# All water and contaminants that enter storm drains go directly into our environment.

Storm drain contamination is one of the major causes of pollution in our rivers, lakes and streams. Pollution of stormwater runoff can negatively impact our environment and introduce unnecessary risk to public health and safety which ultimately effects the livability of the Clear Creek watershed and surrounding communities. To control stormwater, local cities and counties operate and maintain a system of underground pipes and catch basins to transport rain snow melt into the ground, rivers and streams. This water does not get treated, so we need to keep contaminates out of our storm drains.

## Little Known Facts about our Stormwater System:

**Storm drains do NOT treat the water that flows into the drains.**
RV and pet waste flow directly into our environment causing foul odors and pollution. No one, including fish, wants to swim and recreate in waste.

**Storm drains do NOT protect the fish, rivers and streams.**
Motor oil, paints and other pollutants flow directly to our waterways. There is no difference between pouring pollutants down a storm drain and dumping them directly into the river.

**Storm drains do NOT prevent flooding when clogged.**
Storm drains are designed to prevent flooding. When weeds, dirt, grass clippings and leaves are left on the road, they eventually find their way to the drain and can cause your personal property and your neighbor's property to flood.

**Public storm drains are NOT designed to treat wastewater runoff from private property.**
When you hose off sidewalks, over-water your yard and wash your vehicle in your driveway, all the water, soap and debris end up in the storm drains. Not only are you wasting precious water resources, but also all contaminates will affect the quality of water in and around Clear Creek.

**ONLY RAIN DOWN THE DRAIN...**

## Keep Clear Creek clean! Please keep contaminates away from ALL storm drains.

Stormwater systems can be found throughout the City of Webster and include ditches, catch basins, curbs, underground pipes, ponds, swales and dry wells. These structures carry stormwater to outfalls on local rivers or allow the stormwater to drain into the ground. Contaminants discharged into stormwater systems can pollute surface waters, as well as ground water.

## Keeping a clean stormwater system helps our community by

- Preventing flooding of personal property and/or damage to public infrastructure, including roads.
- Minimizing foul odors and maintaining aesthetically pleasing neighborhoods.
- Keeping rivers, lakes and streams clean.
- Strengthening the local economy by offering healthy recreational opportunities.

**For more information visit www.cityofwebster.com**

Webster TEXAS

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# STORM DRAINS

**Do you know where the water (and any debris) goes?**

**(We bet you'll be surprised...)**

WE EXPECT CLEAN WATER AND HEALTHY WILDLIFE when hiking, fishing, and recreating in or around the water. Clean water, though, cannot be taken for granted. Our actions affect the waters around us each and every day because all of the water from our property that enters a storm drain ends up in our rivers, lakes and streams.

When it rains, the water must go somewhere. Without controlling the flow of rain, our community would be damaged. Uncontrolled water causes flooding, unclean waterways, contaminated fish and unhealthy communities.

# Tips to prevent debris and pollutants from entering our storm drains:

1. Wash vehicles at the **carwash** not on the street or driveway.

2. Use fertilizers **sparingly.**

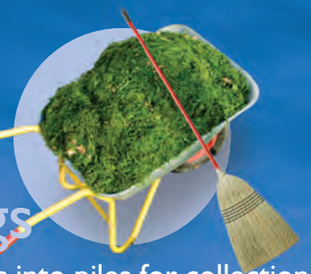
3. Set sprinklers to water the lawn and garden only, **not pavement.**

4. **Pick up** and dispose of waste properly.

5. Keep litter out of the storm drain system. If you see it, **pick it up.**

6. Recycle **motor oil,** antifreeze and other fluids.

7. Dispose of yard debris properly through yard recycling, compost bins or transport to nearest yard debris collection facility.



8. Sweep **grass clippings** and yard debris into piles for collection. Do not hose them down the drain.

9. Direct downspouts and rain gutters **away from paved surfaces.**

10. Dispose of all RV waste properly at RV dumping stations.

11. Use a nozzle on garden hose to prevent **water run-off** when not in use.

12. **Evaporate rinsewater** from painting supplies and dispose of waste. Please contact your local sewer utility for other disposal options.

**PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY. REPORT ILLEGAL DUMPING INTO STORM DRAINS:**

City of Webster Public Works | 855 Magnolia Ave | Ph: 281.316.3700 | Drainage Utility Division

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