

# City of Goshen Stormwater toolbox

Public Works & Utilities
Department of Stormwater
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574-534-2201

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Fluids that leaks from our and cars onto roads driveways is washed into storm drains, and flows directly to a lake or stream. Used motor oil is the largest single source of oil pollution in our lakes, streams and rivers. Vehicles in America spill 180 million gallons of used oil each year into our waters. This is 16 times the amount spilled by the Exxon Valdez in Alaska.

Information courtesy of Puget Sound Action Team and Washington State Department of Ecology.

### Spills Happen...

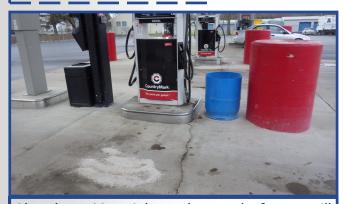
The simple truth is spills happen and being prepared for how to respond is the first step to preventing stormwater pollution.

City employees use the three (3) North Central Co-Op (NCC) fuel stations located throughout the City to fill up their City vehicles with gas or diesel fuel. Fuel nozzles are equipped with an automatic shutoff switch but it may not work 100% of the time. Therefore, employees are to remain by the fuel pump until the fueling is complete to minimize spills. Additionally, please be aware of the following items at the NCC fuel stations:

Emergency Stop Button—Located near each fuel pump.







Absorbent Material - to be used after a spill happens (stored in the blue container above). Scatter the oil-dri/kitty litter on the areas where the fuel spilled until all the fuel is covered.

NCC employees drive by every day and if absorbent material is present they will have it cleaned up. If you do have a spill, it is important to call NCC (above picture) to let them know so they can respond accordingly, especially if the fuel spill is large and cannot be contained.

Gas and diesel fuel contain harmful chemicals like benzene that can pose a health risk if it soaks into the soil or flows into surface or ground water. Additionally, fuel is slippery and is flammable, which are both safety issues. Thus, it is extremely important to make sure proper clean-up procedures occur in a timely manner.

These measures apply to all fuel stations and if you have a spill and don't know what to do ask for help.

## A DROP OF NEWS

### Your Stormwater Newsletter

March 22nd is **WORLD WATER DAY**. To recognize **WORLD WATER DAY**, an experiment was done to see how much trash could be picked up along a portion of the pedestrian path between 1st Street and the Allan J. Kauffman Park along Rock Run Creek. The following picture shows how much trash was picked up in 15 minutes and there was still plenty of trash left to be picked up. Mayor Stutsman has <u>designated</u> the next year at the "Year of Goodness." You can do your part by picking up trash you see lying on the ground. Your fellow citizens and local waterways will thank you.



If you would like to get more involved with water issues in our local community, there are a number of things you can do. The first thing is to visit Indiana Clear Choices Clean Water Volunteer Service Pledge at <a href="bit.ly/H2O-Volunteer">bit.ly/H2O-Volunteer</a>. There you can learn more about how you can adopt a storm drain, volunteer, and use your hands. Clear Choices Clean Water will connect you with the local agencies or organizations you can get involved with. The simplest way to volunteer is to become a Storm Drain Steward and make sure the storm drain outside of your home or business is kept clear of trash, grass clippings, leaves, or snow. This will lead to cleaner water and less flooding in our streets.



#### **Report an Illicit Discharge**

An illicit discharge is anything other than rain that could flow or be washed into a storm drain. If you see something that doesn't look right please call 574-534-2201, send an email to <a href="mailto:jasonkauffman@gohsencity.com">jasonkauffman@gohsencity.com</a>, or submit a Stormwater Report through the City of Goshen's new "Report an Issue" button in the upper corner of the City's website (<a href="mailto:www.goshenindiana.org">www.goshenindiana.org</a>).

