

Drains to Streams

Most pollutants entering storm drains flow untreated into local rivers. Pollutants such as oil, trash, and pet waste are harmful to water quality and aquatic life. Everyone can protect local rivers through every day actions. Follow these tips and help prevent water pollution.

Water Pollution Prevention

1. Never dump anything into storm drains!
2. Keep yard debris out of storm drains and waterways. Compost it at a local yard debris business or contact your waste hauler to sign up for a yard debris container.
3. Always pick up pet waste. Every time. Take the Canines for Clean Water Pledge at springfieldstreams.org
4. Read the label. If you use fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides apply them sparingly and only if dry weather is predicted for at least the next 48 hours. Look for organic products.
5. Fix leaks. If your vehicle is leaking fluids, make repairs as soon as possible. If auto fluids do end up on the ground, use an absorbent material like kitty litter and sweep it up with a broom.
6. Sweep before pressure washing and try to flow the water to landscaping.
7. Wash your car on your lawn or gravel area, or take it to a commercial car wash instead of washing it in the driveway or street where soapy water can flow to a storm drain.
8. Pick up trash if you see it on the ground. Keeping it off the ground helps keep it out of the river!
9. Recycle paint or take it to Lane County Waste Management (541.682.4120). You can also dispose of household hazardous waste with Lane County's Waste Management.
10. Consider installing a rain garden at home to capture runoff.



UpStream Art

The City of Springfield's UpStream Art project helps raise awareness about the importance of protecting our rivers, stream habitat, and aquatic wildlife. Every day actions make a big difference in the health of local rivers. To learn more visit springfieldstreams.org