

# PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

Central Marin Sanitation Agency (CMSA) is a joint powers agency with a 5-member board of commissioners and currently has 47 employees. CMSA protects the environment and public health and is integral to the community by providing wastewater, environmental, and resource recovery services. Our environmental compliance staff consists of highly trained inspectors. CMSA is committed to helping each business in our service area comply with all regulatory requirements.

By controlling pollutants at their source, we can do a better job of treating wastewater while protecting public health and the environment in a cost-effective manner. That is the goal of our environmental compliance staff, and why we routinely inspect businesses.



## RESOURCES

CMSA

Environmental Compliance Staff  
1301 Andersen Dr., San Rafael, CA 94901  
(415) 459-1455 ext. 147

CMSA Website  
[www.cmsa.us](http://www.cmsa.us)

Save-Our-Bay Hotline  
(800) SAV-R-BAY  
*Free educational materials*



## CENTRAL MARIN SANITATION AGENCY

Environmental  
Compliance  
Permit Program



# THE PROGRAM

The Environmental Compliance Permit Program is a set of standards used to prevent pollutants from entering the wastewater system. This program protects the wastewater collection system and treatment plant, the marine life of the San Francisco Bay, and the general public. Our staff issues, monitors, and administers permits for businesses within the central Marin County service area.

# BASIS OF THE PROGRAM

CMSA is authorized to regulate certain businesses under federal and state laws including the Clean Water Act and the General Pretreatment Regulations. Businesses are classified in accordance with their activities. The classification determines the permit fee and as a means of imposing an appropriate level of oversight, control, and enforcement. It is the businesses' responsibility to comply with all provisions of the program.



# WHAT TO EXPECT DURING AN INSPECTION

CMSA normally schedules inspections, but may conduct an unscheduled inspection if needed. Typically, inspectors will (1) tour the business noting its operation, equipment used, housekeeping, sewer inlets, chemical and waste storage, treatment, and car washing facilities, (2) check records, (3) review inspection findings with the manager of the business, and (4) issue enforcement documents, if applicable.

# FEES FOR SERVICES

Fees for the Program consist of permit fees depending upon the type of business, monitoring fees to verify compliance with the waste-water discharge permit, and sample analysis fees for analytical laboratory testing. CMSA is a public agency charging fees for services on a cost recovery basis as described in the fee ordinance relating to industrial monitoring found on our website at [www.cmsa.us](http://www.cmsa.us). The owner of the business is responsible for the payment of the fees.

# ENFORCEMENT

**Informal Enforcement:** Staff may initiate verbal warning as needed to address inspection and/or monitoring violations. The warning identifies the permit, conditions violated, and required actions to be taken.

**Formal Enforcement:** Formal enforcement is initiated by issuance of a written Notice of Violation (NOV). The business must respond to the NOV requirements within 15 days of the date the NOV.

Additional progressive formal enforcement mechanisms include Administrative Orders, Fines, Cease and Desist Orders, Termination of Service, and Judicial Action.

