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**An Assessment of Storm Water Runoff Issues in Pine Bluff, White Hall, the
University of Arkansas – Pine Bluff and Jefferson County**

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Abstract Text:

The Storm Water Phase II Rule requires small municipalities, urbanized areas and universities to implement programs and practices to control polluted storm water runoff. The purpose of the Storm Water Runoff project was to assess the current level of knowledge regarding urban storm water runoff policy and local concerns and issues in the Pine Bluff, White Hall, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, and Jefferson County areas. The survey included questions which addressed the current storm water knowledge level and identified specific storm water runoff issues and urban practices that may contribute to increased point and non-point source pollution in the surface waters of the Jefferson County area. The survey was mailed to 381 Pine Bluff, 357 White Hall, and 378 Jefferson County randomly selected residents. Reminder cards were mailed 30 days and 60 days after the initial survey was mailed. There was a survey response of 22%; no incentive being offered. The respondents rated the condition of Bayou Bartholomew and Lake Pine Bluff in poor to fair condition with 59.3% responding that surface waters are similar or more polluted compared to five years prior. Only 7% responded that there was less pollution than five years prior in local surface water. Respondents with less education rated Bayou Bartholomew and Lake Pine Bluff water quality lower than respondents with higher levels of education. Data from this survey show that residents have an awareness of storm water management practices. There are still areas of opportunity to educate the public and improve upon what the surveyed communities already know regarding storm water runoff.

Impact Statement: