

Healthy Household Habits for Clean Water

Vehicle and Garage

- Recycle used oil and other automotive fluids at participating service stations. Don't dump these chemicals down the storm drain or dispose of them in your trash.



- Use a commercial car wash or wash your car on a lawn or other unpaved surface to minimize the amount of dirty soapy water flowing into the storm drain and eventually into your local waterbody.
- Check your car, boat, motorcycle and other machinery and equipment for leaks and spills. Make repairs as soon as possible. Clean up spilled fluids with an absorbent material like kitty litter or sand and don't rinse the spills into a nearby storm drain. Remember to properly dispose of absorbent material.



Pet Care



When walking your pet, remember to pick up the waste and dispose of it properly. Flushing pet waste is the best disposal method. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into the storm drain and eventually into local waterbodies.

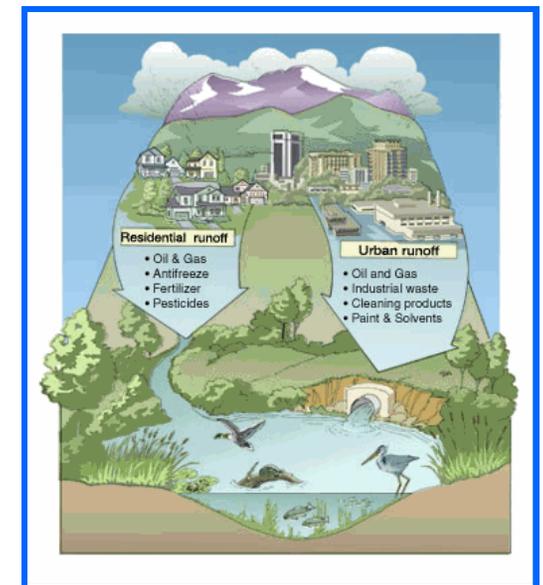
Swimming Pools and Spas

- Drain your swimming pool only when a test kit does not detect chlorine levels.
- Whenever possible, drain your pool or spa into the sanitary sewer system.
- Properly store pool and spa chemicals to prevent leaks and spills, preferably in a covered area to avoid exposure to stormwater.



Lawn and Garden

- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. When use is necessary use these chemicals in the recommended amounts. Avoid application if the forecast calls for rain; otherwise chemicals will be washed into your local stream.
- Select native plants and grasses that are drought and pest resistant. Native plants require less water, fertilizer and pesticides.
- Sweep up yard debris rather than hosing down areas. Compost or recycle yard waste when possible.
- Don't overwater your lawn. Water during the cool times of the day and don't let water runoff into the storm drain.
- Cover piles of dirt and mulch being used in landscaping projects to prevent these pollutants from blowing or washing off your yard and into local waterbodies. Vegetate bare spots in your yard to prevent soil erosion.



10 Things You Can Do to Prevent Stormwater Runoff Pollution

- Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep up driveways, sidewalks, and gutters
- Never dump anything down storm drains or in streams
- Vegetate bare spots in your yard
- Compost your yard waste
- Use least toxic pesticides, follow labels, and learn how to prevent pest problems
- Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces; consider a rain garden to capture runoff
- Take your car to the car wash instead of washing it in the driveway
- Check your car for leaks and recycle your motor oil
- Pick up after your pet
- Have your septic tank pumped and system inspected regularly

For more information, visit
www.epa.gov/nps
or [www.epa.gov/npdes/
stormwater](http://www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater)

Clean Water



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Business*