Did you know?

Contaminated runoff from city streets, neighborhoods, construction sites and parking lots and an assortment of business and residential activities is the largest source of stormwwater pollution. In fact, anything other than rain entering a storm drain can contaminate nearby streams and groundwater.

Stormwater runoff results from rainfall. Rainstorms can cause large volumes of water to rinse the urban landscape, picking up pollutants along the way.

Urban runoff occurs any time of the year when excessive water from vehicle washing, and other sources carries detergents, chemicals, trash, lawn debris, and other urban pollutants into storm drains.

For additional information:

Contact your local jurisdiction for technical assistance and the regulations that apply to your business or visit **www.StormwaterPartners.org** for more tips.

Your business can reduce stormwater pollution and protect rivers!

Your business is integral to our community and, like other community partners, you are required to properly dispose of business waste.

Some local businesses use a lot of water as part of their day to day practice. It is especially important for these businesses to help prevent contaminated by-products from polluting streams, lakes, and groundwater. Following a few simple practices can keep sediment, chemicals, soaps and waste water out of storm drains and out of our waterways.

stormwater PARTNERS SW WASHINGTON

This Stormwater Partners message brought to you by:
Clark County Environmental Services
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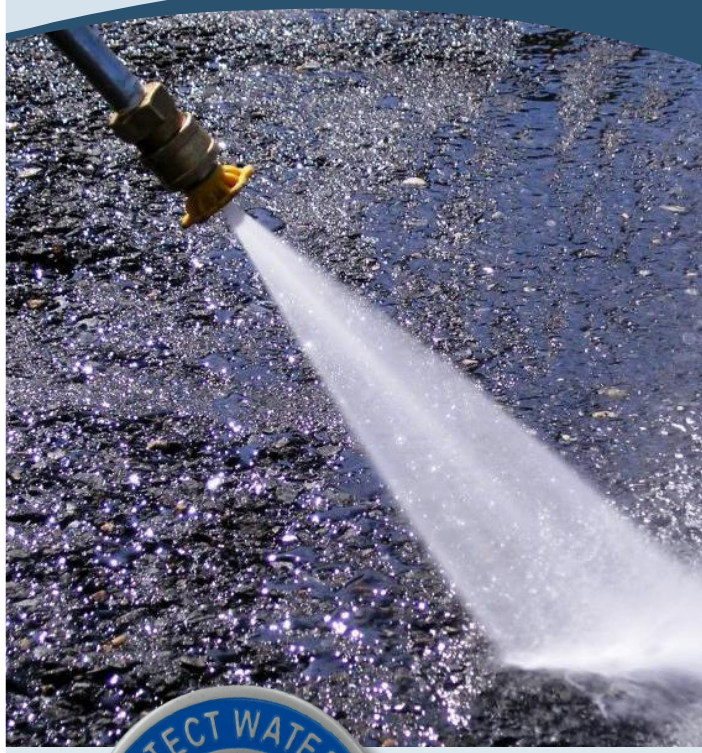
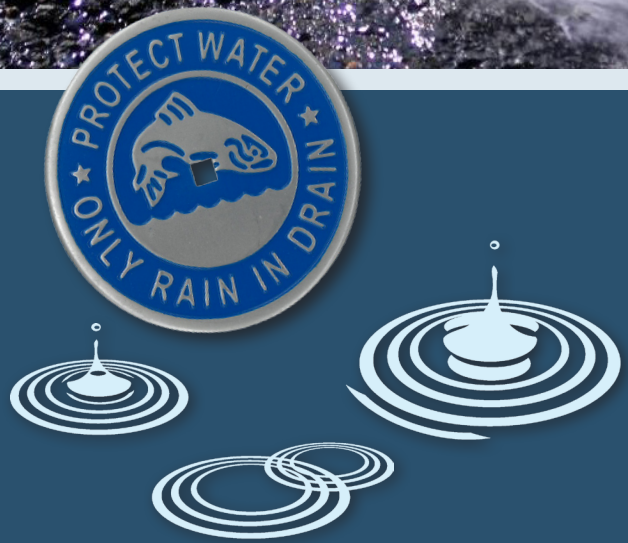
Clark County • Battle Ground • Camas • La Center • Ridgefield • Vancouver • Washougal

Este folleto contiene información importante. Por favor pídale a alguien que se lo traduzca.

For other formats, contact the Clark County ADA Office: **Voice** (360) 397-2322; **Relay** 711 or (800) 833-6388; **Fax** (360) 397-6165; **E-mail** ADA@clark.wa.gov.

Surface Cleaning





Simple steps you can take to prevent stormwater pollution

ALWAYS

Always prepare the cleaning job before you start. Sweep up and dispose of excess debris that may be in the path of wash water runoff.

Always know where the wash water will go before you start. If it is going into a vegetated area, confirm the location and amount of water with the property owner. Do not flood the area.

Always minimize the amount of water necessary to complete the job.

Why? Rainfall and wash water runoff picks up and carries chemicals and other contaminants into the storm drain and directly into waterways or groundwater which is where we get our drinking water in Clark County.

Always wash with water first. Prevent wash water with cleaners from flowing to the storm drain.

Why? All chemicals (even non-toxic) can have a negative impact on our waterways. Consult your supplier if you have questions on appropriate application rates and techniques.

ALWAYS

Always be aware of washing hazardous materials, such as lead-based paints or solvent. These materials may require proper hazmat disposal according to local regulations.

Always have spill prevention and spill cleanup supplies on site and easily accessible.

Why? When supplies are nearby, spills can be cleaned up in a timely manner, reducing possible pollution.

Always collect and properly dispose of wash water runoff in a sanitary sewer location (on-site or off-site). Sweep up excess materials after washing is complete and properly dispose of off-site.

Always ensure you have the proper equipment to collect washwater runoff, including drain covers, pumps/vacuums, berms/booms, and absorbent materials.

Why? Clark County is required to minimize pollution in the storm water system. By implementing proper collection and disposal techniques we keep our waterways clean and healthy.

NEVER

Never rinse or clean tools and equipment on streets, sidewalks or driveways.

Never direct wash water runoff directly to a drain without proper collection and treatment, even if it is a sanitary drain. Remove solids and treat for hazardous materials, if necessary.

Why? Stormdrains lead directly to creeks, streams, and rivers with no filtration or treatment.

Soaps, sediment, chemicals and other contaminated runoff pollutes nearby waterways and can harm fish and wildlife. It can even reach groundwater, which is where we get our drinking water.