



What else can I do  
to Help Protect  
Stormwater  
Quality?

- Maintain vehicle leaks – vehicles drip fluids (oil, grease, gasoline, antifreeze, brake fluid, etc.) onto paved areas where Stormwater picks them up and carries them to our local waterways.
- Pick up after your pet – pet waste left on the ground gets carried away by Stormwater and contributes harmful bacteria, parasites, and viruses to our water.
- Wash your car at a commercial car wash so that all the soap, scum, and grit is captured by the sewage system and properly treated.
- Direct gutter downspouts away from paved surfaces into lawns and gardens to limit the amount of water entering the Stormwater system.



## How can I find out more about Stormwater?

This federally mandated program is administered by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Water Quality Control Division. The goal of the District's Program is to reduce the amount of pollutants entering the streams, creeks, lakes, and rivers as a result of rain water and snowmelt. This ensures the safety of water bodies for drinking water sources and for recreational uses. More information about Stormwater management programs can be found at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Water Quality Control Division:

[www.cdphe.state.co.us/wq](http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/wq)

and the US Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Wastewater Management:

[www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater](http://www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater)



Educational Support Center  
District Operations - Environmental Compliance  
395 South Pratt Parkway  
Longmont, CO 80501  
Phone: 303-702-7527  
Fax: 303-682-7345



How Will Our  
Stormwater Program  
Benefit Our Community?



When it Rains,  
It Drains





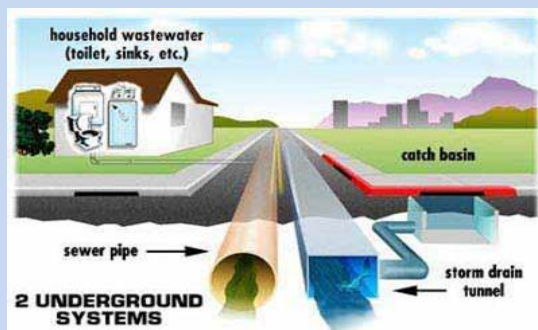
## What is Stormwater and where does it come from?

Stormwater is water from precipitation that flows across the ground and pavement when it rains, snows and ice melts. The water seeps into the ground or drains into what we call a Stormwater system. These are the drains you see at street corners or at low points on the side of streets. Collectively, the draining water is called Stormwater runoff.

## Why is Stormwater Runoff “Good Rain Gone Wrong?”

Stormwater becomes a concern when precipitation runoff picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants as it flows across the ground, streets, and parking lots. It also is a concern when it causes flooding and erosion of stream banks.

A common misconception is that the stormwater system is the same as the sewage system. Stormwater eventually flows directly into local lakes, rivers, or streams *without* treatment and carries with it all the pollutants it gathers along the way.



## What can I do to help protect Stormwater Quality?

Eliminating pollutants from our stormwater improves the quality of our drinking water supplies, recreation waterways, provides for healthy wildlife habitats, and improves aesthetic value of our environment. Some simple steps to follow can help prevent stormwater pollution:

- **Never dump anything down a stormwater drain. Stormwater drains at permitted facilities in St Vrain have been clearly marked “No Dumping-Leads to Stream” or similar to inform the public which inlets support the stormwater system.**
- **Always properly dispose of chemicals such as used oil, cleaning supplies and paint. Improper disposal of chemicals can significantly impact water quality. City of Longmont, Boulder County and Weld County support Hazardous Waste Programs and Annual Household Hazardous Waste Chemical Round Ups. More information about these programs can be found at:**

City of Longmont

<http://www.ci.longmont.co.us/pwwu/storm/swquality.htm>

Boulder County

<http://www.bouldercounty.org/live/environment/water>

Weld County

<http://www.co.weld.co.us/Departments/HealthEnvironment/EnvironmentalHealth>

- **Keep your facility, grounds, and neighborhood clean and orderly. Properly disposing of all trash and debris can limit the potential for pollution to enter waterways. Good housekeeping techniques such as routinely raking leaves, picking up trash and using properly sized waste containers with lids can help avoid potential Stormwater problems. Information for Community Outreach Programs such as free landfill days, bulk item collection, hazardous chemical roundups, leaf collection, holiday collection and recycling programs can be found at:**

<http://www.BoulderCountyRecycles.org> and

<http://bcn.boulder.co.us/basin/kicp/>

