



WHAT IS STORM WATER RUNOFF AND WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

When it rains, storm water runs off roads, parking lots, driveways, roofs, and yards. As it flows across these surfaces, storm water picks up contaminants such as oils, salts, sediments, fertilizers, pesticides, and household chemicals. Contaminated storm water flows into storm drains, ditches, and gutters, and eventually into streams and wetlands. Contaminants in storm water runoff impair water quality in streams and wetlands, and they can lead to fish kills, loss of wildlife habitat, and public health risks. Uncontrolled storm water runoff is one of the largest remaining sources of water quality impairment in the United States.

As communities grow and develop, more land is covered with impervious pavement. This means more water reaches streams more quickly and is potentially more contaminated. Communities working together can lessen the degree of contamination and help protect local water resources.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

The Utah County Stormwater Coalition will be providing a few basic tips for protecting our streams, lakes, rivers and wetlands. See the other side of this pamphlet for information about caring for your yard. If you see anyone disposing of household chemicals, paint, oil or concrete truck wastewater into storm drains, ditches, gutters, streams or wetlands, please report it by calling the Utah County Stormwater Hotline at 851-7873.



WHAT IS STORM WATER RUNOFF AND WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

When it rains, storm water runs off roads, parking lots, driveways, roofs, and yards. As it flows across these surfaces, storm water picks up contaminants such as oils, salts, sediments, fertilizers, pesticides, and household chemicals. Contaminated storm water flows into storm drains, ditches, and gutters, and eventually into streams and wetlands. Contaminants in storm water runoff impair water quality in streams and wetlands, and they can lead to fish kills, loss of wildlife habitat, and public health risks. Uncontrolled storm water runoff is one of the largest remaining sources of water quality impairment in the United States.

As communities grow and develop, more land is covered with impervious pavement. This means more water reaches streams more quickly and is potentially more contaminated. Communities working together can lessen the degree of contamination and help protect local water resources.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

The Utah County Stormwater Coalition will be providing a few basic tips for protecting our streams, lakes, rivers and wetlands. See the other side of this pamphlet for information about caring for your yard. If you see anyone disposing of household chemicals, paint, oil or concrete truck wastewater into storm drains, ditches, gutters, streams or wetlands, please report it by calling the Utah County Stormwater Hotline at 851-7873.



WHAT IS STORM WATER RUNOFF AND WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

When it rains, storm water runs off roads, parking lots, driveways, roofs, and yards. As it flows across these surfaces, storm water picks up contaminants such as oils, salts, sediments, fertilizers, pesticides, and household chemicals. Contaminated storm water flows into storm drains, ditches, and gutters, and eventually into streams and wetlands. Contaminants in storm water runoff impair water quality in streams and wetlands, and they can lead to fish kills, loss of wildlife habitat, and public health risks. Uncontrolled storm water runoff is one of the largest remaining sources of water quality impairment in the United States.

As communities grow and develop, more land is covered with impervious pavement. This means more water reaches streams more quickly and is potentially more contaminated. Communities working together can lessen the degree of contamination and help protect local water resources.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

The Utah County Stormwater Coalition will be providing a few basic tips for protecting our streams, lakes, rivers and wetlands. See the other side of this pamphlet for information about caring for your yard. If you see anyone disposing of household chemicals, paint, oil or concrete truck wastewater into storm drains, ditches, gutters, streams or wetlands, please report it by calling the Utah County Stormwater Hotline at 851-7873.



YOUR YARD

Use natural fertilizers! Do not apply fertilizer to sidewalks or driveways. Only apply as much fertilizer as your soil needs.

Only use pesticides as a last resort! If you must use pesticides, follow directions on product labels and do not apply on exposed or eroding soil. Only use what you will need. Remember, do not apply pesticides on windy or rainy days.

Conserve water! Watering less often develops deep roots and healthier turf. Avoid watering sidewalks and driveways. A lawn-watering guide for Utah can be found at:

www.conservewater.utah.gov/agency/materials/guide/default.asp

Plant wisely! Preserve existing trees and shrubs. Plant native vegetation or plants compatible with the local climate. Plant trees, shrubs, or groundcover that filter pollutants and reduce stormwater runoff.

Plant or leave riparian vegetation along stream banks! Vegetative buffers filter pollutants and help prevent stream bank erosion.

YOUR YARD

Use natural fertilizers! Do not apply fertilizer to sidewalks or driveways. Only apply as much fertilizer as your soil needs.

Only use pesticides as a last resort! If you must use pesticides, follow directions on product labels and do not apply on exposed or eroding soil. Only use what you will need. Remember, do not apply pesticides on windy or rainy days.

Conserve water! Watering less often develops deep roots and healthier turf. Avoid watering sidewalks and driveways. A lawn-watering guide for Utah can be found at:

www.conservewater.utah.gov/agency/materials/guide/default.asp

Plant wisely! Preserve existing trees and shrubs. Plant native vegetation or plants compatible with the local climate. Plant trees, shrubs, or groundcover that filter pollutants and reduce stormwater runoff.

Plant or leave riparian vegetation along stream banks! Vegetative buffers filter pollutants and help prevent stream bank erosion.

YOUR YARD

Use natural fertilizers! Do not apply fertilizer to sidewalks or driveways. Only apply as much fertilizer as your soil needs.

Only use pesticides as a last resort! If you must use pesticides, follow directions on product labels and do not apply on exposed or eroding soil. Only use what you will need. Remember, do not apply pesticides on windy or rainy days.

Conserve water! Watering less often develops deep roots and healthier turf. Avoid watering sidewalks and driveways. A lawn-watering guide for Utah can be found at:

www.conservewater.utah.gov/agency/materials/guide/default.asp

Plant wisely! Preserve existing trees and shrubs. Plant native vegetation or plants compatible with the local climate. Plant trees, shrubs, or groundcover that filter pollutants and reduce stormwater runoff.

Plant or leave riparian vegetation along stream banks! Vegetative buffers filter pollutants and help prevent stream bank erosion.



For information on waste disposal locations, call the Utah County Stormwater Hotline at 851-7873 and watch for additional tips to come in future publications.



For information on waste disposal locations, call the Utah County Stormwater Hotline at 851-7873 and watch for additional tips to come in future publications.



For information on waste disposal locations, call the Utah County Stormwater Hotline at 851-7873 and watch for additional tips to come in future publications.