



# **City of Oakley Street Sweeping**

The City of Oakley provides street sweeping services to enhance our community by removing trash and debris from roadways, parking lots, and gutters. Most importantly, street sweeping keeps pollutants from entering our storm drain system and can dramatically reduce the amount of harmful chemicals that pollute our rivers, streams and our delicate ecosystem. This maintenance operation removes everyday items such as fertilizers, weed killers, tire dust, brake dust, and oil that can end up in the gutters, curbs and roadways. Street sweeping is the most cost effective way to minimize and remove these contaminants from our streets.

### BENEFITS OF STREET SWEEPING INCLUDE:

#### Public Safety

- Street gutters tend to be a collection place for a variety of debris. Removal of the debris reduces the chance for loose material to enter the travel way and cause unsafe conditions for motorists. A clear roadway also allows drivers to safely judge distances to curb and roadway edges.
- Roadway debris not only creates unsightly conditions, but it also impedes the path of travel for pedestrians, runners, and cyclists. These users may encroach into the vehicle travel lane to avoid large items, mud, or loose debris. This action can catch drivers unaware and cause accidents.

### Environmental

A less apparent, but critical benefit of street sweeping is the removal of pollutants left by passing vehicles or discarded trash. These pollutants such as mercury, oil, and fertilizers are extremely harmful to fish and other wildlife if they reach our creeks, rivers, and bays. Some particles bond to other larger debris that may release unhealthy emissions into the air.

# Stormwater Runoff Management

Debris in roadway gutters and at construction sites quickly clog storm drains and block runoff pathways. Keeping these clear allows water to drain quickly and completely. This also prevents water from collecting on the roadways due to storm drain backups and minimizes erosion.

## Wildlife & Pet Protection

Sadly, roadside trash often includes food or other items that attract wildlife and pets. Much of this is hazardous to their health and can cause major illness or even death. Animals attracted to curbside smells can be hit by cars and cause severe injury.

# Prevent Automobile Damage from Road Debris

Items in the road can cause extensive damage to vehicles. Objects trapped underneath a vehicle may damage the undercoating or cause other types of damage. Larger rock particles caught in the wheels can cause noise and damage, often incurring a direct expense to the vehicle owner.



#### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Move vehicles off the street and into the garage or driveway on your scheduled sweep day.
- ✓ Remove items off of the street, such as trash cans, basketball backboards, recycled material receptacles, and other obstructions.
- ✓ Please do not sweep or blow leaves into the street or gutter. The street sweepers cannot pick up large piles of leaves. This will prevent flooding and protect our waterways.
- ✓ Prune landscape plants back to allow sweepers to reach the curb. Trees within the roadway shall be trimmed to allow for 15 feet of vertical clearance.



For more information about street sweeping in your area, please contact Public Works at (925) 625-7037 or go to www.ci.oakley.ca.us/publicworksmaps

