



CITY OF LAFAYETTE

Stormwater Solutions

Doing our part to keep our water bodies clean

Manage stormwater runoff today, so future generations can enjoy clean water tomorrow

Support local stormwater management programs



WHY DO WE NEED TO MANAGE?

- Polluted water hurts the wildlife in creeks, streams, rivers, and lakes.
- Erosion covers up fish habitats.
- Fertilizers cause too much algae to grow, which uses up the oxygen the wildlife need to survive.
- Soap hurts fish gills and skin.
- Other chemicals damage plants and animals when they enter the water.

WHY SHOULD I CARE?

- Polluted streams and creeks, feed into rivers, lakes and the ocean, affecting aquatic life.
- We all use water, so we are all affected when our water is polluted.
- If water is polluted, water treatment prices go up, the price of drinking water goes up.
- If you like to fish, swim, or boat you may be affected by advisories and/or warnings in certain areas because of the unhealthy water or too much algae.
- Tourism and water recreation can also be impacted by polluted water.
- **When we pollute our water, everyone is affected.**

CAUSES OF POLLUTED RUNOFF

- Over fertilizing lawns and excessive pesticide use: Never apply before heavy rains and sweep excess up instead of hosing it away.
- Pet waste: pick up after your pets and dispose of waste in the garbage.
- Oil from vehicles: Maintain your vehicles to help reduce oil or other fluids from entering into storm drains.
- Soaps from washing vehicles: Wash in grass or car wash to prevent flow in driveway which will go into nearest storm drain.
- Grass clippings and leaves: Return clippings to lawn, compost them or till them into gardens or flowerbeds.
- Malfunctioning septic tanks: Have them pumped every three to five years. Never put chemicals in septic systems; they can harm systems and seep into ground water.
- Debris: Plastic bags, bottles, and cigarette butts can wash into water bodies and choke, suffocate, or disable aquatic life like ducks, fish, turtles, and birds.



RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPING SOLUTIONS

PERVIOUS SURFACES (1): Permeable pavement systems allow rain and snow melt to soak through, decreasing storm water runoff. Traditional concrete and asphalt don't allow water to soak into the ground. Instead these surfaces rely on storm drains to divert unwanted water.

RAIN BARRELS (2): You can collect rain water from roof tops in mosquito-proof containers. The water can be used later on lawn and garden areas.

RAIN GARDENS (3) AND GRASSY SWALES (4): Areas planted with native plants can provide natural places for rain water to collect and soak into the ground. Rain from roof top areas or paved areas can be diverted into these rather than into storm drains.



COMMERCIAL AND AUTOMOTIVE FACILITIES

Dirt, oil, and debris that collect in parking lots and paved areas can be washed into the storm sewer and eventually enter local waterbodies.

SOLUTION 1: Sweep up litter and debris from driveways and parking lots especially around storm drains.

SOLUTION 2: Cover grease storage and dumpsters and keep them clean to avoid leaks.

SOLUTION 3: Report any chemical spill to proper authorities.

SOLUTION 4: Provide cover over fueling stations, design or retrofit your facility for spill containment.

SOLUTION 5: Properly maintain fleet vehicles to prevent oil, gas, and other discharges from being washed into local water bodies.

SOLUTION 6: Install and maintain oil/water separators.

For recycling and hazardous waste material information please contact the

TIPPECANOE COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

765-423-2858 • Tippecanoewaste.org



THE CITY OF LAFAYETTE

Is a proud member of the
TIPPECANOE COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR WATER QUALITY
www.tippecanoesw.org



STORMWATER DIVISION

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