

## What is Stormwater Pollution?

Stormwater is any surface flow resulting from rainfall or snow melt. When water flows over parking lots, streets, and yards, it picks up pollutants like oil, fertilizers, pesticides, and litter. The water and pollutants are carried into the storm drain system where they flow untreated into the rivers, lakes, and streams.

### POLLUTION PREVENTION

The pollution in our stormwater is a result of all our individual actions added together. Take it personally when you see your neighbor polluting our stormwater and practice stormwater friendly actions yourself. Together we can keep our rivers, lakes, and streams clean!



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## BE THE SOLUTION TO STORMWATER POLLUTION



## A Guide to Healthy Habits for Clean Water



# PREVENT STORMWATER POLLUTION

- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. Avoid application if the forecast calls for rain.
- Never dump anything down storm drains.
- Reduce the amount of paved area and increase the amount of vegetated area in your yard.
- Sweep up yard debris, rather than hosing down areas.
- Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces.
- Use a commercial car wash or wash your car on a lawn instead of washing it in the driveway.
- Check car for leaks, and recycle motor oil.
- Have your septic tank pumped and system inspected regularly.



## Why is this important?

Anything that enters the stormwater system is discharged untreated into the waterbodies we use for swimming, fishing, and boating.

- When walking your pet, pick up the waste and dispose of it properly.
- Purchase and use biodegradable, recycled, and recyclable products whenever possible.
- Use hazardous substances like paints, solvents, and cleaners in the smallest amounts possible, and always follow the directions on the label.
- Clean up spills immediately, and dispose of the waste safely. Store substances properly to avoid leaks and spills.
- Don't over water your lawn. Water during the cool times of the day, and don't let water run off into the storm drain.

