In contrast, the storm drain takes all the water from outside buildings and sends it untreated to the ocean or reservoirs like Puddingstone.

That's right, water from excessive irrigation, runoff from homes, roads and other impervious surfaces picks up contaminants and brings them into our water sources. All of the trash, cigarette butts, yard pesticides, yard waste and many other pollutants contribute to the billions of gallons of contaminated water that harm our local environment! This contaminated water jeopardizes public health, harmfully impacts marine life, degrades natural resources, and damages the economy.

What can we do? How do we stop the damage?

- 1. Responsibly dispose of trash and pet waste.** Throw trash in receptacles made for waste disposal, recycle whatever can be used again, pick up and properly dispose of pet waste immediately.
- 2. Monitor your irrigation system to ensure efficient and proper usage.** Proper use of sprinklers reduces or eliminates water runoff which prevents pollutants from reaching the storm drain before they can be properly disposed of.
- 3. Minimize impervious services on your property.** Impervious surfaces (roads, alleys, sidewalks, roofs etc.) create runoff by preventing water from moving back into the ground; instead the water is diverted into the storm drain system. Homeowners can reduce their impervious surface area by eliminating concrete walkways or patios, opting instead for gravel with stepping stones or low native groundcover that will allow more water to sink into the area.
- 4. Commute wisely.** A major pollutant in storm water is vehicle materials. Metal, brake dust, oil and gas all leak onto the street and eventually hitch a ride with water to be escorted to the ocean. Walking, skateboarding and biking minimize the amount of these materials being left on the street.

