

What Does Springfield's Stormwater Program Do?

The City of Springfield Public Works Department is responsible for the public drainage system by providing the following services.

- Maintenance of more the 200 miles of stormwater lines and open waterways
- Clean and maintain over 5,000 catch basins
- Eliminate unlawful connections and discharges to the stormwater system
- Sweep over 6,000 miles of paved streets and collect of 1,000 tons of debris each year
- Public outreach and partnership for pollution prevention and education
- Maintain detention ponds and other water facilities that minimize flooding and improve water quality before the water enters rivers
- Leaf pick up program
- Support Spring Clean up, which helps citizens keel tons of garbage and yard debris out of Springfield waterways every year
- We do not maintain private drainage systems or have the authority to intervene in private lot-to-lot drainage disputes



Who pays?

We all do. Each resident of the community contributes to the cost of managing stormwater because we use the buildings, streets, parking lots and sidewalks that generate stormwater runoff and pollution. Every household pays \$8.63, and larger properties pay more based on the amount of impervious surface area. Developers also pay fees for the cost of building the drainage systems that meet capacity and water quality needs of their development.



For more information:

**City of Springfield
Environmental Services Division
225 Fifth Street
Springfield, OR 97477
(541) 726-3694**

www.ci.springfield.or.us

**Healthy waterways.
Healthy community.**
City of Springfield
Stormwater Management



Stormwater Management

Stormwater Management is an important part of the community's effort to improve water quality, protect fish habitat and protect properties and infrastructure from flooding. "Stormwater" refers to runoff from sources like rain and irrigation water. Stormwater flows to storm drains, gutters, ditches, swales or a system of pipes, eventually ending up in the McKenzie or Willamette Rivers. Unlike sewage, stormwater is not treated before being emptied into our waterways.

The City of Springfield provides stormwater services for our community. We build and maintain the public drainage system within city limits.

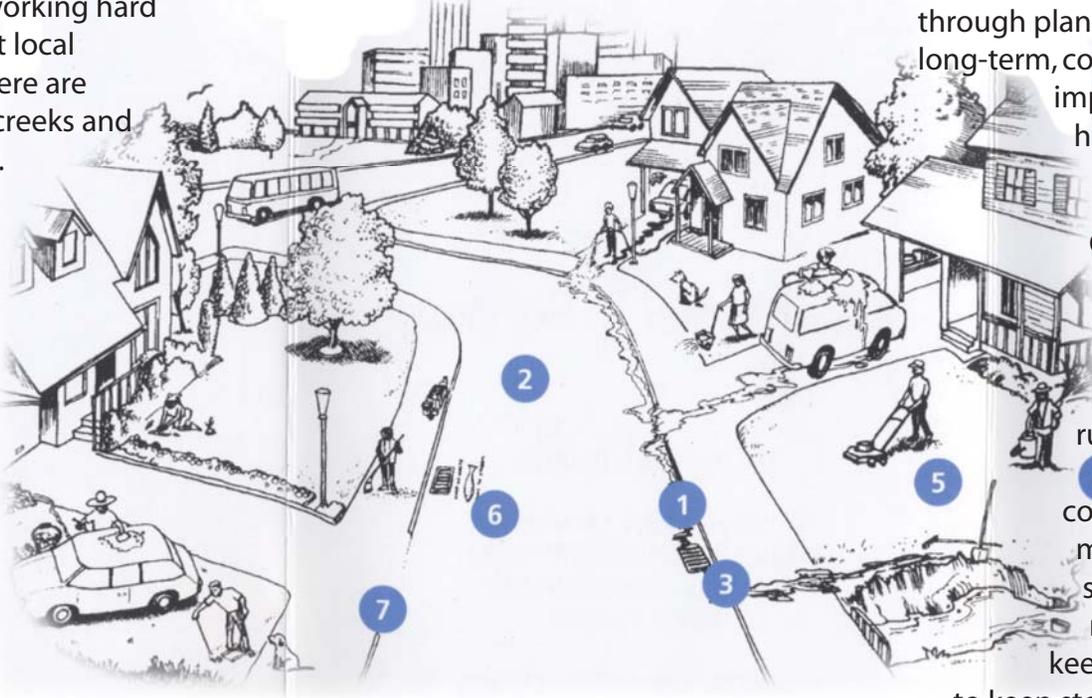
What Can You Do to Prevent Water Pollution?

Protecting our neighborhood streams, wetlands and the McKenzie and Willamette Rivers begins at home. The City of Springfield is working hard to protect water quality and prevent local flooding. But, we need your help. Here are some tips to help you protect local creeks and the McKenzie and Willamette Rivers.

- 1 Only clean water belongs in storm drains or ditches.
- 2 Properly dispose of or recycle motor oil, antifreeze, paint, cleaning products solvents and other toxic materials. For proper disposal information, call the Lane County Hazardous Waste Center at (541) 682-4120.

- 3 Keep leaves, grass clippings, animal waste, dirt and litter out of gutters, storm drains, ditches, creeks, ponds, and wetlands.
- 4 Use non-toxic alternatives or least toxic pesticides and herbicides.
- 5 Plant groundcover and shrubs to cover bare earth and prevent erosion. Native plants are recommended.
- 6 If you see pollutants entering the storm drain system call 541-726-3694.
- 7 Clean up after your pets. Pet waste contains bacteria and parasitic organisms that, when washed into local waterways, can contaminate streams.

Report spills, illegal dumping and other serious problems to the City of Springfield's Water Pollution Reporting Hotline, (541) 726-3694.



Flood Management and Water Quality

Stormwater runoff is one of Oregon's worst water pollution problems. In Springfield, water that enters storm drains and ditches goes directly to the nearest stream and is not treated.

When it rains, stormwater washes over streets, roofs, lawns, and parking lots,. On its way, stormwater picks up oil, sediment, bacteria, grease and chemicals that pollute our local streams and the McKenzie and Willamette Rivers.

The City's stormwater program implements State and Federal regulations and enforcement for water quality protection. And, through planning we are taking a big picture, long-term, cost-effective approach to improving and protecting the health of neighborhood streams.

Why Care?

Clean water contributes to our quality of life. We rely on clean water for drinking water, economic success, recreation and wildlife habitat. Stormwater runoff can contribute to a variety of pollutants that threaten our community's waterways: heavy metals such as mercury, bacteria such as *E. coli*, and toxins like motor oil, just to name a few. To keep our waterways clean, we need to keep stormwater clean.

