

# Don't Pollute Your (Storm) Water!!!

The storm drainage system is designed to collect stormwater — rain and snow melt — and release it to Little Dry Creek and Big Dry Creek, untreated. Pollutants are transported in stormwater as rain and snowmelt travel across surfaces such as lawns, roads and parking lots, picking up substances such as fertilizers, pesticides, oil and sediments before entering the waterway.

Contaminants that enter the creek degrade the quality of our drinking water source and the quality of fish and wildlife habitats. Therefore, care must be taken to ensure that stormwater runoff does not jeopardize the quality of our creeks and lakes. Implementing Best Management Practices (BMPs) and good housekeeping practices will help ensure a safe work environment and a cleaner water source for years to come. Remember, Clean Water starts with you!!!

City of Westminster  
4800 W. 92nd Ave.

Westminster, CO 80031

Recipient Name  
Address  
City, ST ZIP Code

# Stormwater Runoff:

*BE THE SOLUTION TO  
STORMWATER POLLUTION!!*



**WESTMINSTER**  
COLORADO

*BE THE HERO THIS CITY NEEDS!!*

## Stormwater Quality and how you can help

### FOR BUSINESSES...

#### Cleaning

- Use non-toxic substitutes for chemicals wherever possible.
- Control litter by sweeping and picking up trash regularly.
- Sweep shop floors, materials processing and storage areas, access roads, parking lots and sidewalks. Do not wash down with hose.
- Properly contain and dispose of wash water, sweepings and sediments.

#### Material Storage

- Prevent spills from entering storm drains and discharge points.
- Keep outdoor storage containers in good condition.
- Use secondary containment measures for material and waste storage areas.

#### Spills

- Clean up spills immediately.
- Use absorbent materials to clean small spills rather than hosing down the area. Remove the absorbent materials promptly and dispose.

#### Landscape

- Use chemical alternatives, or low-toxic chemicals.
- Use landscaping pesticides and fertilizers only as needed.
- Avoid over-watering to prevent excess runoff

### FOR AUTO SHOPS...

#### Material Storage

- Store all containers under covered areas.
- Use secondary containment devices or construct dikes /curbs to contain leaks.
- Close and secure opened containers.

#### Spills

- Keep a spill kit ready for use.
- Clean spills immediately.
- Use absorbent materials or containment berms for liquid spills.
- Never hose down areas (use dry methods).

#### Cleaners and Solvents

- Read labels carefully and follow directions.
- Dispose of unused portions properly.
- Collect wastes for recycling and proper disposal.
- Try to use water based chemicals (bio-degradable). Trash
- Cover all dumpsters and repair leaky ones.
- Keep the area around dumpsters free of trash.
- Ensure trash is properly bagged before placing in dumpster.

### FOR RESTAURANTS...

#### Good Housekeeping Practices

- Clean up spills immediately to minimize safety hazards and prevent spills from reaching storm drain inlets.
- Use absorbent materials to clean spills rather than hosing down area. Remove and dispose of properly.

#### Cleaning

- Keep outside areas free of trash and debris; clean them regularly to prevent pollutant buildup.
- Sweep up outside areas rather than power washing.
- Do not dump mop water or wash floor mats or kitchen equipment outside. Use a mop sink or floor drains and take floor mats to a local car wash.
- Whenever possible, purchase water-based cleaning products. Look for labels like "non-toxic", "non-petroleum based", "ammonia-free", "phosphate-free", "dye and perfume-free" or "readily bio-degradable".

#### Oil and Grease

- Regularly inspect and clean out grease traps/interceptors.
- Use proper oil and grease recycling receptacles. Never dump oil and grease wastes into the storm drain.
- Use care to avoid spills when disposing of grease and oil

### FOR LANDSCAPING BUSINESSES...

#### Material Storage

- Store all containers holding powder and liquid materials under cover to protect from rain and snow.
- Use secondary containment devices or construct dikes/curbs to contain any possible leaks.
- Keep containers closed and secure.
- Store soil and mulch piles in contained areas where they cannot be washed into the storm drainage system. When these materials are transported for use on site, store them on the lot and out of the street.

#### Fertilizers, Herbicides and Pesticides

- Whenever possible, use chemical alternatives or low-toxic chemicals.
- Follow manufacturer's recommendations for safe use and disposal.
- Use the smallest amount necessary.
- Apply at optimal times for the specific application.

#### Equipment Maintenance

- Inspect vehicles and equipment for leaks regularly.
- When draining fluids, use a drip pan and/or funnel.
- Keep a cleanup kit of safety equipment and spill absorbent material.

#### Cleaner and Solvents

- Read labels carefully and follow directions.
- Follow good cleanup practices.
- Whenever possible, use water soluble and biodegradable products.

### FOR BUILDING AND REMODELING...

Sediment is the biggest pollutant of concern during construction due to the removal of soil cover. Heavy metals and nutrients attach to soil particles that, if allowed to reach the storm drain, degrade water quality. Sediment can also lead to dredging costs from excess material and contribute to flooding problems as a result of decreased channel capacity.

#### Use Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Practices

- Minimize removal of surrounding vegetation.
- Divert runoff around undisturbed soils.
- Reduce traffic on undisturbed soils.
- Revegetate as soon as possible using native seed, mix and mulch.
- Frequently sweep streets and sidewalks of sediment.
- Use sediment control devices including silt fence, inlet protection, sediment basins, diversion ditches, and swales to minimize sediment leaving site.

#### Maintain Good Housekeeping Practices

- Properly store and dispose of materials.
- Properly contain and dispose of wash water, sweepings and sediments.
- Use non-toxic substitutes whenever possible.
- Inspect vehicles and equipment for leaks regularly and fix problems as soon as possible.
- Keep a cleanup kit of safety material and absorbent material. Never hose down an area to clean up a spill.
- Control litter by sweeping and picking up trash on a regular basis.
- Cover dumpsters and replace leaking ones



WESTMINSTER

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<http://www.cityofwestminster.us/stormwater>