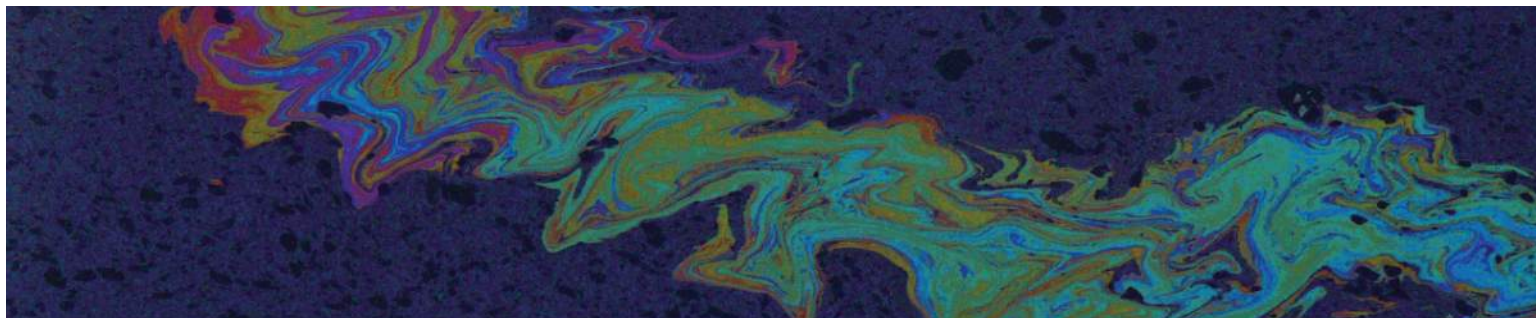


# Stormwater Smart!

## Preventing Pollution in Your Neighborhood



Stormwater pollution originates from numerous sources throughout a community. From fertilizing the yard to changing oil in the car, the likeliness for pollution in nearby storm drains is present. The following activities discuss the potential pollution and the remedies for prevention.

### Vehicle Maintenance

Vehicles should be properly maintained in order to prevent oil and gas leaks. Dispose of vehicle maintenance waste (i.e. oil, antifreeze, etc.) at recycling events.

**Why:** Prevents harmful chemicals from running off into nearby storm drains.

#### How it Helps

- Saves money
- Protects waterways & aquatic life

### Car Washing

Vehicles should be washed in the grass or at a commercial car wash.

**Why:** Prevents any detergents, oil, and other harmful pollutants from running off into nearby storm drains. Washing in your yard will filter any chemicals and even recharge the groundwater table.

#### How it Helps

- Protects streams and lakes
- Filters pollutants through infiltration
- Excellent source of irrigation for your lawn

### Pet Waste

Picking up after your pets and dispose of waste in trash bins, not storm drains.

**Why:** Pet waste is the #1 leading cause of pathogen-impaired waters.

#### How it Helps

- Reduces bacteria
- Cleaner parks and yards
- Healthier environment – reduces parasites
- Keeps your shoes clean

### Fertilizer

Apply fertilizer sparingly and carefully follow the directions.

**Why:** Prevents fertilizer from entering waterways, which can result in algal blooms that suffocate fish.

#### How it Helps

- Saves time & money
- Prevents algal blooms
- Protects aquatic life

### Trash

Don't litter, throw away trash in appropriate bins or dumpsters.

**Why:** Trash can harm fish, prevent recreational activity and clog storm drains which leads to flooding.

#### How it Helps

- Cleaner and safer parks and neighborhoods
- Protects aquatic life
- Promotes recreational activity