

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Tips



Nonpoint source water pollution (stormwater pollution) occurs when water runs over land or through the ground, picks up contaminants and deposits them in a waterbody or infiltrates to the groundwater.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), nonpoint source pollution is now the leading source of water quality degradation. Water quality degradation can have harmful effects on drinking water supplies, recreation, fisheries, and wildlife.

Here are the top ten ways to prevent stormwater runoff pollution:

1. Keep your septic system working properly
2. Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep up sidewalks, driveways and road
3. Wash your car over the lawn or at a commercial car wash that recycles water
4. Never dump anything down storm drains
5. Collect rain water in barrels for landscaping
6. Vegetate bare spots in your yard
7. Compost your yard waste
8. Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces
9. Check any motor vehicles for leaks and recycle motor oil
10. Pick up after your pet

REMEMBER: Most of Kingston's storm drains do not provide any significant treatment for the removal of pollutants. Things that are dumped into the stormwater system flow directly to our local waterways.