



# Everyone Lives in a Watershed

What is a Watershed? An area of land that drains to a common water body. Your actions, habits and decisions have an effect on our watershed and the animals and plants that share life with us.

## What can you do to protect our watershed?

### CAR REPAIR

According to the US Bureau of Transportation, there are over 263 million registered passenger vehicles on the road. That's a lot of opportunity for an oil and/or antifreeze leak to happen on your driveway. Those leaks can then run off your cement and enter the watershed through the storm drains which then pollutes water sources. Check your vehicle health often so you are able to catch leaks and get them repaired quickly.

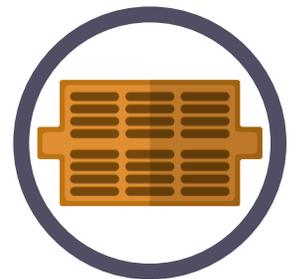


### PICK UP AFTER YOUR PET

The American Pet Products Association (APPA) reports that in 2016 68 percent of U.S. households owned some sort of pet. And you know what that means...a lot of Poop! Looks, size and diet don't matter - pets can pollute if you don't pick up after them. If your pet defecates in your backyard, chances are it will quickly enter the watershed. Waste components like fecal bacteria and nutrients are washed into storm drains, streams, and other receiving waters by irrigation, rain, melting snow and flooding. They can also simply leach through the soil and into the groundwater. Clean up after your pets daily to prevent pet pollution.

### STORM DRAIN/RAIN DRAIN

Your storm drain is not a means for you to dispose of grass clippings, leaves and other trash. These wastes should be swept up and collected, not pushed or poured down the nearest storm drain. You'll save water and keep harmful pollutants from shedding into the drains by disposing of yard waste properly. If it's not rainwater, it doesn't belong in the storm drain.



### CLEAN WATER STARTS WITH YOU

When it rains, whatever doesn't soak into the ground runs off roofs and yards, down streets, into storm drains and then directly into rivers, lakes, creeks, and other local water bodies. If that runoff is polluted, it's most likely that our own actions caused the problem, and we are contaminating our water. If you don't want to drink it, swim in it, or fish in it, don't put it in the water. Remember: Not Rain? No Drain!