

Fact:

Storm drains collect runoff and debris (including fertilizers, pet waste, and grass clippings) and carry them untreated to streams, area lakes, and other drinking water sources. Too much litter or debris swept or blown into the storm drain may also cause the system to become clogged, which could produce flooding.



ALL THIS TO SAY...

Please do your part to keep our waterways clean. Never sweep or dump anything down storm drains. Our local streams, ponds, and lakes provide drinking water, recreation, a habitat for local wildlife, and more. These bodies of water provide essential elements to improve the quality of life in North Central Texas.



**MAKE YOUR LAKE,
AND SWIM IN IT TOO.**

305 Century Parkway, Allen, TX 75013



**IF THAT WASN'T
ENOUGH TO CONVINCING YOU**

Anything that enters the storm drainage system that is not entirely 100% rain water is a storm water pollutant and is referred to as an **ILLCIT DISCHARGE**.

It violates City Ordinance to allow pollutants to enter the storm drainage system and violators can be fined.



Storm water pollution is a mess of a problem, but you can help. Know where it comes from and know where it goes.



**Illicit Discharge Hotline:
214-509-4512**

www.cityofallen.org



OVERFEEDING IS UNHEALTHY

Minimize the use of synthetic chemicals such as fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides and avoid applying them before it rains. Contrary to popular belief, the rain won't help to soak these chemicals into the ground; it will only help create polluted storm water runoff into our creeks, ponds, and lakes. Concentration of such pollutants in waterways has a detrimental effect on the flora and fauna of local water bodies and impacts overall water quality.

GREEN IT UP

Vegetate bare spots in your yard to prevent erosion of the soil. Select native and adapted plants and grasses that are drought and pest resistant. Native plants require less water, fertilizer, and pesticides.

CLEAN THE WATER THAT CLEANS YOUR CAR

When washing your car at home, wash with only water. Better yet, take your car to a professional car wash where oils, greases and chemicals are washed into the sanitary sewer system for treatment.



KEEP YOUR LEAK OUT OF THE CREEK

Regularly check your vehicles for leaks. Clean up spilled fluids with an absorbent material; don't rinse the spills into the storm drain. If you change your car's oil, don't dump it on the ground or in the storm drain; dispose of it properly at an oil recycling or designated collection center.

PLANTS DON'T GROW IN SWIMMING POOLS

Don't pump your pool water into the street, alley, or storm drain. Pool chemicals can be hazardous to our stream habitats. Drain your pool into the sanitary sewer system where it can be treated.



CHEMICAL POLLUTION

Dispose of antifreeze, paints, and other household chemicals at a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) center. Don't get rid of old or unused chemicals by throwing them down the storm drain. Always follow label directions and dispose of containers and unwanted chemicals properly.

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DOO THE RIGHT THING

Pick up after your pet. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into the storm drain and eventually into local water bodies.

REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE

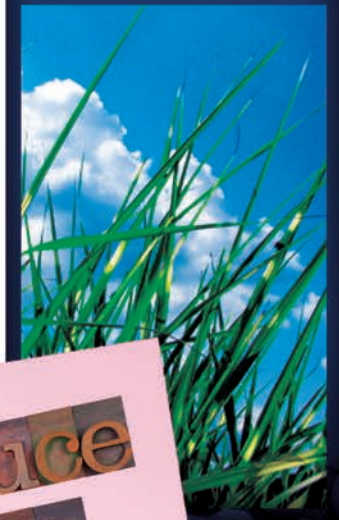
Throw litter away in a garbage can, not out your window. Recycle what you can. Participate in cleanup activities in your neighborhood. Spread the word to friends and neighbors that illegal dumping is not only bad for the environment, it's a crime!

THOSE PESKY CLIPPINGS

When mowing, grass clippings should be directed away from streets, driveways, sidewalks or other paved areas to prevent them from reaching the storm drains. One bushel of grass clippings can produce 30 to 50 pounds of algae growth in a lake or stream!

LEAVE IT ON THE LAWN

Yard waste in a local waterway depletes the oxygen level in the water, which is harmful to aquatic life.



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reuse
recycle

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