

STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION

City of Whitehall
360 S. Yearling Road
Whitehall, Ohio 43213

If you knew that throwing your trash, including yard, pet, and automobile waste into storm drains went directly to our streams and rivers...

If you knew you were breaking the law by doing so...

Would you still do it?

As stormwater flows over driveways, lawns, and sidewalks, it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants. Stormwater can flow into a storm sewer system or directly to a stream, wetland, river, lake, or coastal water. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged unfiltered and untreated into waterbodies we use for swimming, fishing, and for drinking water.

Polluted runoff is the nation's greatest threat to clean water.

It is **ILLEGAL** to discharge or dump any of the following into a storm drain or ditch:

- Litter
- Grass clippings and yard waste
- Pet waste
- Car wash fluid
- Septic tank effluent
- Automotive hazardous waste
- Household hazardous waste

Everything thrown or washed into a storm drain goes directly to a stream or river exactly the way it was when it was tossed in.

Help protect Ohio's water resources. Follow the suggestions in this pamphlet to become part of the stormwater pollution solution in your neighborhood!

Don't Litter

Be sure not to dump paper, wrappers, cigarette butts, or other small items on the ground. These can be carried by stormwater straight into rivers and lakes.

Take Your Car to a Car Wash

While washing your car yourself may save a bit of money, the soaps and wax you use will be washed down the storm drain and into the streams and rivers. Car washes dispose of the waste water and pollutants properly.

Make Sure Your Car is Serviced Regularly

By ensuring that your car is in good condition, you will reduce the possibility of leaking fluids that are potential pollutants.

Dispose of Pet Waste

Pet waste is a major contributor of dangerous bacteria as well as nutrients that can lead to harmful algae and plant growth in streams and rivers. Pick-up pet waste and dispose by flushing it. This ensures that it will be properly treated by the local treatment center.

Limit Use of Pesticides and Lawn Fertilizers- Lawn Care

Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. When use is necessary, use these chemicals in the recommended amounts and not in areas adjacent to streams or creeks. Avoid application if the forecast calls for rain; otherwise, chemicals will be washed into your local stream. Sweep up yard debris, rather than hosing down the drain. Compost or recycle yard waste when possible. Don't over water your lawn. Water during cool times of the day, and don't let water run off into the storm drain.

Dispose of Household Hazardous Waste Properly

Paint, car fluids, solvents, and batteries should never be poured down the drain.

Get involved with water resource protection

Ohio EPA = www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/water

Ohio Department of Natural Resources = www.dnr.state.oh.us/soilandwater/urbanstormwater

You wouldn't throw it in your pool or bathtub...

Why would you throw it in our streams and rivers?

WHEN IT RAINS, IT POURS.

Contact Ray Ogden at 237-8612.