

6. Proper Household Cleaning

- Store cleaning chemicals and detergents indoors and keep the lids tight and secure.
- Clean up any outdoor spill immediately.
- Never dump mop water in a storm drain, ditch or stream. Whenever possible, pour mop water into the sanitary sewer system (i.e. toilet, sink or shower). Alternatively, you can pour the mop water on a flat grassy area that receives a lot of sunlight. Ensure this grassy area is not near any storm drains, ditches or streams.



7. Proper Waste Disposal/ Management

- Never overfill a trash container.
- Dumpsters should be watertight and the lid should remain closed.



- Keep your trash containers away from storm drains or streams.

- Never drag garbage bags on the ground.



- All construction and demolition debris and waste material must be properly disposed of at a legal landfill.
- Stockpiling demolition or construction debris and inert materials (e.g. asphalt, concrete or mulch), can be considered as an illegal landfill and can be subject to penalties.



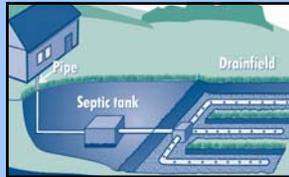
8. Proper Paint Handling

- Store paint cans indoors and always keep the lid tight and secure.
- Never rinse paintbrushes or paint containers on the ground, in the street, storm drain, ditch, or stream.
- Oil-based paint must be disposed of as hazardous waste.
- Recycle paint cans if possible.



- Latex paint can be disposed of in the trash when it is completely dry.
- Large amounts of paint may be dried by stirring in sawdust or cat litter, and placing the open can in a well-ventilated area. Once the paint is completely dry and hard, place the open can and paint into the garbage.

9. Proper Septic System Care



- Never pour fats, oils or grease (even cooking grease) into the toilet, sink or storm drain system. Instead, pour fats, oils and grease into a container, let it cool and/or solidify and then throw it away in the garbage.

- Regularly pump your tank (i.e. every 3-5 years).
- Inspect your system for standing wet areas and bad smells; if present, your system may be failing.
- Contact the Rockdale Environmental Health Department at 770-278-7340 for any septic-related questions.

10. Detect and Eliminate Illicit Discharges and Illegal Connections (ID/IC)

- Remove any pipes or connections that discharge anything other than stormwater to storm drains, ditches or streams. Examples of illegal connections can include pool overflows, sanitary sewer or septic releases, washing machine or sink discharges, etc.
- Any release, accidental or intentional, other than stormwater into a drain, ditch or stream, is considered an illicit discharge.
- Make sure to report any illegal connections and illicit discharges to the 24-Hour Environmental Hotline at 770-278-7145.



Rockdale County Stormwater Utility

How Can I Prevent Stormwater Pollution?



Administration & Services Building
958 Milstead Ave.
P.O. Box 1495
Conyers, GA 30012

Office: 770-278-7155
24-Hour Hotline: 770-278-7145
Stormwater Events: 770-278-7142

rscwu@rockdalecounty.org
Stormwater.Events@rockdalecounty.org
www.rockdalecounty.org

What is stormwater runoff?

Stormwater runoff is the portion of rainwater that is unable to soak into the ground.

Stormwater can pick up debris, trash, dirt, grass clippings, leaves, pet waste, pesticides, fertilizers, chemicals, oil, grease, and other contaminants as it runs off of developed land.

Stormwater runoff eventually flows into storm drain systems and releases into nearby lakes, rivers, creeks, streams or wetlands.

Anything that enters a storm drain system is released untreated into bodies of water used for swimming, fishing and drinking.

How Can I Help Prevent Stormwater Pollution?

1. Pick Up After Your Pet

Pet waste can be a source of harmful bacteria. Pet waste left on sidewalks, streets, yards and other open areas can be washed into nearby storm drains or streams.

Pick up after your pet by scooping up the waste, bagging it and placing it in the garbage.



2. Proper Tobacco Product Disposal



Cigarette butts are the most common type of litter in the world. They contain chemicals that produce poisons, pesticides, heavy

metals, and other toxins that can harm aquatic life and contaminate local water supply. Properly dispose of your cigarette butts in designated receptacles.



3. Never Litter



Littering pollutes the environment. Litter thrown on the ground can end up in our storm drains, drainage ditches and streams. Throw all waste in trash cans. Keep trash out of truck beds to

prevent them from being blown on the ground. Reduce, reuse and recycle whenever possible.



4. Proper Landscape Activities

• Never rake, blow or sweep leaves, yard debris or grass clippings into the road, storm drain, ditch, or stream.



• Blow or sweep loose yard debris back onto your lawn.

• Bag and dispose of yard debris at a landfill, recycling center or for garbage collection.



• Reuse yard debris as compost or mulch, but never stockpile debris in a ditch.

• Never burn yard debris in driveway ditches, storm drains or pipes.

• Use fertilizer, herbicides and pesticides sparingly and never apply prior to a rain event or during windy conditions.



• Never apply landscape chemicals over impervious surfaces (i.e. roads, driveways, sidewalks).



• Only mix and use the chemicals that you need for a single application. Use the least toxic chemical that will achieve the goal. Chemicals that break down quickly, have low water solubility and are granular are the better

choice. Never dispose of chemicals in the trash, storm drain or creek.

• Do not clear or disturb wooded areas near streams.



• Only water plants and grass in the early evening or morning.



• Adjust sprinklers so that streets, parking lots and other impervious surfaces are not watered; watering streets wastes water and creates runoff.

5. Proper Vehicle Care

A. Vehicle Maintenance:

• Routinely inspect vehicles for leaks and repair immediately if found.



• Collect automotive fluids separately in containers for recycling; most automotive supply stores recycle vehicle fluids for free.



• Never dump tires; instead, take them to a recycling or legal disposal facility.

• Recycle batteries.

• Never pour automotive fluids on the ground or allow it to drain into a storm drain, ditch or stream.



• Keep oil absorbing materials nearby and cleanup spills or leaks immediately and dispose of properly.

B. Vehicle Cleaning:



• Use a car wash that recycles its wash water.

• Wash your vehicle on your lawn instead of the driveway to allow the soapy and dirty water to absorb into the soil.

• Do not allow wash water to enter a storm drain, ditch or stream.



C. Vehicle Fueling:



• Never "top off" fuel tanks.

• Remain with your vehicle at all times while fueling.