

10 SIMPLE STEPS

1. Don't dump anything down storm drains.
2. Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly.
3. Put litter in its place.
4. Pick up after your pet.
5. Sweep driveways (do not spray wash).
6. Collect yard waste & keep it out of storm drains.
7. Use a car wash (they recycle dirty water)
8. Recycle used motor oil.
9. Check your car for leaks (fix them!).
10. Have your septic tank inspected every 3-5 years.

How Can You Help?

Get Involved – Show support and contact your local storm water program for ways to volunteer.

Stay Informed – take an active interest in our waterways, find out what's threatening them and being done to protect them.

Do Your Part – Do not pollute, and report pollution entering our storm water.

Remember that YOU are the SOLUTION to POLLUTION.

To find out more about the storm water program in your area, contact:

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WHEN IT RAINS IT DRAINS



Understanding Storm Water

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Everybody's Business

brought to you by:



What is Storm Water?

Storm water runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or melting snow flows over the ground.

Impervious surfaces like driveways, sidewalks, streets and rooftops prevent storm water from naturally soaking into the ground.

To manage this, communities have storm sewers that help to carry storm water away from homes and businesses.

Did you Know?

When it rains, the storm water runoff is carried away by pipes and ditches of our storm sewers. These pipes and ditches are different than our regular sewers because the water goes directly into our streams, rivers and lakes. Unlike sewage, storm runoff does not drain to a treatment plant.

As it flows, storm water picks up debris, chemicals, dirt and other pollution and carries it into our waterways where it can harm fish, frogs, and other aquatic plants and animals. This is the same water that we use for swimming, fishing and drinking.



New Importance

Communities like ours are facing new federal regulations to reduce pollution. These regulations focus on improving the quality of our streams by reducing the amount of pollution carried by storm water runoff into our waterways.

What's Happening?

Communities around the country are taking action to improve pollution controls. Some of the activities include:

- Increasing public awareness and involvement.
- Eliminating illegal connections and discharges to the storm sewer system.
- Increasing sediment controls at construction sites.
- Requiring controls in new development to remove pollutants from storm water.
- Improving pollution prevention from community facilities, such as maintenance garages, equipment areas, and work areas.

Did you Know...

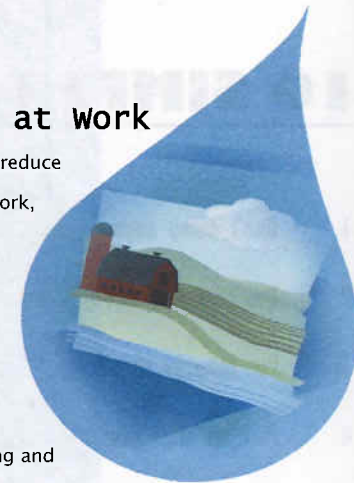
Polluted storm water runoff is a leading cause of impairment to unhealthy US waterways -nearly 40%

At Home and at work

There are many ways to reduce pollution at home and work, beginning with the 10 Simple Steps.

Business such as restaurants, automotive services, construction/development, landscaping and agriculture can also take steps to reduce runoff pollution, including:

- Promote recycling.
- Keep dumpster doors closed and covered to help keep them clean and avoid leaks..
- Use yard and deicing chemicals sparingly.
- Cover or seed exposed soil so it doesn't erode.
- Dispose of hazardous materials (paint, chemicals) at proper facilities (not the trash).
- Store and apply manure away from waterways.



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To find out more, visit:
Environmental Protection Agency:
www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater
www.epa.gov/owow/nps/

For kids:
www.epa.gov/owow/nps/kids/
Kentucky:
water.nr.state.ky.us/kpdes/storm.htm#MS4
transportation.ky.gov/envanalysis