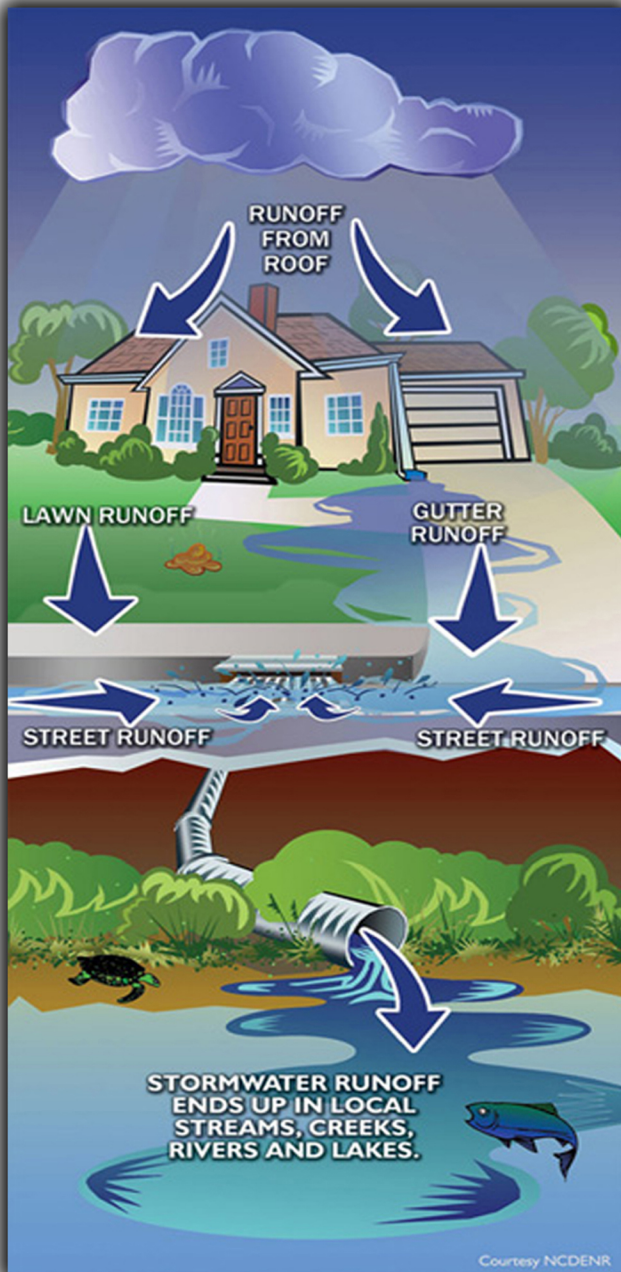


# Household Stormwater Pollution Prevention Tips

Water from our yards and streets flows directly into creeks, rivers, and lakes without ever being treated and cleaned. As it flows to storm drains or ditches, stormwater can pick up debris including oil, dirt, pet waste, garbage, chemicals, and yard waste.



# Household Stormwater Pollution Prevention Tips

## GARBAGE

Garbage entering the stormwater system will eventually make its way into bodies of surface water.

- Keep trash can and dumpster lids closed to prevent trash from blowing out and rain water out.
- Bag your trash to keep it secure in the trash receptacle.
- Do not litter.
- When hauling trash make sure to secure it so it will not blow out of the vehicle.
- Hazardous materials such as paint, oil, and chemicals should be disposed of at designated locations. These materials can spill out of trash receptacles and trash trucks. Never dispose of these materials in the stormwater system.

## VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

When washing a vehicle, pollutants such as soap, oil, grease, and sediment can run off polluting stormwater.

- It is best to wash vehicles at a commercial car wash where the dirty water is collected and treated before being released back into the environment.
- When washing a vehicle at home, vehicles should ideally be washed on the lawn to minimize runoff to the stormwater system.
- Consider using less toxic detergents like dish soap and natural cleaners.
- Properly store and dispose of hazardous materials such as oil, antifreeze, and fuel. Clean up spills of these materials promptly using a dry method like absorbents. Never wash down spill areas.
- Regularly check vehicles for fluid leaks and have them repaired if found.

For more information about stormwater and what you can do to help, contact the City of Shelby Stormwater Division.



**STORMWATER DIVISION**

**PO Box 207**

**Shelby, NC 28151-0207**

**Phone (704) 484-6840**

**cityofshelby.com**

**Email: stormwater@cityofshelby.com**