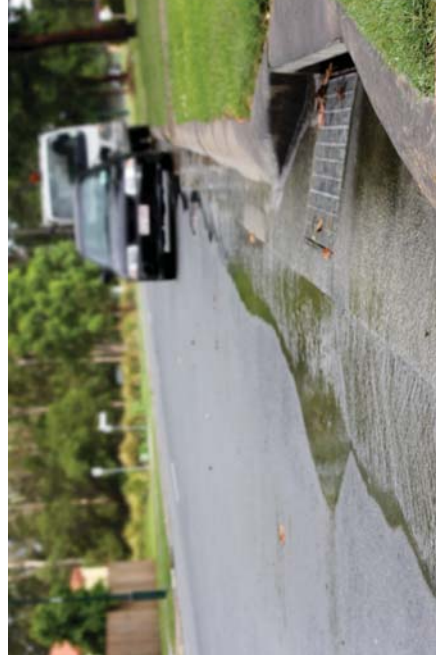


We all know that cars contribute to air pollution - but did you know that they can also cause water pollution?

As we drive, our cars and trucks leave bits of tires on the street, as well as drips of oil, grease, and transmission liquid. When it rains, water washes what is on streets, parking lots, and driveways into the storm system, which flows directly to our rivers and streams.



**Remember, only rain should go down the drain!**

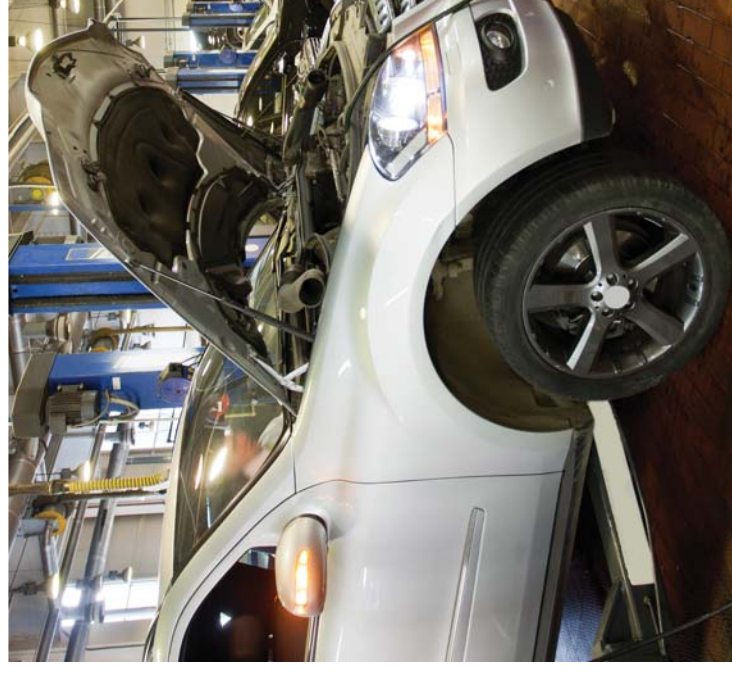
All storm drains lead directly to our waterways. Everyone can take action to help keep the Willamette and McKenzie rivers healthy.



**See inside for tips that lead to cleaner cars and waterways...**

- 1 Repair leaks and keep your vehicle tuned up
- 2 Be “fish-friendly” when washing your car
- 3 Check your tire pressure

# Car Care for Clean Water



Tips to maintain your vehicle and protect our local waterways

It is a violation of City Code 4.372 to dump anything into the stormwater system. Report spills, illegal dumping, and other concerns to the City of Springfield's Environmental Services Division - contact information below.



springfieldstreams.org  
WaterResources@springfield-or.gov  
541.726.3694

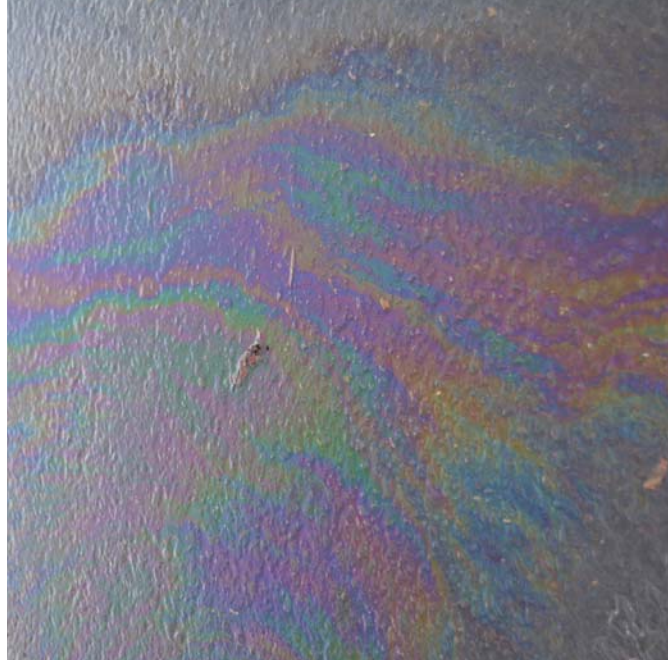
**The River Begins at Your Front Door**

## 1 Repair leaks and keep your vehicle tuned up

Cars that run smoothly burn less fuel and cause less pollution. A tuned-up car can save you money by using up to 20% less gasoline. A tuned-up car also produces fewer exhaust particles that gradually settle out of the air or come down with rain, contributing to water pollution.

Spots on your driveway or garage floor mean the engine, transmission, or radiator in your car is leaking. Have the leak repaired right away, and in the meantime place a drip pan or absorbent pad under the drip. Clean up spills by putting kitty litter or another absorbent material on the oil, let it sit, sweep up, and put it in a sealed bag in the trash.

## Don't Drip and Drive!



## 2 Be “fish-friendly” when washing your car

When you wash your car on a paved surface such as your driveway, the soapy, dirty water can end up in the stormwater system and eventually flow to our waterways. To be “fish-friendly” try one of the practices below.



- Park your car on a grassy or gravel area for washing so the water soaks into the ground. The soil will filter out pollutants.
- Go to a commercial car wash, or a “fish-friendly” car wash fundraiser that uses the City of Springfield’s kit to divert soapy water away from the storm system.

## 3 Check your tire pressure

One of the simplest and cheapest ways to prevent pollution is to keep your tires inflated. For every pound that your tires are under-inflated, your car loses 1% in gas mileage.

Under-inflated tires also wear out sooner, leaving more bits of tires on roadways that can be washed into our waterways.



To find a local “EcoBiz” certified auto shop that meets the highest standards to minimize their environmental impact, visit [springfieldstreams.org](http://springfieldstreams.org)