

## Residential reminders

Recycle or properly dispose of household products that contain chemicals, such as pesticides, insecticides, paint, solvents and used motor oil and other auto fluids. Do not pour them on the ground or in the storm drains.

## Lawn care

Excess fertilizers and pesticides applied to lawns and gardens wash off and pollute streams. Here are some helpful lawn care reminders:

- **Don't overwater your lawn.** Consider using a soaker hose instead of a sprinkler.
- **Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly.** When use is necessary, use these chemicals in the recommended amounts. Use organic mulch or safer pest control methods whenever possible.
- **Compost or mulch yard waste.** Don't leave it in the street or sweep it into storm drains or streams.
- **Cover piles of dirt** or mulch being used in landscaping projects.
- **Repair leaks** and dispose of used auto fluids and batteries at designated drop-off or recycling locations.

## Auto care

Washing your car and degreasing auto parts at home can send detergents and other contaminants through the storm sewer system. Dumping automotive fluids into storm drains has the same result as dumping the materials directly into a water body.

- Use a commercial car wash that treats or recycles its wastewater. or wash your car on your yard so that the grass filters out harmful substances, reduces water velocity and promotes infiltration.
- Repair leaks and dispose of used auto fluids and batteries at designated drop-off or recycling locations.

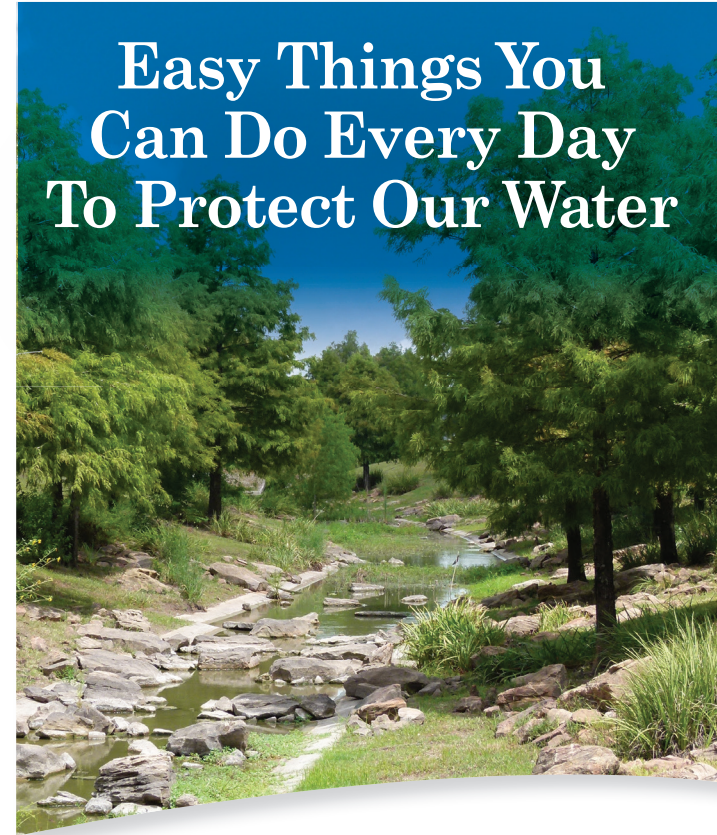
## Contact Us

281.652.1649

[cityofpearland.com/stormwater](http://cityofpearland.com/stormwater)

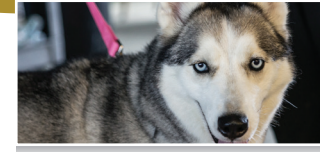
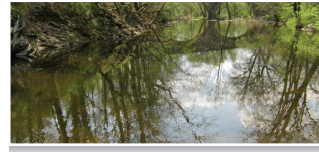


# Easy Things You Can Do Every Day To Protect Our Water



## Stormwater Management





## Stormwater Management

***Our storm sewer system is made up of a series of ditches, culverts, inlets and underground pipes, which collect storm water runoff and transfers it to our streams, bayous and ultimately to Galveston Bay.***

By collecting and removing the stormwater runoff, our storm sewer system helps to minimize ponding of water in our streets and flooding of our homes.

### Why is it important to keep the storm water free of trash and debris?

Trash and debris that is dumped into our storm sewer system will collect and ultimately cause the pipes to clog, preventing stormwater from draining properly. This will lead to high water in our streets and flooding of our homes.

Even natural debris can accumulate in the storm sewer system and cause them to clog. Yard clippings, leaves, sediments (loose soils) are a main contributors to fill our ditches, culverts, streams and bayous that prevents them from draining as much rainwater as they once did.

### How harmful is it to dump hazardous products down the storm drain?

Chemicals dumped into our storm sewer system can kill the wildlife that lives in the streams, bayous and Galveston Bay and animals that may come in contact with the contaminated water. These chemicals can also leach into our aquifer and potentially make our drinking water unsafe. Hazardous products can be safely disposed of at the Stella Roberts Recycling Center.

### What is a Stormwater BMP?

BMP stands for Best Management Practice, which are things we do on the landscape that help improve the quality of storm water runoff that reaches the streams and bayous. Though many BMPs are incorporated during the development process, there are many things that homeowners can do on their own properties.

By implementing BMPs, homeowners can keep common pollutants like pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings and automotive fluids off the ground and out of the storm sewer. Adopt the best management practices to keep common pollutants out of storm water and make your community aesthetically-pleasing and environmentally-friendly.

Remember to share these practices with neighbors.

### Some BMPs include:

- Limit the use of fertilizers and avoid sewage disposal into storm drains.
- Pick up after your pets.
- Limit the use of pesticides.
- Clean vehicles at a wash station or in the grass.
- Do not drain toxic pollutants including oils in the storm drain.
- Do not throw trash into the storm drain.
- Properly dispose of trash/yard waste.

### Other Helpful Phone Numbers

#### EPA

800.887.6063

#### Keep Pearland Beautiful

281.652.1659

#### Stella Roberts Recycling Center

281.489.2795

#### Galveston Bay Estuary Program

281.218.6461

