

May 2023 Stormwater Reader

Employees for Stormwater Protection

When it rains, stormwater flows over impervious surfaces such as rooftops, streets, driveways, and parking lots. The runoff collects pollutants, such as oils, fertilizers, pesticides, cleaners, and other chemicals.

Even if your workplace is not near a creek, the runoff will flow into a storm drain or ditch that eventually empties into the closest body of water, taking pollutants along with it. Stormwater runoff is the leading source of water pollution in our community.

Discharges to the stormwater system that are not composed entirely of stormwater are considered illicit discharges. In compliance with federal regulations, the City of Carrollton's goal is to reduce or eliminate these illicit discharges. City staff inspects, investigates, and samples discharges when pollution is observed and, when needed, remediates the environmental impact.

Many city activities can contribute to stormwater pollution, these include road work and construction, mowing, pesticide or fertilizer applications, building maintenance, firefighting training, and many others. You can help by:

- Picking up your trash or not allowing it blow out of your vehicle
- Preventing chemical spills and properly cleaning them up if they do occur
- Blowing grass clippings onto the grass or bagging clippings. Never blowing grass clippings into the street
- Checking the weather before fertilizer application, to ensure there are no rain events
- Reporting spills and illicit discharges

Good housekeeping practices while you are performing your job are essential to help keep pollutants out of our creeks. If you are not involved in any of these activities you can still help the city by reporting polluters to envservices@cityofcarrollton.com or calling 972-466-3060.

