

## Get Involved In Your Community!

You can be a solution to water pollution by participating in community activities or workshops and bring what you learn back to your home, neighborhood and workplace.

Businesses and organizations can collaborate on activities, events or attend steering committee meetings.

Visit [www.cleanwatercampaign.com](http://www.cleanwatercampaign.com) for more information.



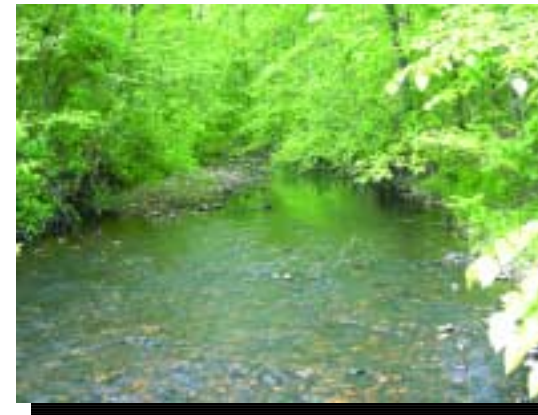
### Clean Water Campaign

40 Courtland Street NE  
Atlanta, GA 30303

[www.cleanwatercampaign.com](http://www.cleanwatercampaign.com)



## How **2** "Be A Solution to Water Pollution"



## Simple Solutions **2** Prevent Water Pollution

## Metro Atlanta's Rivers and Streams Are In Need of Repair!

Most people don't realize that polluted stormwater runoff is currently the biggest water pollution problem in the Atlanta Region. By becoming aware of the problem and what we can do to prevent polluted stormwater, each of us can "be a solution to water pollution."



### Why should you care about clean water?

Our streams, rivers and lakes have serious pollution problems. It might surprise you to learn that pollution doesn't come from factories or sewage plants, but from the things that you do everyday!

Each time it rains, the resulting runoff of stormwater picks up debris such as litter, pesticides, chemicals, pet waste, motor oil and dirt as it flows across rooftops, lawns, streets and parking lots. These pollutants are deposited, untreated, into our waterways. Increased runoff from developed areas can also cause flooding and erosion of stream banks, which creates even more sediment entering our streams.

## What Can I Do?

We all have the opportunity to be part of the "Solution to Water Pollution." There are many things that we can do on a daily basis to prevent water pollution.

### The Top 10 Things You Can Do to Reduce Water Pollution

1. Never dump anything that you wouldn't want to drink or swim in onto the street, down a storm drain or into a drainage ditch
2. Recycle motor oil and other vehicle fluids
3. Throw litter in its place
4. Clean up after your pet
5. Check your vehicles for leaks and repair them
6. Reduce household hazardous wastes
7. Compost leaves and yard clippings
8. Use fertilizer and pesticide sparingly
9. Wash your vehicle on your lawn rather than on pavement
10. Tell a friend or neighbor about how to prevent stormwater pollution and get involved in your community's programs



## BE A SOLUTION WATER POLLUTION THROUGH ACTIVITIES AROUND YOUR YARD AND HOME...



### Automotive Care

At home "do-it-yourself" auto maintenance is a popular practice in metro Atlanta. Each year millions of gallons of used motor oil are disposed of improperly: dripped, spilled or directly poured onto the ground or down storm drains.

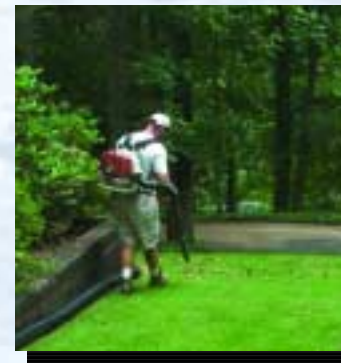
Remember this the next time you maintain/repair your vehicle at home:

- Collect and recycle motor oil, oil filters and other automobile fluids at vehicle service centers or parts stores. Participating stores can be found online at [www.cleanup.org](http://www.cleanup.org) or by calling 1-800-CLEANUP.
- If you have a spill when changing vehicle fluids, use kitty litter or sawdust to absorb the spill and then throw it in the trash.

### Yard Care

You can make sure you have a "green" yard by following these tips:

- Don't dump grass clippings or leaves in the street, in a drainage ditch or into streams. Instead, compost or bag them for curbside collection.
- Don't over apply fertilizer. Make sure you follow the application instructions.
- Don't apply fertilizer and pesticides before heavy rain is forecasted. They will only get washed off your lawn and into the stream!
- Control pests and disease by rinsing plants, pruning and handpicking, setting baits/traps, or mulching to reduce weeds.
- Use prescription flea drops for pets instead of treating your entire lawn with harmful chemicals.



### Household Products

Toxic or hazardous household products, when used or disposed of improperly, can pollute our rivers and streams. Here are some of the ways that you can make a difference:

- Purchase only the products and amounts that you need
- Use products as directed on the label.
- When painting a large area, buy a little less paint than you think you will need. Once the job is well under way, you will have a better idea of how much more is required. This way you can plan to have enough for touch ups, but not gallons of leftover paint.
- Use latex paint instead of oil-based paint. This also eliminates the need for paint thinner.
- Discard dry paint cans and disposable brushes in the trash.