

STORMWATER 101

WHAT YOU CAN DO

YARD CARE

Pet Waste

Pet waste contains various forms of bacteria which should not be left on the ground. The next time you take Fido for a walk:

- Pick up after your pet.
- Pet Waste belongs either in the trash, flushed down your toilet, or buried in your yard.
- Carry pet waste bags, on walks and car rides.
- Carry extra bags to hand out to less conscientious dog-walkers.
- Tie the bags either onto the leash or your dog's collar.



Yard Maintenance

Dispose of yard waste properly to minimize adverse impacts to the environment by keeping waste out of storm drains.

- Select native plants that require less water and maintenance.
- Direct lawnmower so the clippings blow back onto the lawn rather than into the street.
- Sweep and bag leaves and grass clippings or bag the lawn clippings as you mow. Then put out the bags for collection.
- Prevent debris left by high wind events or leaf blowing from entering the storm system.
- Recycle and compost organic materials whenever possible.
- Spot treat your weeds to avoid putting toxic chemicals in rivers and streams.

Lawn and Pest Control Chemicals

Yard chemicals are toxic to fish as well as to the humans who eat the fish. Whether you do the yard work yourself or hire a contractor, keep these products out of the storm water system.

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Storm drains are found in our streets, parking lots, Highways and more. You probably walk by a few of them each day, but just don't think much about them. However, stormwater runoff is one of the leading causes of water pollution in the United States. Stormwater will pick up dirt, trash, oil, grease, chemicals, and other pollutants as it flows over parking lots, streets and other impervious surfaces. Find out how you can help us protect our water by using these simple pollution prevention tips and ideas.

The City of El Mirage is a
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STORM
Only rain in the stormdrain