

What is Stormwater Runoff?

Stormwater is water from rain or melting snow. It flows from rooftops, over paved streets, sidewalks and parking lots, across bare soil, and through lawns and storm drains. As it flows through the watershed, it collects and transports soil, pet waste, salt, pesticides, fertilizer, oil and grease, litter and other pollutants. This water drains directly into nearby ditches, ponds and eventually to the Arkansas River, without receiving treatment at sewage plants.



Garden City Stormwater Management Program

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Garden City Stormwater Management Program



STORMWATER QUALITY FOR BUSINESSES

*Only Rain
Down The Storm Drain*



STORMWATER QUALITY FOR BUSINESSES

The City of Garden City is implementing a federally mandated Stormwater Management Program to reduce polluted stormwater runoff thereby improving groundwater. Stormwater is transported untreated to the Arkansas River and stormwater pollution can occur in many forms including toxic chemicals, detergents, litter, sediment, and other common everyday products. Some business practices unknowingly result in pollution of stormwater runoff. The City requests your cooperation and assistance in addressing this increasing concern. Following is a general accounting of common problems and solutions.



ALL BUSINESSES

- Use non-toxic substitutes for chemicals whenever possible.
- Control litter by sweeping and picking up trash regularly.
- Refrain from washing down exterior areas with a hose.
- Insure that your business is capable of properly handling hazardous spills or releases and report any hazardous spill to local authorities. They'll know the best way to keep spills from harming the environment.
- Remember that storm runoff drains untreated to the river.
- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!



RESTAURANTS, RETAIL, OFFICES AND ALL BUSINESSES WITH PARKING LOTS

- Dirt, oil and debris that collect in parking lots and paved areas can be washed into the storm sewer system and eventually enter local water bodies.
- Sweep up litter and debris from sidewalks, driveways and parking lots, especially around storm drains.
- Cover grease storage and trash containers and keep them clean to avoid polluting stormwater runoff.
- Do not dump mop water outside. All restaurants should have a mop sink. Take mats and equipment to a car wash instead of washing outside.

AUTOMOTIVE RELATED BUSINESSES

- Clean up spills immediately and properly dispose of cleanup materials.
- Provide cover over fueling stations and design or retrofit facilities for spill containment.

- Properly maintain fleet vehicles to prevent oil, antifreeze and other discharges from being washed into gutters and storm drains.
- Wash vehicles at facilities with drains that are connected to the sanitary sewer system such as commercial car washes.



LAWN & LANDSCAPE

- Insure that lawn and landscaping is being maintained without excessive watering and fertilizing. Mulch mow whenever possible. Keep grass trimmings and other yard waste out of the streets and gutters. Landscape with plants and grasses that require less water and lawn care chemicals. Not only are these practices better for the environment they also save businesses money.



CONSTRUCTION

- Divert stormwater away from disturbed or exposed areas of the construction site.
- Install silt fences, vehicle mud removal areas, vegetative cover, and other sediment and erosion controls and properly maintain them, especially after rainstorms.
- Prevent soil erosion by minimizing disturbed areas during construction projects and seed and mulch bare areas as soon as possible.