

TIPS FOR PREVENTING STORMWATER POLLUTION

1. Never dump anything down storm drains or into ditches or channels and report anyone who does. These carry surface runoff directly to creeks and rivers without treatment.

2. Never dump anything into streams or rivers and report anyone who does.

3. Select native or adapted plants. These will require less water, fertilizer and pesticides. .

4. Apply lawn chemicals according to directions on packaging. Do not over apply chemicals and never apply chemicals before a rain event.

5. Bag, compost or recycle grass, tree limbs, leaves and other yard waste. Yard waste is a major contributor to clogged storm drains and street and neighborhood flooding.

6. Recycle old motor oil. Texas law prohibits dumping of used oil in storm drains or waterways. There are auto part stores, repair shops and gas stations that will collect and recycle used oil

7. Take your car to a commercial car wash facility. Washing cars on driveways or streets results in cleaning products flowing directly into storm drains.

8. Pick up your pet's waste. Pet waste can carry harmful bacteria and parasites. Animal waste when left on the ground washes down storm drains and can contaminate creeks and rivers.

9. Have your septic system pump and inspected regularly.

10. Avoid throwing litter into streets. Trash in gutters can increase neighborhood pollution and clog storm drains causing street flooding.

11. Don't use harsh, abrasive or toxic chemicals around the house. Select water based products when available for such items as paint, glue, shoe polish, etc.

12. Report illegal dumping. Whether it is leftover tires thrown down a ravine; old furniture, plastics and chemicals tossed in a field; or other suspicious activity, report illegal dumping anonymously anytime by calling **1-877-NO-DUMPS (1-877-663-8677)** CAPCOG forwards illegal dumping complaints to the appropriate jurisdiction for investigation.