

STORMWATER

Tip of the Week Week 10 - March 8, 2022

DO NOT FEED THE STORM DRAINS!

When grass clippings, leaves, pet waste, automotive products, fertilizers, pesticides and other chemicals wash down a storm drain, they don't go away. They flow into our local streams, rivers and lakes harming plants and animals and contaminating the local water ways that we use for drinking water and recreational activities. This type of pollution is called "nonpoint source pollution." Here are some ways on how to make sure that you don't help feed our storm drain with more pollution:

Yard

Don't over fertilize. Adding extra does not mean it will work better. Sweep (do not wash) fertilizer and soil off driveways and walkways. Use native and adapted plants and grasses that require less water and fertilizer.

Leave grass clippings on the lawn to retain moisture and to insulate and nourish the soil or add them to your compost.

Clean and dispose of leaves as they fall. Not only can they easily clog a storm drain but as they lay on your lawn they will begin to decay, adding harmful nutrients to our water ways

Be careful when choosing pest control methods. Many of these products are harmful to more than just the pests you are trying to control.

If you see an issue with a stormwater drain, let us know!
Email the issue to MS4hotline@cityofnitro.org or Call City Hall at 304-755-0705

Home

Use cleaning products that are phosphate free, biodegradable or nontoxic, especially if they are used outdoors. Avoid products with ammonia, chlorine, diethylene glycol, hydrochloric acid, oxalic acid and petroleum solvents. Vinegar and Essential Oils are great cleaners!

Pets

Clean up your pet's fecal waste. This waste can contain harmful bacteria that can easily be washed into a storm drain in a good rain.

Encourage friends and family to pick up after their pets using a mutt mitt or plastic, disposable bag and never allow pet waste to wash into storm drains.

Vehicles

Fix and clean up vehicle leaks quickly. Recycle motor oil, filters, fluids and batteries by taking them to service station that has a recycling program.

Wash your car in the grass on at a professional car wash so the soap, grease, and grime does not flow into our storm drains.

Hazardous Materials

Hazardous waste should never be disposed of in the trash or down any drain. You can always call the DEP at 304-558-5938 for household hazardous waste questions and help. Also, call 1-800-642-3074 to report a spill.



REMEMBER: NEVER POUR ANYTHING DOWN A STORM DRAIN!