

Landscaping Services

Yard chemicals, grass clippings, debris, loose soil, and other potential contaminants can result from landscaping services / practices. It is important to keep these and other materials out of storm drains, ditches and street gutters and away from waterbodies. Use Good Housekeeping Practices to protect waterways:

- By Alabama state law, only licensed individuals are permitted to use or supervise the use of pesticides for payment
- Store yard chemicals (fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides) in a covered area in their original containers or in the applicator
- Become familiar with Integrated Pest Management (IPM) options to reduce the need for chemical applications
- Sweep up any overspray to prevent yard chemicals from entering storm drains, ditches, street gutters and nearby waterbodies
- Calibrate equipment and replace worn nozzle tips and faulty gauges before mixing and loading pesticides
- Storm drains are for rain water only. Never blow or sweep grass clippings or other yard waste into the street or storm drain - doing so can clog the storm drain system which can lead to flooding and water pollution

More information is available online; visit www.jccal.org

Mobile Cleaning & Car Washing

Waste water from mobile businesses such as carpet cleaning, janitorial services and car washes contain contaminants such as oil, dirt, brake dust, and cleaning products which can easily wash into storm drains and ditches which drain untreated to nearby waterways. Use Good Housekeeping Practices to protect waterways:

- Contain washing area to prevent wash water from entering storm drains, ditches, and street gutters; dispose of wash water properly
- Properly store and dispose of cleaning products; immediately clean up any spills with absorbent materials and dispose of properly

Good Housekeeping: It is YOUR Responsibility

Businesses located within Jefferson County are required by law to use Good Housekeeping Practices to prevent potential pollutants from entering the storm drainage system. Anything that is swept, blown or washed into storm drains and ditches is carried by rain (stormwater) into our rivers, lakes, creeks and streams, causing water pollution. Keeping potential pollutants off the ground, away from paved areas and out of the storm drainage system protects our waterways. Be sure that all employees are trained in and use Good Housekeeping Practices on the job.
Only rain belongs in the storm drain!

Good Housekeeping Practices for Businesses



Only rain in the storm drain!

Jefferson County Stormwater Program

Department of Development Services
Room B-200
Jefferson County Courthouse
716 Richard Arrington Jr. Blvd North
Birmingham, AL 35203
205.325.8741
www.jccal.org

Property Management

Wash water from building and grounds maintenance can transport pollutants such as oil, trash, chemicals, heavy metals, and cleaning products into nearby storm drains and ditches. Use Good Housekeeping Practices to protect waterways:

- Provide an adequate number of covered trash receptacles for your site; regularly pick up and properly dispose of litter
- Store chemicals, oils, lubricants, and similar items so they are not exposed to rain water
- Keep wash water out of storm drains, ditches, and street gutters
- Use absorbent materials to soak up spills and sweep up; avoid washing off with water
- Keep leaves and grass clippings out of storm drains, ditches and streets.

Construction & Remodeling

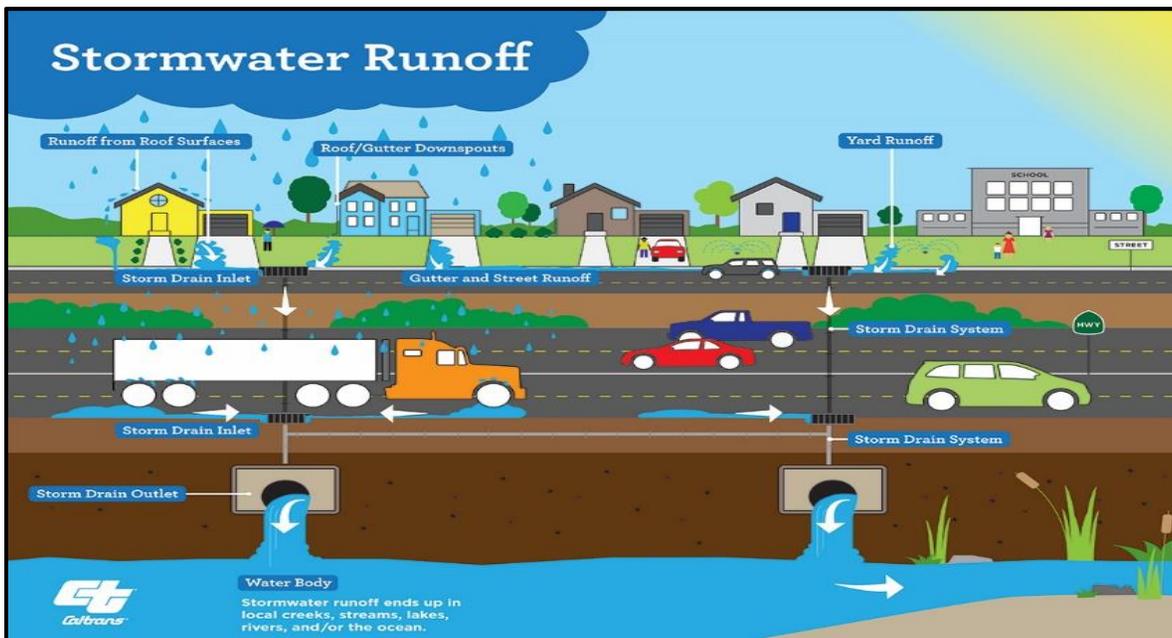
Contaminants such as sediment, paint, chemicals, construction debris, and cleaning products can easily run into nearby storm drains. Use Good Housekeeping Practices to protect waterways:

- Obtain a Land Disturbing Activity Permit before beginning work; practice soil erosion prevention techniques and runoff control measures so that mud and or dirt is not washed or tracked into the street
- Take appropriate measures to protect storm drains, ditches and street gutters from pollutants
- Clean up any spills immediately with absorbent materials and dispose of properly
- Provide adequate covered trash receptacles and prevent litter by properly disposing of trash from the property

Vehicle Repair & Maintenance

Vehicle repair and maintenance utilizes materials that can harm water quality if they enter the storm drainage system. Use Good Housekeeping Practices to protect waterways:

- Properly store materials and hazardous waste under cover with spill containment or indoors to prevent contact with rain water
- Immediately contain and clean up spills with absorbent material and sweep up; avoid washing off with water
- Secure nonhazardous waste in a covered dumpster or other trash receptacle
- Properly dispose of solvents, oil, filters, fluids, batteries, lubricants, and similar items
- Transport hazardous waste by a licensed hazardous waste handler
- Take appropriate measures to protect storm drains, ditches and street gutters from pollutants
- Keep sidewalks and parking lots swept; pick up and properly dispose of litter and debris
- Properly store tires to prevent them from holding water; follow the law when transporting and disposing of tires



The storm drain system, as shown above, is made up of curb inlets, pipes and open ditches. This system is designed to funnel untreated rain water to local waterways.

Remember:
Only rain goes in the storm drain, so immediately report all suspected water pollution by calling:
205-325-5792