



Citizen's Guide to STORMWATER POLLUTION

WHAT IS STORMWATER RUNOFF?

Stormwater runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or snow flows over the ground.

Impervious surfaces like driveways, roofs, sidewalks, and streets prevent Stormwater from naturally soaking into the ground. The water picks up waste, bacteria, fertilizer, pesticides, oil and automotive fluids, generating polluted Stormwater runoff.



WHERE DOES STORMWATER GO?

Stormwater is directed to catch basins and ditches then flows to streams, rivers and lakes such as Clinch River and Melton Hill Lake in our area. Unfortunately, runoff is not treated before it enters these waterways.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

The water you drink is affected by Stormwater. Waterbodies which receive polluted runoff are often used for swimming, fishing and boating. Pollutants degrade water quality.



HOW CAN YOU REDUCE STORMWATER POLLUTION?

- Throw trash in a waste receptacle
- Never dump waste into a catch basin
- Pick up after pets
- Protect exposed soil from erosion
- Properly dispose of oil & hazardous waste
- Reduce use of pesticides or fertilizers
- Do not place grass clippings in the street
- Call 865-259-1181 for more information

