



DID YOU KNOW?

Stormwater is one of the leading causes of water pollution in the United States. Stormwater comes from precipitation that flows across ground or pavement when it rains or when ice or snow melt. Stormwater runoff picks up debris, chemicals, dirt and other pollutants. Unlike the water from showers and toilets that goes into a sanitary sewer system, stormwater does NOT go to a wastewater treatment plant. It enters the watershed and is then transported by drains, streets, curbs, and open channels directly to retention and infiltration basins, parks, rivers, community lakes, and drinking water sources.

**SUBSTANCES CARRIED BY STORMWATER THAT ARE CONSIDERED POLLUTANTS INCLUDE:**

**Pet Waste**

**Pesticides & Fertilizers**

**Motor Oil/Vehicle Fluids**

**Household Cleansers**

**Sediment, Trash & Debris**

For more information, please visit:

[cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwatermonth.cfm](http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwatermonth.cfm)



**COCONINO COUNTY**  
Stormwater Management  
**CLEAN STREAM PROGRAM**

**COCONINO COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

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**BE THE SOLUTION**



**TO STORMWATER POLLUTION**

STORMWATER AWARENESS TIPS FOR  
COCONINO COUNTY  
**HOMEOWNERS**



# The Pollution Solution Starts at Home...



Pet waste is an environmental pollutant that carries bacteria and is toxic to your lawn and family.

## PETS

**PET WASTE:** pet waste carries disease-causing bacteria through our watersheds which can affect wildlife and human health.

**SOLUTION:** carry disposal waste bags when walking your pet. Whether on the street or in your own backyard, pick up after your pet as soon as possible!

## HOUSEHOLD ACTIVITIES

**EVERYDAY LIVING:** items such as cleansers, batteries, paint, and old electronics may contain toxic materials that can infiltrate stormwater if not properly disposed.

**SOLUTION:** take items such as used batteries, oven cleaners, painting products, and old computer monitors to a Household Hazardous Waste collection center.

**DIRT & SEDIMENT:** dirt and sediment from home improvement projects can impede the flow of stormwater runoff and negatively impact natural habitats.

**SOLUTION:** keep dirt and sediment covered to protect it from rain and wind. Also, keep all construction debris away from streets, gutters, and drains.

**DRIVEWAY & PATIO CLEANING:** contaminants like oil stains can enter runoff. Hosing your driveway is also an inefficient use of water.

**SOLUTION:** don't hose down your driveway, sidewalk, or patio into the street, gutter, or storm drain. Instead, sweep up debris and dispose of it in the trash.

## LANDSCAPE & GARDENING

**FERTILIZERS & PESTICIDES:** the same pesticides that are toxic to pests can also be harmful to wildlife and people.

**SOLUTION:** be sure to follow all instructions and do not apply pesticides and fertilizers if a rainstorm is imminent. Use natural alternatives to pesticides and fertilizers if possible.



Discard bagged yard clippings in the trash.

**YARD CLIPPINGS:** leaves and grass can transmit pesticide/fertilizer waste and clog storm drains.

**SOLUTION:** bag all leaves, grass, and plant clippings for proper disposal in the trash.

**LAWN WATERING:** overwatering lawns, trees, and plants increases run-off that might include hazardous substances.

**SOLUTION:** don't overwater your lawn onto your driveway or sidewalk. Periodically inspect your sprinkler system and hose connections to fix leaks and direct sprinklers properly.

## VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

**VEHICLE FLUIDS:** antifreeze, cleansers, polishes, motor oil, and other vehicle maintenance fluids contain toxins that can contaminate natural habitats and drinking water through stormwater runoff.

**SOLUTION:** routinely monitor your vehicle for leaks. NEVER pour antifreeze, oil, or other petroleum-based products into the street gutter or storm drain. Recycle these substances at a service station or an authorized waste collection center.



Wash cars at a commercial carwash where soapy water and dirt are properly disposed.

**CAR WASHING:** washing a car in the driveway or street allows potentially harmful detergents and solvents to enter stormwater flows.

**SOLUTION:** take your vehicle to a commercial carwash whenever possible, or make sure that wash water at home does not enter a street, gutter, or storm drain.