WHAT IS STORMWATER RUNOFF?

Stormwater runoff is generated when rain flows over areas such as sidewalks, roads, and parking lots, and the rainfall does not soak into the ground.

WHAT IS STORMWATER POLLUTION?

Stormwater pollution may occur when stormwater runoff picks up contaminants such as chemicals, automobile fluids and pet wastes - from the ground and carries them untreated to local rivers, washes, and retention basins via the storm drain system.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SANITARY SEWER AND STORM DRAINS?

- Phoenix has two separate sewer systems, the sanitary sewer and the storm drain.
- The sanitary sewer is underground and carries waste from toilets and sinks to a wastewater treatment plant.
- Storm drains carry untreated stormwater runoff to local parks, retention/detention basins, rivers, and washes.



PREVENT STORMWATER POLLUTION

CONTACT US

Email: ask.water@phoenix.gov Stormwater Hotline: 602-256-3190 Commercial Hotline: 602-495-7412 **Environmental Services Division:** 602-262-1859

To report illegal storm drain dumping: phoenix.gov/stormwater | 602-256-3190

For more information on Cease the Grease or F.O.G. recycling programs: phoenix.gov/esd | 602-262-7251

For water or sewer emergencies:

602-262-6251 (8am-5pm) 602-261-8000 (Evenings and weekends)

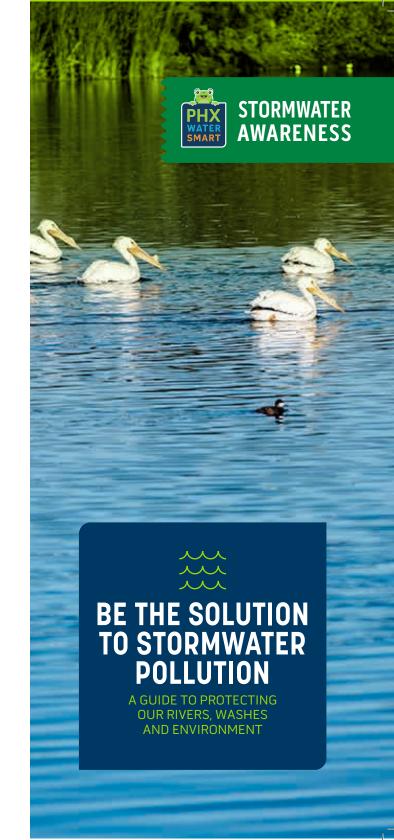


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HOW MANY POTENTIAL STORMWATER POLLUTION SOURCES CAN YOU FIND? >>>>



LAWN AND GARDEN

- Bag and tie garbage and lawn/yard clippings.
- Sweep the driveway and walkways after yard work. Properly dispose of yard wastes in closed bags, or City supplied brown composting bin.
- Apply the correct dosage of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizer.
 Follow label directions. Consider using organic alternatives.
- Never apply chemicals or fertilizers when rain or wind is in the weather forecast.
- Pick up animal waste and dispose of it in a sealed plastic bag.
- Never dispose of pesticides, herbicides, or fertilizer into the storm drain or sanitary sewer. Schedule a collection of your household hazardous waste to properly dispose of these items.

AUTOMOBILE MAINTENANCE & WASHING

- Properly dispose of used automobile fluids in the City's household hazardous waste program, or at your local automotive store.
- Use drip pans to catch leaks and spills.
- Have your vehicle inspected and maintained on a regular basis to reduce leakage.
- Take your vehicle to a commercial car wash where wastewater is properly disposed or reused.
- Use dry clean up methods, such as kitty litter or a dry rag for spills. Remember to collect soiled materials in closed bags and dispose in the trash.
- Do not use a degreaser while washing or rinsing a vehicle. Use dry clean up methods to remove excess grease.

HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE

- Buy household products labeled "non-toxic" or "non- hazardous" and only the amount you will use and need.
- Always store products in their original containers, or label new containers properly, and keep instructions for use available.
- Properly dispose of household hazardous chemicals in the City's home collection program.
- Use dry clean up methods, such as kitty litter, dry rag or other absorbent material, if chemicals are spilled.
- Backwash and drain your pool to your sanitary sewer cleanout, or retain the water within the perimeter of your property.
- Keep trash cans and recycle barrels closed.