



# Carrollton Environmental Services THE STORMWATER READER

November 2018

## PROTECTING WATER QUALITY ...AT THE WORKPLACE

### IT'S EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY!

#### Did You Know?

Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) that are poured down kitchen drains accumulates inside sewer pipes. As the FOG builds up, it restricts the flow in the pipe and can cause untreated wastewater to back up into homes and businesses. Collect your FOG in a container and recycle it!

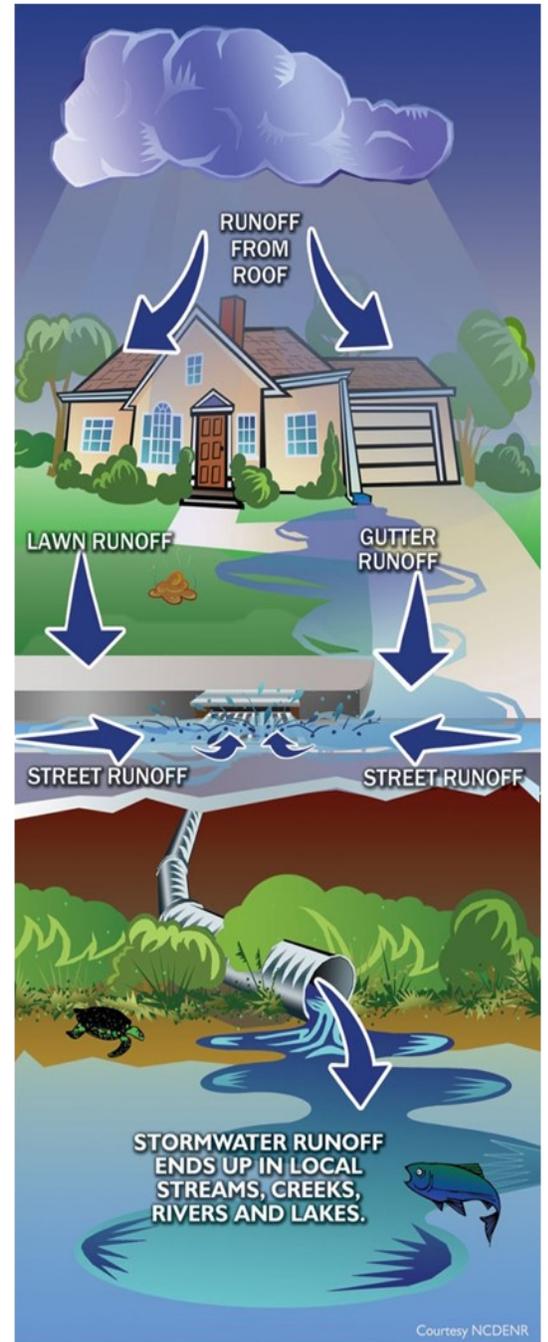
When it rains, stormwater flows over impervious surfaces such as rooftops, streets, driveways, and parking lots. The runoff collects pollutants, such as oils, fertilizers, pesticides, cleaners, and other chemicals. Stormwater flows into the storm drain systems and is discharged into a water body without receiving any type of treatment.

Even if your workplace is not near a creek, the runoff will flow into a storm drain or ditch that eventually empties into the closest body of water, taking pollutants along with it. Stormwater runoff is the leading source of water pollution in our community.

Discharges to the stormwater system that are not composed entirely of storm water are considered illicit discharges. In compliance with federal regulations that require cities to eliminate these illicit discharges, the City of Carrollton inspects, samples, and investigates discharges for pollution; and when needed, remediates the environmental impact.

Many city activities can contribute to storm water pollution. You can help by preventing spills, using proper cleaning techniques, and maintaining landscapes responsibly.

Good housekeeping practices are essential to help keep pollutants out of our creeks. If you are not involved in any of these activities you can still help the city by reporting polluters to [envservices@cityofcarrollton.com](mailto:envservices@cityofcarrollton.com) or calling 972-466-3060.



Courtesy NCDENR

#### DON'T BE A TURKEY...



Recycle your used cooking oil for FREE this Holiday Season!

November 26 & 27  
8 a.m.-6 p.m.

Central Service Center  
2711 Nimitz Lane

Sponsored by METRO GREASE SERVICE

# Pollution Prevention for City Operations

## SPILL PREVENTION

- All containers, even empty ones, should be labeled and stored properly.
- Utilize proper storage and disposal facilities. Improper storage of materials could lead to accidents or spills. Even residue from open containers or corrosive metal parts can run off into the storm drain. Keep containers covered!
- Inspect and monitor all vehicles and heavy equipment frequently for leaks. Use a drip pan under the vehicle or equipment to catch the leaking material until it can be brought in for repairs
- Inspect containers and materials for signs of corrosion on a regular basis, and replace as necessary.

## PROPER CLEAN-UP

- If spills occur, use dry methods or absorbent materials (such as kitty litter) to contain and clean up spilled chemicals, sweep up, then properly dispose.
- Never use water to wash spilled chemicals, trash, automobile fluids, or grease off of parking lots or other impervious surfaces, or into a storm drain.
- Regularly sweep outside areas to prevent pollutant buildup.
- Block storm drains before pressure-washing buildings or equipment and collect the water with a liquid vacuum device for proper disposal.
- Wash vehicles in a proper facility, such as a car wash, that disposes all wastewater to the sanitary sewer system.

## LAWN MAINTENANCE

- Use vegetation that needs less water, fertilizer and pesticides.
- Don't apply lawn chemicals before it rains, and follow label instructions carefully to prevent over-application.
- Use fertilizers and weed killers only as needed. Sweep up any residue or spilled materials and dispose of properly.
- Make sure grass clippings, leaves, and other debris are disposed of properly. Debris in storm drains can cause the streets to flood.
- Use leaf blowers to blow grass clippings and leaves back onto the grass, not into the street or storm drain.
- Avoid over-watering lawns to prevent excess runoff.

