

# Storm Drains Are For Rain...



## ...Not Yard Waste

Bag, compost or recycle grass, tree limbs, leaves and other yard waste. Don't rake, blow or hose yard waste into the gutter. If you leave the grass clippings on the lawn, they become natural fertilizer. Soggy yard waste is a major contributor to clogged storm drains, and street and neighborhood flooding.

## ...Not Fertilizer or Pesticides

Reduce pesticide and fertilizer use during heavy rains. You not only lose fertilizer or pesticide, but will also be harming the environment. Excessive use of fungicides, insecticides and fertilizers contributes to storm water pollution with toxic and synthetic chemicals like cadmium, phosphorus, nitrogen, oxygen demanding substances and sediment.



## ...Not Litter

Avoid throwing litter and debris into the street. Trash



-laden gutters increase neighborhood pollution and clog storm drains causing street flooding and more traffic congestion.

## ...Not Animal Waste

Pick up after your dog. Animal waste contains disease causing bacteria that, when left on the ground washes down storm drains and contaminates waterways. It can increase the risk of viral infections. When you take your pet for a walk, bring along a bag or other container.



## ...Not Automobile Fluids

Recycle all hazardous waste including used motor oil, anti-freeze and radiator fluid, as well as household hazardous waste like paints and household cleaners. Dumping these products down the storm drain is illegal.

## ...Now You Know

Call (931) 473-1204 for more information about storm water pollution, the locations of businesses which accept used motor oil and for hazardous waste roundups.

City of  
McMinnville  
Planning & Zoning  
Department



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## A Message to all McMinnville Residents

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### Our Challenge

Under the federal Clean Water Act McMinnville is charged with improving and protecting the quality of water in our watershed. McMinnville has obtained a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit, which makes us responsible for the quality of the stormwater runoff which enters our drainage ditches, gutters and storm drains and gets routed to our streams, rivers and wetlands. We are making progress in developing inspection and enforcement procedures and policies, implementing monitoring programs, and building a sound program that complies with our permit requirements.

### How You Can Help

As a McMinnville resident you can help us identify problems. What constitutes a violation of our NPDES permit and city ordinances regarding discharges to our storm sewer system? Here are some examples:

- ◇ Oil, grease, antifreeze and other hazardous fluids
- ◇ Spills from vehicle accidents
- ◇ Household and industrial cleaning products, solvents, paints & other chemicals
- ◇ Dirt and debris from construction sites
- ◇ Wash water from laundries & vehicle washing operations
- ◇ Animal wastes from kennels and pet care facilities
- ◇ Treated water from swimming pools & hot tubs
- ◇ Septic tank discharge & sanitary sewer leaks
- ◇ Flows in ditches or storm drains when it has not rained in several days

If you see a potential illicit discharge please contact the Stormwater Management office so our staff can investigate at (931) 473-1204.

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