Stormwater Pollution In Your Neighborhood

Color the following pages and learn how you can prevent Stormwater Pollution.
“Stormwater” means rain water runoff, snowmelt, and other drainage that travels through a conveyance system, which eventually unloads onto the ground or into a local body of water, such as a lake, stream, or river.

Since stormwater re-enters ground water directly, pollution prevention is essential.

Due to the fact that stormwater is not routinely tested or treated, it is vital that it is not polluted as it travels the Stormwater System.

For more information regarding stormwater, please contact us at 623.773.7432 or visit our website at www.peoriaaz.gov

Public Works Department
Streets Division
8850 North 79th Avenue, Building A
Peoria, Arizona

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Come on Alex, let’s get back to the burrow, coaxed Carly. Mom will be waiting for us. I sure hope she has something to drink, gasped Alex.

Back at the burrow, Mom was with the younger bunnies, Dusty, and Cota.

Mom looked worried.

What’s wrong, Mom? asked Carly. The pond is polluted now too, Mom whispered. Oh no, said Alex, who overheard her whisper. What will we do? We have to move again, to find clean water, said Mom.
How does the water get polluted, Mom? asked Alex. People throw their trash in the streets. They wash paint, oil and chemicals into the storm drains. They leave leaky cars on the streets and they wash their dirty cars in the driveway. I guess the people don’t know that the things they do can hurt us. If they did, I know they’d help us.

Do you want to help the Cottontails? It’s easy. But first, there are some things you should know.

Why are the animals sick or moving away? The water may be polluted. One cause of water pollution is stormwater pollution which is caused by things like trash, dirt, leaves and grass clippings, oil, sewage and chemicals.

Stormwater Pollution happens because water becomes contaminated with stuff like trash, dirt, oil, sewage and chemicals.
We cause pollution. When it rains, the water that flows over the streets and in drainage ditches picks up pollutants such as trash, dirt, leaves and grass clippings, oil, pet waste and chemicals and carries them, untreated, into our rivers, streams and lakes.

Draw a line to connect the right response
Wash your car never blow onto the street
Cigarette butts bag it, seal it, dispose it.
Grass or leaves are litter
Pet waste on rocks or the lawn

When streams and lakes are polluted, all the plants and creatures that live in the water can suffer. People are affected, too. Polluted water is unsuitable for drinking, recreation, agriculture and industry.

See if you can answer the following questions:
Can you SWIM in polluted water? YES or NO
Can you DRINK polluted water? YES or NO
Do FISH like polluted water? YES or NO

Dispose of all litter in the garbage, not in the streets where it washes into the storm drain.

Pick up pet waste and place it in a bag, seal it and dispose of it in the garbage.

How does water become polluted?

1. Pick up pet waste and put it into a ________ .
2. Dispose of litter in the ________ .
3. Cigarette butts _____litter and can pollute storm drains.
4. Wash your car where the ________ will drain onto the grass or rocks.
5. Don’t put ________ grass clippings or yard debris in a storm drain.

Across:
1. Pick up pet waste and put it into a ________ .
3. Cigarette butts _____litter and can pollute storm drains.
5. Don’t put ________ grass clippings or yard debris in a storm drain.

Down:
1. You can recycle ________ and cans.
2. Dispose of litter in the ________ .
4. Wash your car where the ________ will drain onto the grass or rocks.
What is Stormwater?

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Evaporation

Groundwater

Rain

Runoff

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Evaporation

Groundwater

Rain

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Find the following words:

Grease, Runoff, Pollution, Water, Stormwater, Rain, River, Waste. They may appear up, down, across, backwards, or diagonally.

G C G A R W S
L I R D A M A S T O R M W A T E R I T U L L O P E
T T S A E T Q S E N O I T E R F T O K E
R A F W H I E J C R R E L E H O Y S P A Y
T R A N O F

Help Alex make it through the storm drain to the pond.

Never dispose of motor oil or paint, into a storm drain, ditch or street.

Apply lawn and garden chemicals when there is no chance of rain or runoff.

Rock your car when you wash it.

Wash your car where the water will drain onto the grass or rocks to absorb and filter your soapy water instead of running into a storm drain.

Never sweep or blow leaves or yard debris into a storm drain, ditch or street, bag and dispose instead.

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