

City of River Oaks

Storm Water Pollution Prevention

Why is Stormwater Pollution Important?

- Stormwater eventually become ours and others drinking water.

What is Stormwater Pollution?

Stormwater can pick up contaminants and debris as it flows over surfaces like roads, sidewalks and lawns, such as:

- Sediment (dirt)
- Fertilizers
- Pesticides and herbicides
- Motor oil, fuel, and grease
- Heavy metals
- Yard waste (leaves and grass)
- Pet waste
- Paints and solvents
- Litter

Stormwater receives no treatment before entering the water cycle.

How Can You Help?

Your Yard

- Don't over water.
- Select native plants that are drought tolerant and resistant.
- Use lawn products sparingly and follow manufacturer's application instructions.

- Never apply fertilizers, pesticides, or herbicides just before, during, or immediately after a storm or during windy conditions. Clean up spills.
- Sweep up landscape waste with a broom instead of using a hose or a blower.
- Control loose dirt to prevent soils from washing into the storm drain.
- Properly dispose of pool water; do not backwash or drain your pool into the street. Check municipalities for disposal methods.

Your Vehicle

- Wash you vehicle at a commercial car wash to prevent dirty, soapy water from entering the storm drain.
- Keep your vehicle "leak free." Clean any spills with absorbent and dispose of it properly.
- Recycle used motor oil and antifreeze at participating auto parts stores or service facilities.

Your Home or Business

- Purchase non-toxic products.
- Store home maintenance products inside or under cover.
- Properly dispose of household hazardous waste. Check with your community for collection days or events.

Your Pets

- Pet waste can be a source of pollution in water bodies and retention basins where pets and children play.
- Collect waste when walking your pet.
- Pick-up animal waste and dispose of it in the trash.