

Don't Fall Back- Help Protect Our Local Water Resources!

Fall is a beautiful time of year, as the summer heat gives way to cooling temperatures and falling leaves. Neighborhood activities seem to change with the seasons as people begin to spend more time in clean-up mode. Rakes and trash bags abound to deal with the change of season. With this change in weather, we must remember to be conscientious of the impact of our activities on our water resources. Rainy weather washes accumulated pollutants from your property down the storm drains, directly to our streams and rivers! Stormwater runoff can cause water contamination and blockages which may lead to flooding.

The following items should not be dumped into storm drains:

- Leaves, grass clippings, and other yard waste
- Car wash soaps
- Household and automobile hazardous waste, including paint, oil, batteries or other toxic materials
- Pet waste
- Chlorinated pool or spa water
- Litter

If you see someone dumping these materials down a storm drain, or know of a site that seems to be a problem, call the **Franklin County Board of Health Nail-A-Dumper Hotline at 614-871-5322.**

One simple way to make sure you are doing your part to reduce stormwater pollution is to rake leaves to the curb in front of your residence, rather than raking it onto the street or down the storm drain. Bag other yard waste for pickup and compost or recycle yard waste when possible.

Take your car to a car wash where the dirty soaps are disposed of into the sanitary sewer system. Dispose of pet waste by flushing it down the toilet or sealed within your solid waste container. To learn more about where to properly dispose of household hazardous waste like paints, solvents, and batteries, contact the **Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO) at 614-871-5100.**

Remember: everything washed or thrown into a storm drain flows directly to our streams and rivers. Help protect our local water resources. Ensure that only stormwater is entering our storm system, and become part of the stormwater pollution solution in your neighborhood!

You are the eyes of our community. To report a water pollution concern, please call the City of Whitehall's Service Department at 614-237-8612.