



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

Stormwater in urban environments can pick up debris, chemicals, soil, and other pollutants and flow into our storm sewer system or directly to a lake, stream, bayou, river, or wetland. Anything that enters our storm sewer is discharged untreated into waterbodies we use for swimming, fishing, and drinking water.

Many day-to-day activities can cause stormwater runoff pollution. By making small changes in the way we live, **we can reduce the pollution we produce.**



## DID YOU KNOW?

- Dumping one quart of motor oil into a storm drain can contaminate **250,000 gallons** of water!
- Due to impervious surfaces like pavement and rooftops, a city block generates greater than **5 times** more runoff than a woodland area of the same size!
- Stormwater pollution can impact our local watersheds.



To report any suspicious activities related to stormwater pollution, call the  
City of Alexandria  
**318-441-6231**

For more information, visit our website at  
[www.cityofalexandrialala.com](http://www.cityofalexandrialala.com)



## BE THE **SOLUTION** TO **STORMWATER POLLUTION** IN



*A citizen's guide to reducing nonpoint source pollution for a cleaner Alexandria*





# WHEN IT RAINS

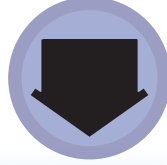
## IT DRAINS



### COMMON CONTAMINANTS IN POLLUTED RUNOFF

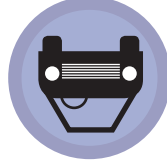
Everyday items we use inside and outside of our homes can become part of runoff pollution. Here are a few household items that need to be properly handled and disposed of, or they will become dangerous and damaging pollutants:

#### HOME



Detergents, cleaners and solvents  
Outdoor trash and litter  
Oil and latex paint  
Swimming pool chemicals

#### VEHICLE AND GARAGE



Oil and grease  
Cleaning chemicals  
Radiator fluids and antifreeze  
Brake pad dust

#### LAWN AND GARDEN



Pet and animal waste  
Clippings, leaves, and soil  
Pesticides and fertilizers

### REDUCE YOUR IMPACT ON STORMWATER POLLUTION IN ALEXANDRIA

#### Maintain Your Vehicles

- Keep your vehicle working properly. Fix oil leaks and clean up any spills.
- Dispose of automotive waste, oil, and grease properly. Disposal options include your local auto store or the City's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day.

#### Manage Your Household Waste

- Around your home or when walking your pet, pick up pet waste and dispose in the trash.
- Dispose of solid waste properly. Don't litter.

#### Practice Responsible Yard Maintenance

- Avoid over-watering lawns, which causes excessive runoff.
- Avoid over-use of lawn chemicals. Do not apply chemicals before rain events.
- Reuse yard waste by backyard composting.

#### Manage Your Household Hazardous Waste

- Consider, as an option, purchasing non-toxic products.
- Dispose of chemicals and containers according to manufacturer's instructions.
- Use the City of Alexandria Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day for proper disposal of chemicals. For more information call Eric Blaylock at 318-473-1344.

#### Report Illegal Dumping

- To report suspicious dumping activities or any unusual substances coming from storm system outlets call the City's First Call at 318-441-6231.

#### Point Versus Nonpoint Source Pollution

Point source pollution is linked mostly to direct discharges from wastewater treatment plants, factories, urbanized areas, and concentrated animal feeding operations.

Nonpoint source pollution comes from many diffuse sources. It occurs when rainfall moves over and through the ground. As it moves, the runoff picks up pollutants and carries them to lakes, rivers, coastal waters, and even our underground sources of drinking water.