# Be the Solution to Runoff Pollution!

Water pollution comes from many sources, like pipe discharges from industrial sites, and stormwater runoff from commercial areas.

It can even come from storm water runoff in your own neighborhood!

All of us should do what we can to make sure we are part of the solution to runoff pollution.



Simple things
you can do to
clean up
our urban streams
and the
Chesapeake Bay!



(How many do you know?)

## Simple things you can do to clean up our urban streams and the Chesapeake Bay!

By conserving resources — water, energy, air, land — and avoiding waste, we can reduce pollution of all kinds, including water pollution.

#### Around the house.

- Dispose of hazardous materials properly.
  - Use environment-friendly cleansers.
- Buy only quantities you will use, avoid wasteful packaging, and recycle what you can.



## Doing yard work.

- Avoid over-fertilizing your yard, and let your grass clippings fertilize your lawn naturally.
  - Never dump grass clippings into or near streams.
- Consider leaving an un-maintained natural area along the downslope edge of your yard to absorb runoff pollution impacts.
  - Compost your yard waste correctly. (Call your local extension office for composting advice.)
    - Fix any erosion problems.



#### Car care.

- Wash your car where suds cannot drain into streams or storm drains (like on your lawn).
  - Return used motor oil for recycling to participating drop-off centers. (Be sure to drain the filter, too.)
    - Antifreeze and car batteries should also be recycled.
  - Call your local government for the recycling centers nearest you.
- Keep your car tuned up. (Tuned-up cars run better & pollute less!)



## Commuting to work.

- Take public transportation or carpool whenever possible to reduce emissions & leaks.
- Consider biking or walking, if it is practical.

## Walking your pet.

• Obey pooper-scooper laws.



## Around your neighborhood.

- Take pride in your neighborhood!
- Remind others to respect your neighborhood by not littering.
  - Learn where your storm drain goes.
- Be observant; report spills and other stream problems to the proper state and local authorities immediately.



## Ever wonder where that storm drain goes?

Unlike your indoor plumbing, your storm drain carries water and urban pollution directly to your neighborhood stream!





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