

Preventing Polluted Runoff

Everybody's Business

pet waste, fertilizer, chemicals, auto fluids

Homeowners can prevent polluted runoff by using fertilizers and chemicals sparingly, maintaining septic systems, and picking up pet waste.

nutrients, pesticides, sediment

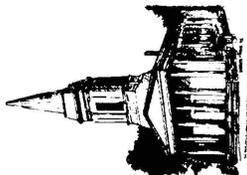
Farmers can prevent polluted runoff by managing soil and animal feeding operations and buffering streams with native trees and plants.

oil, heat, road salts, sediment, chemicals

Developers and planners can prevent polluted runoff by using low impact development and providing structural and nonstructural controls.




Village of Godfrey
 P. O. Box 5067
 Godfrey, IL 62035



VILLAGE OF GODFREY STORMWATER NEWSLETTER

Rain washes oil, fertilizer and other pollutants into storm drains...

which flows untreated into lakes and streams.

DON'T DUMP
 OIL, GREASE, AND
 OTHER POLLUTANTS
 INTO STORM DRAINS

You can help prevent water pollution by volunteering to apply drain markers to storm drains in your neighborhood.

Adopt-a-Stream

Also, consider adopting a stream to keep trash out of our creeks.

Stormwater Hotline
 (618) 296-7788

How You Can Help!

Home Improvement and Maintenance

Review your home for storm water handling. If your gutters, driveways, or decks directly discharge into a water body, retrofit it by redirecting the runoff onto grassy areas.

Consider replacing impervious surfaces like sidewalks, decks, and driveways around your home with more pervious materials like mulch, pervious concrete or clean stone.

Never dispose of oils, pesticides, or other chemicals onto driveways, streets or storm drains. The next rain will either carry it into a surface water or help it soak into our drinking water.

Keep all construction debris away from the street, gutter and storm drains. Never dispose of cement washout or concrete dust into driveways, streets, gutters or storm drains.

Prevent erosion and sediment runoff by covering excavated material and piles of asphalt, sand and similar materials with plastic tarp.

Use water-based paints whenever possible. Look for products labeled "latex" or "cleans with water."

Swimming Pool and Spa:

Water containing chlorine is harmful to aquatic life. Drain water into the sanitary sewer system.

In Your Garden

Purchase household and garden products that are "least toxic" to the environment.

Sweep sidewalks and patios rather than hose debris into gutters.

Reduce the amount of fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides you apply on your lawn and landscaping. What the plants can't absorb quickly usually results in surface or groundwater pollution.

Do not over-water lawns and gardens. Over-watering can flush large quantities of pesticides and fertilizer directly into storm drains.

Control the amount of water and direction of sprinklers, to avoid waste and runoff. The average lawn requires an inch of water each week, including rainfall, or 10-20 minutes of watering.

It's Up To You. Together, you and your neighbors can make a difference to keep gutters, storm drains and waterways clean.

In Your Garage:

Have your car tuned up regularly to make sure it is operating as clean as possible with no oil or fluid leaks.

Find a location near you to recycle motor oil, antifreeze and other automotive fluids.

Wash your car at commercial car washes that recycle their wash water.

Pet Owners:

Pick-up pet waste as soon as possible and put it in the trash. Pet waste has harmful bacteria that can get into your waterways.

Dispose of pet care products like flea shampoo according to the label because they can be toxic.

Did You Know...

... that one pint of motor oil can produce an oil slick of approximately one acre on the surface of water?

...that dumping anything in the storm drain system is illegal and harmful to the environment?