

## Everyone Lives in a Watershed!

A watershed is an area of land where stormwater runoff ultimately drains to a particular stream, river, wetland, or other body of water. As responsible caretakers of our environment, we must take actions to protect our water resources.

*Stormwater runoff occurs when rain falls and flows over the surface of the ground in the watershed.*

*Hard Surfaces like rooftops, driveways, sidewalks, and streets prevent stormwater from naturally soaking into the ground.*

## Stormwater Runoff can be a Problem!

Stormwater runoff can pick up soil, trash, fertilizer, chemicals, and other debris and carry it into a storm sewer that transports it directly to a lake, stream, river, or wetland in your watershed.

Anything that enters a storm sewer goes untreated into the same waterbodies we use for swimming, fishing, and drinking water. The way you take care of your home and yard impacts water quality.



## For More Stormwater Education and Outreach Materials/Information:

- ❖ NCBC Gulfport Environmental Support Website for Stormwater Management Program Documents and Postings:  
[https://www.cnbc.navy.mil/regions/cnrse/installations/ncbc\\_gulfport/om/environmental\\_support/Storm\\_Water\\_Management\\_Program.html](https://www.cnbc.navy.mil/regions/cnrse/installations/ncbc_gulfport/om/environmental_support/Storm_Water_Management_Program.html)
- ❖ Harrison County Beautification Commission Website:  
<https://www.KeepHarrisonCountyBeautiful.com/>
- ❖ EPA Website for 'NPDES Stormwater Webcasts':  
<https://www.epa.gov/npdes/npdes-stormwater-webcasts>
- ❖ EPA Website for 'Media Campaigns' for Non-point Source Pollution Outreach Tool Box:  
<https://cfpub.epa.gov/npstbx/MediaCampaign.cfm>
- ❖ EPA Website for 'Water Topics':  
<https://www.epa.gov/environmental-topics/water-topics#what-you-can-do>
- ❖ EPA Website for 'Trash-Free Waters':  
<https://www.epa.gov/trash-free-waters>
- ❖ EPA Website for 'NPDES Stormwater Program':  
<https://www.epa.gov/npdes/npdes-stormwater-program>
- ❖ 'National Extension Water Outreach Education' Website: <https://fyi.uwex.edu/wateroutreach/>

This brochure was developed as part of an effort to educate NCBC Gulfport residents about stormwater pollution prevention in accordance with the Phase II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Generic Permit.

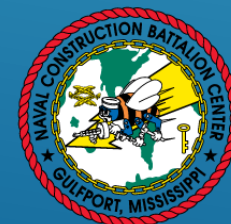
**Your local stormwater program contact:  
NCBC Gulfport Public Works Department  
Environmental Division, Stormwater Manager  
Phone: 228-871-2373**

# Keeping Pollutants Out of Stormwater

## A Family Housing Residents' Guide



## NCBC Gulfport, Mississippi



## NCBC Gulfport Residents Can Protect Stormwater Quality!

- ❖ Purchase and use nontoxic, biodegradable, and recyclable products whenever possible
- ❖ Check vehicles for leaks and recycle used motor oil; never pour it on the ground or into a storm drain
- ❖ Minimize pesticides use
- ❖ Follow directions on fertilizer labels and sweep off driveways, sidewalks, and roads so that chemicals don't run off into the storm drain
- ❖ Compost yard wastes – leaves and grass; don't dump them in ditches or waterways
- ❖ Pick up after your pet; don't let pet waste enter the storm drain
- ❖ Harvest rainwater for plant watering and/or direct gutter downspouts onto vegetated areas and away from paved surfaces
- ❖ Cover and do not overfill trash cans or recycling bins
- ❖ NEVER pour any kind of waste onto the ground or into a storm drain!
  - ❖ Oils and lubricants
  - ❖ Paints or paint chips



Image courtesy of North Carolina Department Environmental Quality

## Be Aware of Non-Stormwater Discharges & Illicit Discharges

Non-stormwater discharges are any discharges other than clean stormwater that end up in the storm sewer or natural waterbodies. Some are allowable:

- ❖ Landscape irrigation
- ❖ Uncontaminated air conditioning condensate
- ❖ Pavement wash water where no spills or leaks of hazardous materials may have occurred and where detergents are not used

Others are prohibited; these are called Illicit discharges:

- ❖ Sanitary sewer overflow
- ❖ Wash water containing detergents
- ❖ Improper oil or antifreeze disposal
- ❖ Improper disposal of household toxics
- ❖ Paint brush rinsing or disposal of paint waste, including chips
- ❖ Pet waste
- ❖ Used cooking oil or grease

Report suspected illicit connections or discharges to the NCBC Gulfport Public Works Department Environmental Office.

