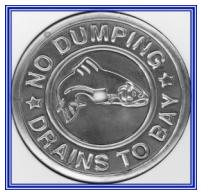
Summary

Stormwater runoff contains many pollutants including bacteria, oils, pesticides, detergents, fertilizers, chemicals, and car maintenance products.

Unlike sanitary sewers, storm drains are not connected to a treatment plant. Water entering storm drains flows directly into our creeks and tributaries. Polluted stormwater has harmed waterways, degraded aquatic life and affected public health.

To protect our streams and tributaries, pollution must be stopped at the source and each individual in the community can help do their part. By following the basic recommendations outlined in this brochure, we can work as a community to reduce the amount of pollutants flowing into the storm drains.

Besides being the right thing to do, it is also required by law. Anyone caught discharging anything other than rain water into a storm drain may be subject to severe penalties and/or fines.



Remember:
Only Rain In the Storm Drain!

Contact Information

This brochure is a collaborative endeavor between the University of Delaware and the City of Newark in an effort to reduce the quantity and increase the quality of stormwater runoff within the City of Newark.

For more Stormwater Information, Contact:

- University of Delaware,
  Department of Environmental Health and Safety

  Phone: (302) 831-8475

  Website: www.udel.edu/ehs/environmental/stormwater-management.html

- City of Newark,
  Department of Public Works and Water Resources

  Phone: (302) 366-7000

  Website: www.newarkde.gov/237/NPDES-Stormwater-Program

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6/19

You Can be Part of the Stormwater Pollution Solution

What goes in here...

Ends up here...

How Does Stormwater Runoff Generate Pollution?

Rain or snowmelt carries **ground surface pollutants** into the storm drainage system, which then flow directly to a creek or tributary. Essentially, anything entering the storm drain is discharged untreated into our local waters. For this reason, it is important that we stop pollution at the **source** so we can successfully clean up our local waterways.

Continued growth and development increases the amount of impervious surfaces (pavement, sidewalks, roofs) and decreases the ability of the ground to absorb rain water. This causes local flooding and a reduction in the overall water quality.

Visit these Stormwater Websites For more information:

EPA:
www.epa.gov/polluted-runoff-nonpoint-source-pollution

Partnership for Delaware Estuary:
www.delawareestuary.org/

DNREC:
www.dnrec.delaware.gov

University of Delaware Stormwater Program:
http://www.udel.edu/ehs/environmental/stormwater-management.html

City of Newark Stormwater Program:
www.cityofnewarkde.us/NPDESstormwaterprogram

Stormwater Problems

Washing a car on the driveway or street sends detergents and other pollutants into local waterways.	*Use a commercial car wash that recycles their water or wash your car on the lawn so pollutants can be naturally filtered out.*
Pet waste left on lawns introduces bacteria into our waterways when it rains.	*Pick up and properly dispose of all pet waste. When walking your dog, use dog waste bags.*
Improper fertilizer application contributes to excess nutrients in streams, lakes and bays which contributes to algae blooms and other ecological damage.	*Fertilizers are not necessary for a green lawn. If you choose to apply fertilizer, have the local extension office test your lawn to assess the correct amount needed based on the soil characterization. Use fertilizers sparingly and do not apply before a rain or over impervious surfaces.*
Improper pesticide use causes excess chemical contamination in waterways which harms aquatic life.	*Pesticides are not always needed. If you choose to use them, do so sparingly. Explore alternative methods such as native plantings or predatory insects.*
Mowing to the edge of a creek eliminates the natural vegetative buffer zone needed to trap pollutants and secure the stream bank which places the stream bank at risk for erosion.	*If you live near a creek or stream, allow a vegetated buffer to grow up 50' from the stream bank. The buffer filters out pollutants, slows down the water, and its roots hold in the stream bank.*
Household, car, and other maintenance products such as cleaners, oils, and paints that enter into storm drains cause degradation of the water quality and harm aquatic life.	*Properly dispose of household hazardous waste and/or buy products labeled "non-toxic." Contact the Delaware Solid Waste Authority at 1-800-404-7080 for a schedule of hazardous waste collection dates or the location of the closest Recycle Delaware recycling bins.*
Pool water contains chlorine, pool cleaning products, and solids that harm the aquatic life if discharged to a storm drain system.	*Discharge pool water to the sanitary sewer, not the storm drain. If a sanitary sewer is not available, let the chlorine dissipate to undetectable levels and discharge pool water slowly over vegetated areas. Use caution not to impact your neighbors.*

Stormwater Solutions