

## WHERE DOES THE RAIN GO WHEN IT STORMS?

Rain that runs off streets, lawns, and parking lots flows directly into our local waterways - like the Elkhart River - and receives minimal treatment on its way there.

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



## WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING OUR WATER CLEAN?

We all are. And here's the best part - it doesn't require much effort, just common sense.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Goshen Stormwater Department  
204 E. Jefferson, Goshen, IN 46528

574-534-2201

[stormwater@goshencity.com](mailto:stormwater@goshencity.com)

[bit.ly/goshenstormwater](https://bit.ly/goshenstormwater)

If you see signs of illicit discharge in your neighborhood, please do not keep it to yourself!

Preserving our environment is up to each of us!



## ONLY RAIN



## DOWN THE DRAIN

The citizen's guide to pollution prevention



## WHAT ARE COMMON POLLUTANTS?

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

When these pollutants enter a storm drain, they become an illicit discharge.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP AVOID POLLUTION?

- Be observant: look for and follow storm drain markers on drainage grates
- The Elkhart County Landfill hosts a Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off on the first Saturday of each month at the Elkhart County Correctional Facility (entrance off of CR 7) from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m
- Dispose of cooking oil in lidded containers to prevent spilling
- Pick up after your pet and consider alternatives to waste bags
- Don't apply fertilizers before heavy rain. Use slow release fertilizers that are less likely to wash off lawns and down storm drains
- Help keep leaves and grass clipping from clogging storm drains by mulching them (compost pile, mulching mower, etc.), or raking them to the curb for pickup by the city

## CLEANING STORM DRAINS

You can help keep storm drains near you clear by:

- Using a broom or rake to sweep leaves away from the drain surface
- Removing any trash from around the drain
- Watching the drains near you for any issues, and encouraging your friends and neighbors to do the same

