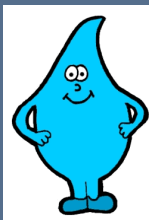


Stormwater Pollution Prevention



In the City of Moorhead, storm drains flow directly to local stormwater ponds, ditches and the Red River without treatment. Stormwater pollution can cause human and environmental health problems.

Stormwater pollution comes from a variety of sources, including dirt, debris, automotive fluids, pet waste, pesticides, and other hazardous materials.

The City of Moorhead is committed to improving water quality and reducing the amount of pollution entering waterways.



TRASH

Trash and debris that enters the storm sewer system eventually ends up polluting stormwater ponds, ditches, and the Red River. Trash not only pollutes water and harms aquatic life, it can clog storm drains which results in floods during heavy rain events. Best Management Practices (BMPs) are procedures to help prevent trash and other pollutants from entering the storm sewer system. Everyone can do their part to keep stormwater clean.

DUMPSTERS & CONTAINERS

All trash must be placed inside a dumpster or container until it can be hauled away. Dumpsters should never be allowed to overflow and should always be kept closed to prevent rainwater from entering. Never place liquid waste, leaky garbage bags or hazardous waste in a dumpster or trash bin. Routinely check dumpsters for leaks and immediately contact your local trash disposal company if leaks are found.

CLEANING

Instead of using a hose or pressure washing system, try a dry cleanup method. Use mops, brooms or wire brushes to clean dumpsters, sidewalks, buildings, equipment, pavement, driveways, or other impervious surfaces. Use brooms and absorbents such as kitty litter or sawdust to clean up small spills. Sweep up around dumpsters and trash bins frequently to prevent trash from accumulating.

ONLY RAIN IN THE STORM DRAIN

Identify and locate storm drains near your business or home where pollutants could flow from the dumpster or trash bin. Let everyone know that the storm drain flows to the Red River by placing a stencil. Contact the Fargo-Moorhead River Keepers for more information on the Storm Drain Marking Program. If a storm drain is on your private property, check it frequently and clean any debris from the grate. If your private storm drain is clogged, hire a professional to remove the debris.

RECYCLE

Most trash and debris can be recycled and used for other purposes. Items such as cans, bottles, newspapers, office paper, and cardboard can be recycled. Check the Clay County webpage for local recycling centers and the types of materials accepted. (www.co.clay.mn.us)

SPILLS

If an accidental spill occurs, immediately use a rag, mop, or an absorbent and containment materials to prevent liquids from entering the storm sewer system. Keep cleanup kits in places where they are easily accessible. For a business, develop a spill response plan and make sure employees know what to do when spills occur. Immediately report spills that have entered the storm sewer to the Stormwater staff at 218.299.5386. For hazardous spills contact the Moorhead Fire Department.

For more information or to report an illegal discharge, please call 218.299.5386

