

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

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 . . .

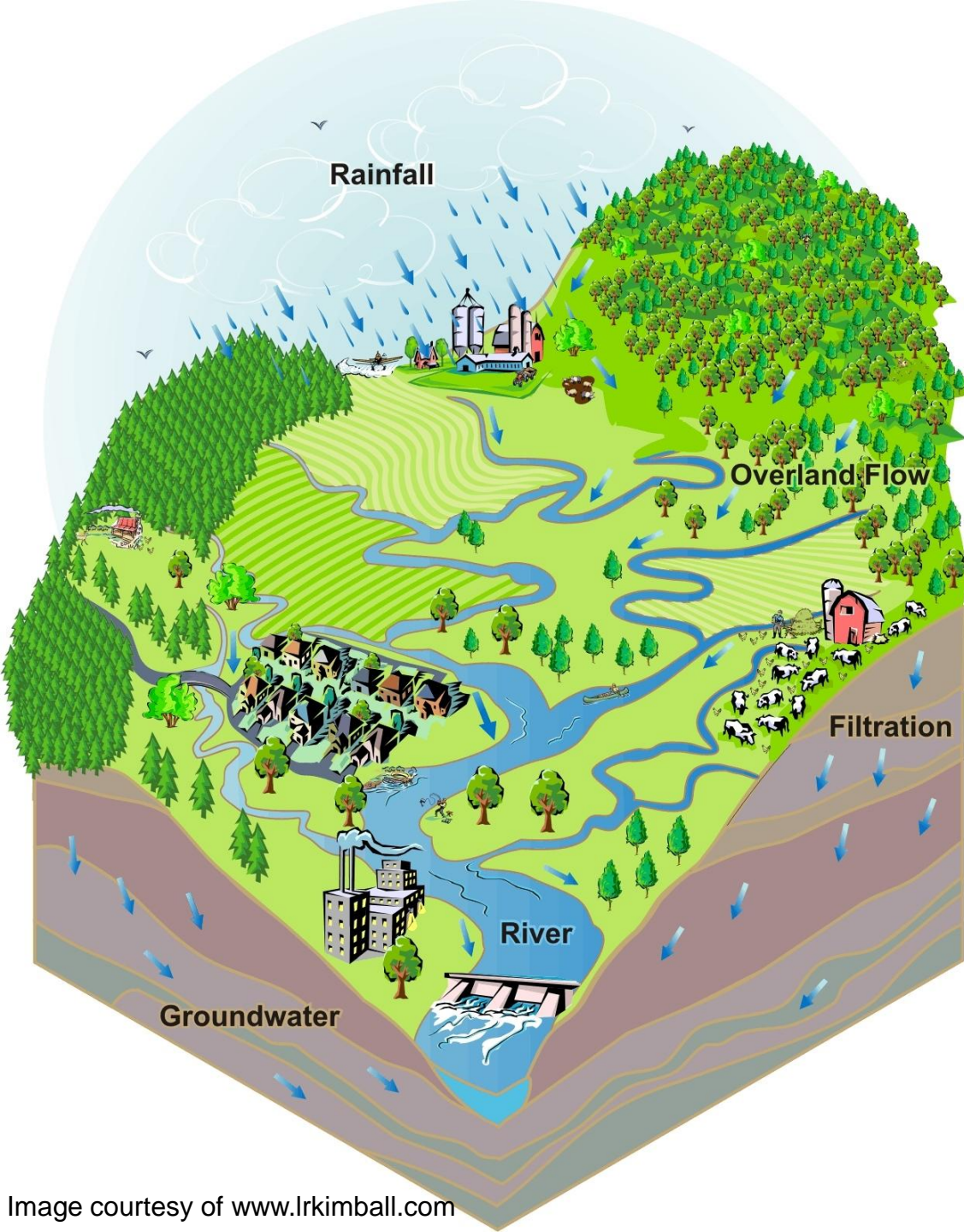


Image courtesy of Heal the Bay



Building on Work of Surfrider Beach Clean-ups





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:

Conservation

Permeability

Retention



Your Yard Is Connected To The Beach

Conservation 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.

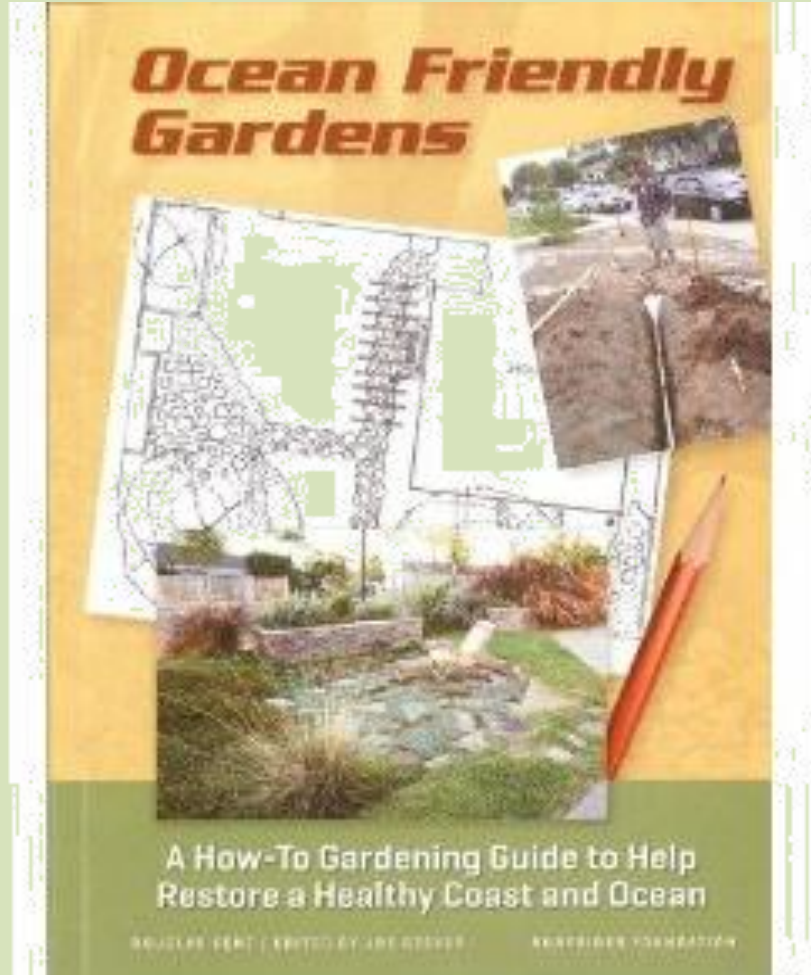
Permeability through healthy, biologically active soil, and utilizing materials for (or making a cut in) driveways, walkways, and patios that allow water to percolate into the soil.

Retention 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



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

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