

WHAT IS STORMWATER RUNOFF?

Stormwater runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or snowmelt flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like driveways, sidewalks, and streets prevent stormwater from naturally soaking into the ground.



WHY IS STORMWATER RUNOFF A PROBLEM?

Stormwater can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and flow into a storm sewer system, directly to a pond, lake, stream, river, or wetlands. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the water bodies we use for swimming, fishing, and providing drinking water.



THE EFFECTS OF POLLUTION

Polluted stormwater runoff can have many adverse effects on plants, fish, animals, and people.

- Sediment can cloud water.
- Excess nutrients can cause algae blooms.
- Bacteria and other pathogens can wash into swimming areas.
- Debris-plastic bags, six-pack can rings, bottles, and cigarette butts-washed into waterways can choke, suffocate, or disable fish, turtles, ducks and other water fowl.



PLEASE DO NOT LITTER....

- Carry a litter bag in your car to collect waste for disposal into a proper container.
- Do not empty ashtray's in a parking lot.
- Dispose of cigarette butts in proper container.
- Pick up refuse, trash you see on the ground and dispose of it into a proper container.
- Inform authorities if you see a problem with waste so the problem can be solved.

Litter from automobiles can end up in the rivers and streams of Arkansas.



Everyone can help make a difference

- Recycle motor oil.
- Maintain your car to prevent leaks.
- Do not use storm drains to dispose of any liquid waste.
- Minimize use of fertilizers, pesticides & herbicides
- Wash your car at the car wash or on the lawn instead of the driveway.
- During landscaping cover bare soil with mulch or hay and plant as soon as possible.
- Use organic rather than synthetic fertilizers
- Place rocks or shrubs across a slope to interrupt water as it flows downhill.



STORM DRAINS ARE FOR RAIN....

...Not Animal Waste - Pick up after your animals.

...Not Automotive Fluids- Recycle all hazardous waste.

...Not Fertilizer or Pesticides- Reduce pesticide and fertilizer use during heavy rains.

...Not Litter- Avoid throwing litter and debris into the streets.

...Not Yard Waste- Bag, mulch, or compost grass clippings and do not blow or wash into street, storm sewer system, or ditches.



CITY OF JONESBORO

Stormwater Awareness Guide



CITY OF JONESBORO

Engineering Department
300 S. Church St. Suite 300
PO Box 1845
Jonesboro, AR 72403

Phone: 870-932-2438
Fax: 870-933-4664
E-mail: rgibson@jonesboro.org