

# When it rains, stormwater drains

Stormwater runoff is the rain that doesn't soak into the ground and picks up pollutants as it passes down the roofs of homes and buildings, through the gutters, and into storm drain inlets. Unfortunately, stormwater runoff does not go to wastewater treatment plants and can end up in local creeks and rivers. The pollutants that it can pick up on its way to waterways include fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, oils, and bacteria. Because of this, stormwater runoff is a leading cause of water pollution.

Help prevent stormwater pollution:

Dispose of and store trash and chemicals properly.

Never apply pesticides immediately before rain is forecasted and try using organic rather than synthetic fertilizers.

Recycle motor oil and maintain your vehicle to prevent leaks.

Place rocks or plant shrubs on slopes to slow the flow of water downhill.

Remove leaves, sticks and other debris from storm drains.