

What is stormwater runoff?

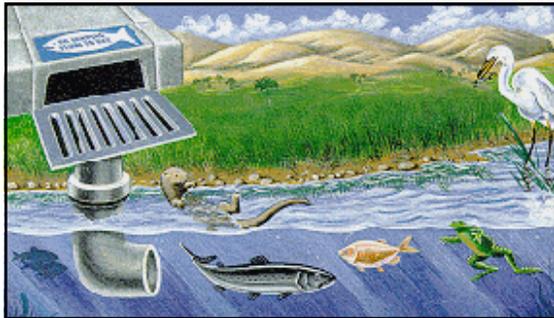
Every time it rains some of the water seeps into the ground, but some of the water is unable to and becomes "stormwater runoff".

Developed areas increase the amount of surfaces (i.e., driveways, parking lots, roofs, roads) that prevent water from soaking into the ground.

Drop by drop, water is channeled into soils, groundwater or the storm sewer system making its way to creeks, wetlands, lakes, rivers and eventually the Atlantic Ocean.

Rockdale County has traditionally managed stormwater runoff by collecting and channeling it through its storm sewer system: catch basins on the side of roadways, pipes, junction boxes, ponds, etc.

All stormwater runoff entering into Rockdale County's storm sewer system or a drainage ditch is released directly into bodies of water used for swimming, fishing and drinking.



The above figure illustrates that stormwater runoff travels from a roadside catch basin to an underground pipe. Once inside the pipe, the water travels to the closest waterbody, such as a creek, stream, lake and river.

Stormwater runoff can pick up pollutants such as: debris, litter, trash, dirt, leaves, grass clippings, pet waste, fertilizers, oil, grease and other contaminants as it runs off developed land. Everything that happens adjacent to surface waters has the potential to affect the health and stability of our water, so proper stormwater management is essential.

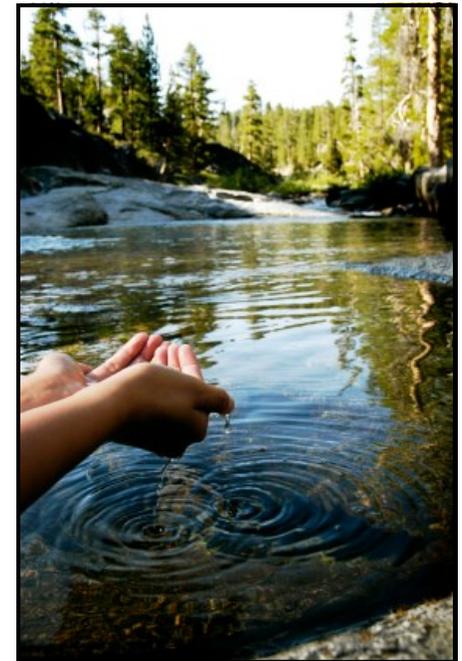


The above illustration shows a typical path of rainwater. Rain drops on the roof, travels through the gutters and either soaks into the ground or travels down impervious surfaces, such as driveways, as it travels to the street. Once the stormwater is on the street, it enters a catch basin, goes underground through a pipe to surface into the closest waterbody, known as a creek, stream, river, etc.



Rockdale County
Department of
Planning and Development

Stormwater Utility



Help eliminate stormwater pollution!

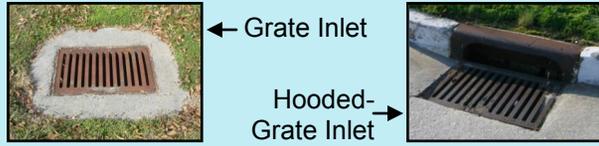
Administration & Services Building
958 Milstead Avenue
Conyers, Georgia 30012

Office: 770-278-7100
After Hours: 770-278-7145

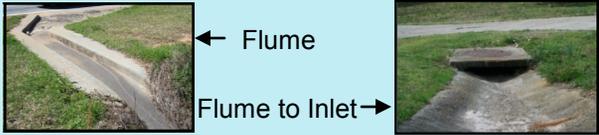
Email: rcswu@rockdalecountyga.gov
Website: www.rockdalecountyga.gov

What is a storm drainage structure?

Stormwater infrastructure are structures that collect and/or carry stormwater. Some examples of typical storm drainage structures are shown below.



↑ Catch Basins ↑



↑ Raised-Lid Inlet ↑ Junction Box



Many serious consequences can result from improper management and failure of the County's stormwater infrastructure, including:



↑ Hydroplaning ↑ Flooding



For more information please contact the Stormwater Utility at 770-278-7155

What is the Role of Rockdale County's Stormwater Utility?

Most people do not realize that there are many stormwater pipes and structures under and along the roadways they drive on every day. These pipes and structures make up the drainage storm sewer system that capture rainwater and direct the water to the County's streams, creeks, lakes and rivers. The Stormwater Utility is responsible for inspecting and maintaining over 183 miles of pipe and over 20,000 drainage structures within the County's right-of-way. A significant portion of the County's stormwater infrastructure is currently in disrepair and inadequate. Drainage system components have deteriorated, separated, clogged or broken over time.



Construction and Maintenance Projects

Rockdale County maintains and repairs stormwater drainage systems that are within Rockdale County-owned property, rights-of-way and easements that have been officially dedicated to Rockdale County for public use, according to the County's Unified Development Ordinance Section 310-134. Some examples of the Stormwater Utility's projects are below:



Lambeth Way—Pipe deteriorated under the road and had to be replaced

← Before → After



Bailey Creek—Pipe deteriorated under the road and had to be replaced

← Before → After



Parkside Drive—Pipe deteriorated under the road and had to be replaced

← Before → After

