

Pollution Costs

Everyone

- Polluted stormwater runoff has many adverse effects on plants, fish, animals and humans.
- The City's stormwater system does not connect to the wastewater treatment plant. So remember all of the storm drains go...



What can pollute stormwater?

Many things are considered pollutants including:

- Sediments
- Excess nutrients (fertilizer)
- Pet waste
- Yard clippings
- Pesticides
- Auto Fluids
- Trash (including cigarette butts)



What does the pollution do?

- Turbidity clouds water and hurts corals and aquatic plants
- Excess nutrients cause Harmful Algal Blooms like Red Tide
- Bacteria, Pathogens and Algae Blooms can cause
- Trash can hurt or kill wildlife



How Can I Help?

Lawn Care:

Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly

- Dispose like all hazardous waste properly



Turn yard waste into mulch or compost

- Cover mulch and compost piles so they don't wash away in a storm.

Do not overwater your lawn

- Use a soaker hose instead of a sprinkler or add a moisture detector so it won't spray when it is raining



When can I water my lawn?

Sprinklers: Venice residents using potable or well water

- may water lawns **once a week**
- Addresses with **odd numbers** on Thursdays before 8am. and after 6p.m.
- Addresses with **even numbers** on Tuesdays before 8am. and after 6p.m.
- **Hand watering:** allowed any time. Make sure your hose has a shutoff valve
- **New Lawns:** may be watered any day for a 60-day establishment period.
- This automatic exemption starts the day new plants are installed.
- Irrigation must take place before 8am



Pet Waste:

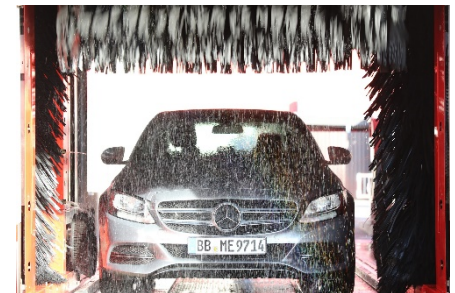
Always pick up after your pet

- Pet waste contributes to bacteria and excess nutrients



Auto Care:

- Wash your car in the grass or at a commercial carwash. Washing it on the driveway can pollute stormwater with detergents.
- Keep your car in good working condition free of leaks
- Dispose of auto batteries and fluids properly
- City residents may place sealed jars of oil at the curb on their regular recycling pick up day



Important Stormwater Tips

Use Rain Barrels

- Collect rainwater in mosquito-proof containers or let goldfish eat the larvae.



- Use the water to irrigate your lawn and flower beds

Design a Rain Garden

- Native Plants can provide a natural place for rainwater to soak in the ground
- Florida native plants also require less maintenance. They were made for paradise.

Maintain Proper Drainage

- Get a permit and then get an engineer to prepare a lot drainage plan for your project to ensure proper drainage between homes

Keep Ditches and Culverts Clean

- Dumping anything into ditches, inlets and streams is illegal and violates City Code, Section 74-266
- Yard Debris plugs up channels and contributes to flooding
- If you see debris or illegal discharge, please call 941-882-7413

Report Broken Silt Fences

- They prevent sediment from entering the stormwater system

Dispose of Hazardous Waste Properly

- Dispose hazardous waste at Sarasota County Chemical Collection Center 250 S Jackson Rd Wed-Sat 8a.m.-4p.m.
- Call 941-861-5000 for more info

To learn more about protecting our local environment, please visit the website of the Environmental Protection Agency:
<http://water.epa.gov/polwaste/npdes/>



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Understanding Stormwater and the Environment

