

## Ever wonder where the rain goes when it storms?

Rain that runs off of the streets, lawns, and parking lots flows directly into our local waterways, such as the Elkhart River, and receives minimal treatment on it's way there.

Stormwater run-off can pollute our surface waters with things like animal waste, litter, used oil, fertilizers, and sediment.



## So, who's responsible for making sure the water we drink is clean?

We **all** are.

And here's the best part  
it doesn't require much effort  
just common sense.

If you see signs of illicit discharge in your neighborhood, please do not keep it to yourself! Preserving our environment is up to you! Contact the Goshen Department of Stormwater to report incidents at 574-534-2201.

### For more information...

For more information on how you can avoid polluting and if you have questions or concerns please feel free to contact:

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Stormwater Coordinator  
204 E. Jefferson  
Goshen, IN 46526

By phone: 574-534-2201

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City of Goshen

# Only Rain



# Down the Drain

## The Citizen's Guide to Pollution Prevention

## What are some common pollutants?

Some pollutants often found in cities can include.....

- Sediment
- Pet waste
- Automotive fluids
- Lawn fertilizer
- Yard waste (leaves, grass clippings, etc.)
- Household waste
- Cooking Grease



When these pollutants go down a storm drain they become an illicit discharge.

## How to avoid pollution and dispose of waste properly.

**Be Observant** - Look for the storm drain markers on drainage grates and heed their warnings.

**Dump Safe** - The Elkhart County Solid Waste District holds monthly household hazardous waste collection at the Elkhart County Correctional Facility. This takes place the first Saturday of each month from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Cover Your Grease** - Dispose of cooking oil in lidded containers as to prevent spilling.

**Scoop the Poop** - Pick up after your pet every single time and check with your local pet store about alternative disposal methods.

**Lawn Order** - Don't apply fertilizers before a heavy rain. In addition, use slow release fertilizers as they're less likely to wash off of lawns and down storm drains.

**Don't Just Leaf it Set** - Instead of counting on the wind to blow leaves and grass clippings away, here are a few options for how to deal with them and avoid them being washed toward and clogging storm drains:

1. Mulch them (compost pile, mulching mower, etc)
2. Rake leaves to the curb for the city to pickup

