

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES STORM WATER POLLUTION RESIDENTIAL



Please help keep the City of Rollingwood clean and pollution free by following the guidelines below to prevent storm water runoff pollution.

Our objective in stormwater protection is to keep only the runoff from rain going into streets, ravines, and creeks. Other runoff is considered an illicit discharge. Illicit discharges are not allowed and are subject to a fine of up to \$2,000, plus cleanup fees. The following items are Best Management Practices (BMPs)—specific steps to prevent stormwater pollution.

Please review these guidelines and make every effort to keep pollutants from going down the storm drain. Doing so prevents harmful pollution, and helps maintain and protect sensitive infrastructure.

Lawn Care

Excess fertilizers and pesticides applied to lawns and gardens wash off and pollute streams. In addition, yard clippings and leaves can wash into storm drains and contribute excess nutrients and organic matter into streams. An excess of these items leads to “nutrient pollution,” where certain compounds combine to create a fertilizer that contributes to excess algae, the result of which is harmful to flora and fauna in waterways.

To prevent this:

- Don't overwater your lawn. Consider using a soaker hose instead of a sprinkler.

- Plant native and drought resistant plants that require less water, fertilizer and pesticides.
- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. Use organic mulch, or safer pest control methods whenever possible. When using chemicals, follow the recommended amounts.
- Compost or mulch yard waste. Don't leave it in the street or sweep it into storm drains or streams.
- Cover piles of dirt or mulch being used in landscaping projects with tarps.

Automotive Care

Washing your car and degreasing auto parts at home can send detergents and other contaminants through the storm sewer system. Dumping automotive fluids into storm drains has the same result as dumping the materials directly into a body of water.



- Use a commercial carwash that treats or recycles its wastewater, or wash your car on your yard so that the water infiltrates into the ground.
- Repair leaks and dispose of used auto fluids and batteries at designated drop-off or recycling locations, including the



Recycle & Reuse Drop-Off Center located at:

2514 Business Center Drive, Austin, TX 78744

For additional information, visit:

<http://austintexas.gov/departments/Austin-resource-recovery#>

Pet Waste

Pet waste can be a major source of bacteria and excess nutrients in local waters. When walking your pet, remember to always pick up the waste and dispose of it properly. Flushing pet waste is the best disposal method; however, disposal in the landfill is also acceptable. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria to wash into storm drains and local waterbodies.



- Inform other pet owners of why picking up pet waste is important, and encourage them to do so.
- Take part in a storm drain marketing program in your area to help make others aware of where pet waste and other runoff goes when not disposed of properly.

Disposing of Leaves and Brush

Residents may not realize the damage done to the natural storm water runoff system when disposing of leaves and cut brush in creek beds and waterways. **Always properly dispose of cut brush rather than dumping it in unmonitored areas i.e. ravines, cul-de-sacs, dry creeks, ditches.**

- Rollingwood's trash service will collect bundled limbs cut into 4 ft. lengths, and will collect up to 4 bags of leaves and brush during each pick-up.

For additional information on storm water runoff pollution you can visit the website of the United States Environmental Protection Agency at www.epa.gov/nps

Home Improvement and Repairs

- Before beginning an outdoor project, locate the nearest storm drains and protect them from debris and other materials. Sweep up and properly dispose of construction debris such as concrete and mortar.
- Use hazardous products like paints, solvents and cleaning products in the smallest amounts possible. Make sure to store and dispose of them according to label directions.
- Utilize household hazardous waste disposal programs and facilities to dispose of excess paint or other hazardous waste.
- Clean paint brushes in a sink, not outdoors.
- Purchase and use non-toxic, biodegradable, recycled and recyclable products whenever possible.

Residential Sewer

Flush responsibly. Please do not flush any items other than toilet paper. That includes the following:

- wipes/baby wipes
- tampons
- paper towels
- cleaners/solvents
- Grease



So called “flushable” wipes and sanitary products including tampons clog grinder pumps and cause many thousands of dollars’ worth of damage each year. This cost ends up on the shoulders of each

Rollingwood utility customer, can also lead to disruption of service, and in instances of breaks and overflows, lead to sewer waste seeping into the ground.

Never, never, NEVER flush anything other than paper!

You can make a difference! Keeping our creeks, streams, lakes and rivers clean and safe will be a tough challenge as our community grows. In Rollingwood, we’re up for the task, but we can’t do it without everyone’s help. The choices we make today will impact future generations. As a community, we are responsible for maintaining the quality of our waterways.

Thank you for doing your part to preserve the natural storm water runoff system in Rollingwood!



Be the solution to storm water pollution!

This information provided by:
Stormwater
Best Management
Practices

City of Rollingwood
403 Nixon Drive
Rollingwood TX 78746
Phone: 512-327-1838
Fax: 512-327-1869

More information can be obtained at
www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater
www.tceq.state.tx.us
Or visit the City of Rollingwood
Website at:
www.cityofrollingwood.com

