



# What You Can Do to Prevent Stormwater Pollution.



When land is developed, impervious surfaces such as rooftops, roads, parking lots, and driveways are created. These impervious surfaces generate stormwater runoff because they do not allow rain to soak into the ground. Impervious surfaces also accumulate pollutants deposited from the atmosphere, leaked from vehicles, or wind-blown in from adjacent areas. During storm events, pollutants quickly wash off of impervious surfaces and are rapidly delivered to downstream waters. Some common pollutants found in urban stormwater runoff include sediment, nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus), heavy metals, oil and grease. Stormwater BMPs are inserted into the landscape to improve water quality and reduce the flooding associated with increased impervious cover and surface runoff.



## What can I do?

By practicing good household habits, homeowners can keep common pollutants like pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings, and automotive fluids off the ground and out of stormwater.

- Don't dump fluids down the storm drain.
- Clean up spilled fluids immediately with an absorbent material.
- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly.
- Clean up pet waste.
- Wash your car at a commercial car wash.



## What else can I do?

By installing small-scale Stormwater BMPs in your yard, you can reduce the amount of runoff from your property and reduce the amount of pollution in stormwater runoff.

- Connect rain barrels to one or more of your roof drains.
- Landscape your yard using native plants and grasses.
- Build a rain garden.
- Install your new patio or walkway using permeable pavers.
- Participate in community events to clean up rivers and ponds.

