

# SURFRIDER FOUNDATION



A non-profit environmental organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the world's oceans, waves and beaches through a powerful activist network.

[www.OceanFriendlyGardens.org](http://www.OceanFriendlyGardens.org)

# What Does a Garden Have to Do with the Ocean?

Urban runoff is the **#1 source** of ocean pollution.



Sources:

**Nutrients** (nitrogen in fertilizer) increase algae populations and red tides

**Bacteria & viruses** (decomposition of algal blooms, greenwaste, and animal waste) close beaches

**Oil, grease & brake pad dust** (metals)

**Debris** (trash) chokes aquatic species and bioaccumulates

**Pesticides** (herbicide) poisons fish consumed by humans

**Sediment** (unplanted soils) reduces water clarity for



# Isn't Runoff Illegal or Regulated Under Federal Law?

## **Federal Clean Water Act**

Regulates dry- and wet-weather runoff from municipal, industrial, and construction activities under the Non-Point Source Discharge Elimination System (NPDES).

Primary objectives:

- Prohibit non-stormwater discharges (dry-weather runoff); and
- Reduce the discharge of pollutants from stormwater to the Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP) standard.

Permittees must develop and implement programs, e.g., Public Information and Participation Program, which in residential areas often trickle down to municipal codes.





Roof

Gutters

Unmulched Areas

Pools & Spas

Compacted Turf

Pathway

Sidewalk

Driveway

Street

Sprinklers overshoot

**But Runoff Continues to Happen**  
**What Are The Impermeable Surfaces?**



**Concentrate on Retaining First**  
**When It Does Rain:**

**Flush:**

**We Throw The Water Away**  
**The First  $\frac{3}{4}$  – 1 Inch of rain**

**after a dry period.**

**Impermeable Surfaces Keep Rainwater From**  
**Recharging our Ground Water and Lakes**

# To Storm Drains . . .



# Through the Flood Control System . . .



During a storm, billions of gallons of water may run through the storm drain system.

This overwhelms the cleaning system and pollutes our waterways.

Increased runoff also means decreased groundwater recharge.



# To Our Oceans and Beaches . . .



Image courtesy of Heal the Bay

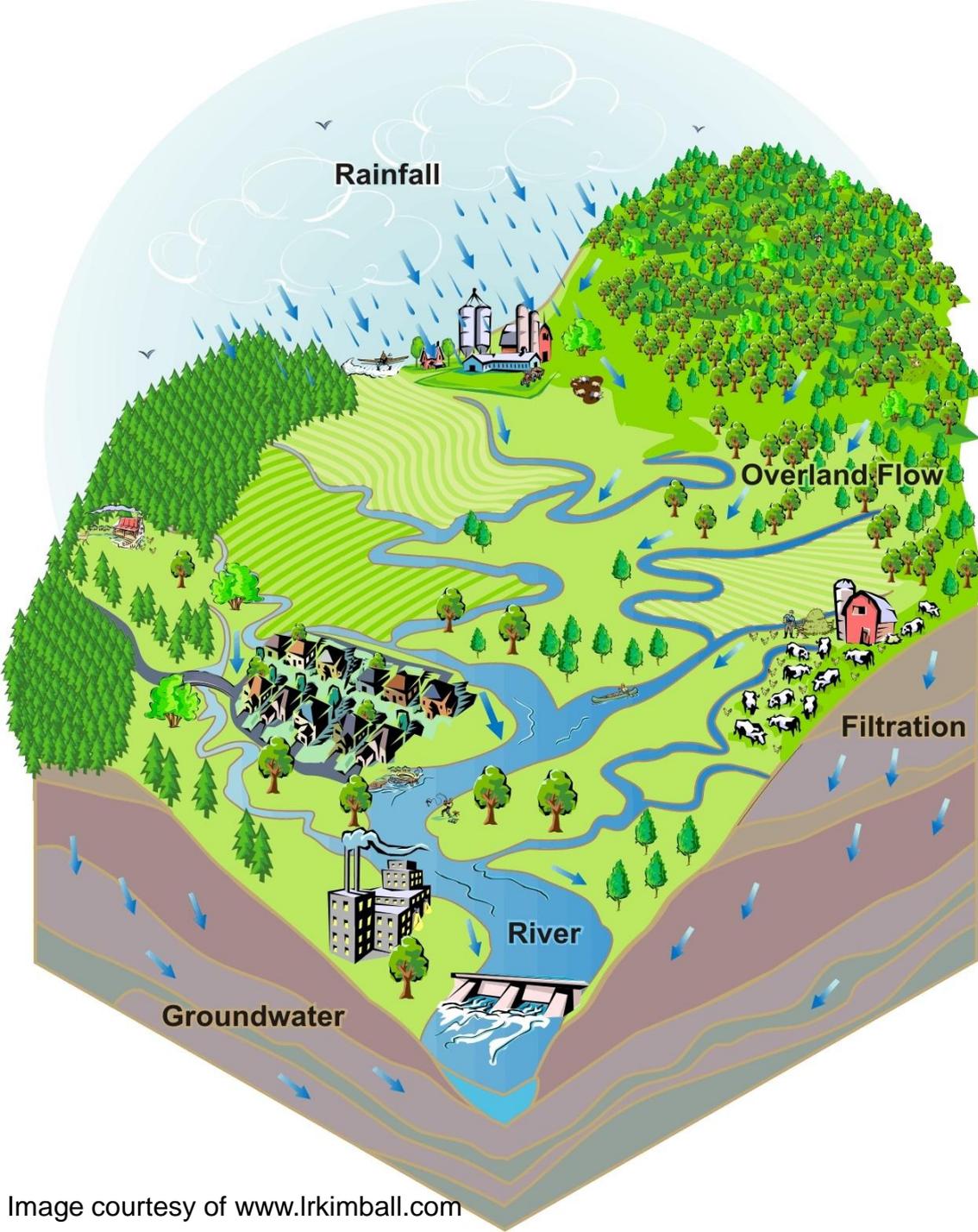


# Building on Work of Surfrider Beach Clean-ups



Image courtesy of Heal the Bay





# Apply CPR to Bring Life Back to Our Watersheds and Oceans

## What's a **Watershed**?

“A watershed is the area of land where all of the water that is under it or drains off of it goes into the same place.” -USEPA



Think of Your Property As A Mini-Watershed  
Apply CPR To Be Part of the Solution, Not the  
Pollution:

**C**onservation

**P**ermeability

**R**etention



# Your Yard Is Connected To The Beach

**C**onservation of Water, Fertilizers, Pesticides and Herbicides, Energy, Wildlife Habitat, Reduced Air Pollutants, and Yard Waste through native or climate-appropriate plants, spaced with their mature size in mind.

**P**ermeability through healthy, biologically active soil, and utilizing materials for (or making a cut in) driveways, walkways, and patios that allow water to percolate into the soil.

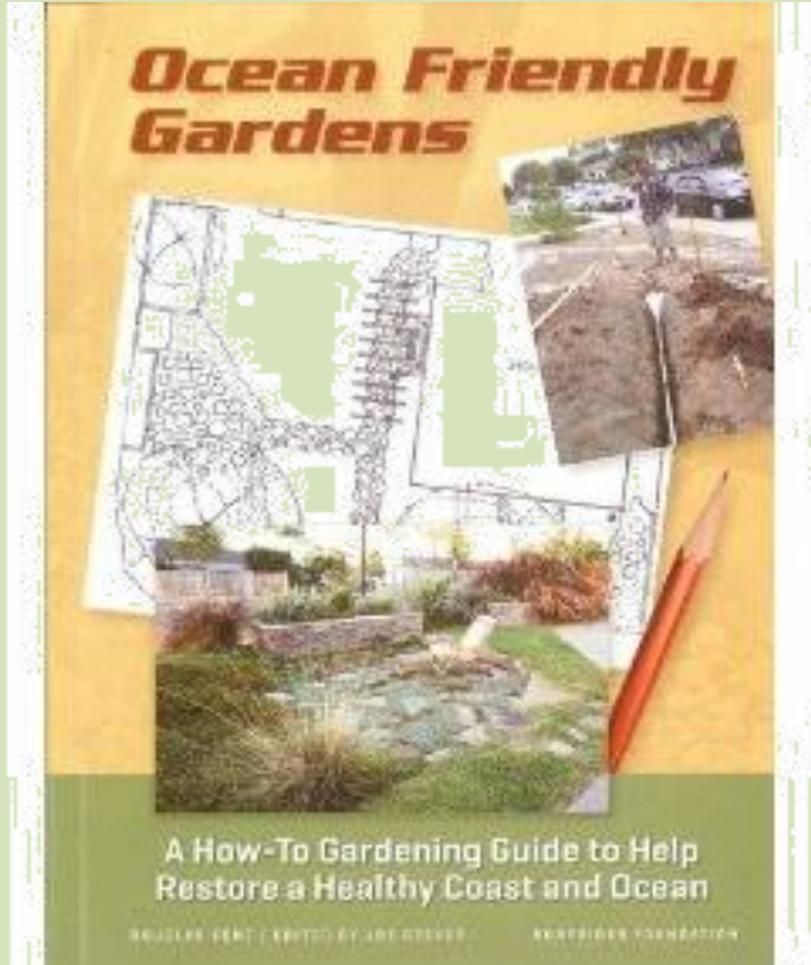
**R**etention devices like rain chains, rain barrels and sponge gardens retain water in the soil for the dry seasons or save it to water veggies, preventing it from running off the property.



# OFG Program Has Tools & Lots Of Ways To Participate

OFG How-To Book (buy online)

OFG Blog and Website



# OFG Lawn Patrol = Neighborhood Walks



# We Look For Gardens That Are Ocean Friendly



Or Like This



# And Educate About Gardens That Are Not



Rain chain leads to pipe going to street

LEED Certified

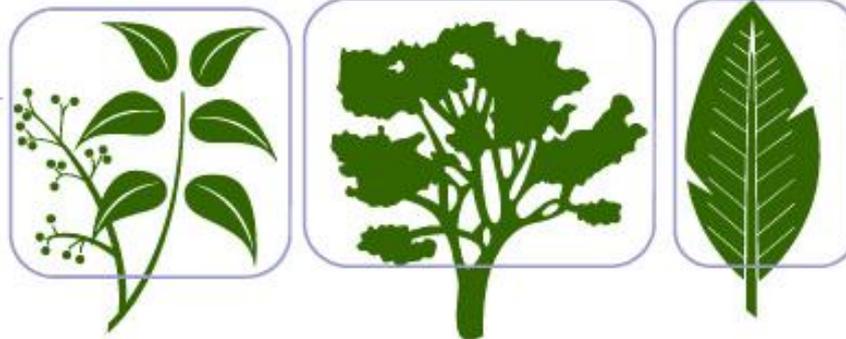
OPEN HOUSE



# We Offer Assistance To Make Your Garden Ocean Friendly

OCEAN FRIENDLY GARDENS PROGRAM FROM THE SURFRIDER FOUNDATION

## LAWN PATROL STOPPED BY, AND WE LOVE YOUR GARDEN!



DATE:

TIME:

We toured your neighborhood, and noticed your garden has many features of an Ocean Friendly Garden which utilizes CPR:

- Conservation
- Permeability
- Retention

Comments:

Attend a Class or Workshop and get  
involved!



# Co-Sponsor/Organize An OFG Basics Class



# Set Up a Hands-On Workshop (HOW)



# Volunteer at a Workday (Garden Assistance Party)



# OCEAN

FRIENDLY GARDEN

**CONSERVATION**  
of water, energy and habitat

**PERMEABILITY**  
of soil and surfaces lets water slow down and sink

**RETENTION**  
of rainwater and prevention of wet weather runoff



WWW.OCEANFRIENDLYGARDENS.ORG

Award Yard Signs To Finished  
Projects  
Thank you!

Sign Criteria at:  
[www.oceanfriendlygardens.org](http://www.oceanfriendlygardens.org)

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