What YOU Can Do to Prevent Stormwater Runoff Pollution

- Pick up after your pet
- Never dump anything down storm drains
- Take your car to the carwash instead of washing it in the driveway
- Use fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides sparingly
- Vegetate exposed soil
- Inspect and maintain vehicles to reduce leakage of fluids
- Cover piles of loose landscaping materials , such as sand, bark, and dirt
- Take used motor oil and antifreeze to the Auto Hobby shop or to a local recycler
- Use kitty litter or other absorbent material to clean up spills on paved surfaces

Contact Information

Environmental Office:

Storm Water Management

731-6155

731-7148

731-6175

If you notice any pollutants entering a storm drain, call any of the numbers above.

Recycling

731-6448

341st MISSILE WING

Keep It Clean
Malmstrom AFB Stormwater Program

A Resident's Guide to Understanding Stormwater

Keep It Clean
Malmstrom AFB Stormwater Program

What is stormwater runoff?

Stormwater runoff is excess rain, snowmelt, water from lawn watering, car washing or other water uses. Impervious surfaces like driveways, sidewalks, parking lot, and streets prevent stormwater from naturally soaking into the ground.

Why is stormwater runoff a problem?

Unlike sanitary sewer, which transport wastewater from our homes and business to the wastewater treatment plant, <u>stormwater is not treated.</u>

Stormwater runs over paved areas, bare soils and sloped lawns collecting and transporting debris, chemicals, dirt and other pollutants through the storm drains system. Anything that enters a storm drain is discharged untreated to the Missouri River or wetlands.

Source: www.britannica.com

What are potential stormwater pollutants?

A potential pollutant is anything that may degrade the receiving water body. This includes leaves, grass clippings, animal waste, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, oil, grease, antifreeze, paint, solvents, and sediment.

Why should we manage stormwater?

Polluted stormwater runoff can have many adverse effects on fish, plants, animals and people. This can result in the destruction of fish wildlife habitats and a reduction in the aesthetic value and recreational use of our waterways.

- Excess nutrients (leaves, grass clippings, fertilizers) in the water can cause algae blooms. Algae decomposition removes oxygen from the water. Fish and other aquatic life cannot survive in water with low dissolved oxygen levels.
- Bacteria and other microorganisms from pet waste and illicit connections to storm drain systems can make water unsafe for swimming and fishing.
- Chemicals from automobiles, household cleaning supplies, and lawn care products are poisonous to aquatic life.
- Sediment from construction runoff reduces fish spawning and forageing habitat, clouds the water and destroys vegetative cover.
- Plastic bags, bottles, cigarette butts and six-pack rings can suffocate and entangle birds, turtles and fish and are an eyesore.