

How Can You Help Keep the Environment Clean?

Having a clean environment is important to everyone. It impacts both our health and our economy.

Making sure that only rain goes to storm drains is something that everyone can do to make a difference in the quality of our environment.

Best management practices, or BMPs, are procedures that help to prevent pollutants like oil, gasoline, and antifreeze from entering our storm drains. Each of us can do our part to keep storm water clean by using the BMPs in this brochure.

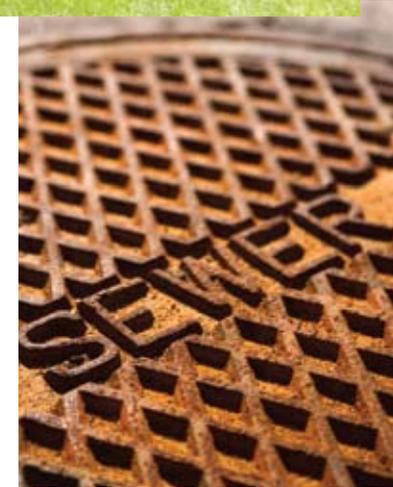
What Else Can You Do?

Questions about what you can do to solve this or other storm water issues in our community? Call us at 480-350-2678.

To report illicit discharges to storm drains, call (480) 350-2811 anytime, or go on line at: <http://www.tempe.gov/stormwater>



P.O. Box 5002
Tempe, AZ 85280
480-350-2678
fax 480-350-2615



Pet Waste and Storm Water Pollution

Environmental Services Division

Storm Water Hotline
480-350-2811

Pet Waste and Storm Water Pollution

Managing pet wastes properly is something that every pet owner can do to make a difference in the quality of our environment. Proper individual actions can result in significant water quality improvements when carried out by a majority.

Why are we concerned about Pet Waste?

While it might not seem important if one more pet contributes to waste in the neighborhoods, think about how many animals there are out there. In 2001 there were over 61.5 billion dogs causing an estimated 6.3 billion pounds of animal waste per year.

Pet waste contains nutrients, as well as bacteria and pathogens. When pet waste is disposed of improperly, not only does water quality suffer, but your health may be at risk. A single gram of pet waste contains an average of 23 million fecal coliform bacteria. There is a risk of disease from pathogens found in pet wastes as well. Some of the more common pathogens that can be spread from pet waste to humans include:

- Cryptosporidium - a protozoan parasite
- Campylobacteriosis - bacterial infection, frequently causes diarrhea
- Giardiasis - protozoan parasite
- Salmonellosis - most common bacterial infection transmitted from animals to humans
- Toxocaris - round worm



**Please be responsible and clean up after your pets!
It is as simple as 1, 2, 3:**

Bring a bag.

Clean it up.

Dispose of waste properly
in the toilet or trash can.

Did You Know?

Storm water runoff in the City of Tempe is not treated, but goes directly into our lakes, rivers, and streambeds. That is why it is so important to ensure that pollutants do not end up in storm drains. The primary purpose of storm drains is to carry rainwater away from developed areas in order to prevent flooding.

Water that washes over the earth can pick up a variety of contaminants that can run into lakes and streams directly or by way of the storm drain system. The majority of water pollution occurs from things like cars leaking oil, fertilizers from farms and gardens, failing septic tanks, pet waste, residential car washing, and other residential activities.



While the actions of an individual household might contribute small amounts of pollution, the combined effect of a neighborhood or community can have a serious cumulative effect.

