

Storm Water Pollutants

Storm water pollution results from materials and chemicals washed from streets, parking lots, gutters, and neighborhoods. A variety of common contaminants can pollute our storm water if not properly managed.



Motor Oil – Identify and fix oil leaks. Clean up drips and spills with absorbent material.

Pesticides – The use of harmful chemicals on your lawn can be reduced with proper mowing, fertilizing and watering. Apply pesticides per manufacturer instruction and only in areas requiring treatment.

Animal Waste – Pet waste left on the grass releases bacteria and oxygen consuming materials into our waters. Pet owners should always “Scoop the Poop”!

Soaps and Detergents – Detergents may contain phosphorus which contributes to excessive algae production. Use eco-friendly products and prevent runoff if used outdoors.

Yard Debris – Yard waste can clog storm drains and lead to localized flooding. Either compost yard waste or securely bag so that excess yard waste does not enter the drain.

What is Storm Water?

When it rains water runs off hard surfaces such as rooftops, roads, and parking lots. As the storm water runoff flows, it can collect and carry natural pollutants like sediment and man-made pollutants such as oil and fertilizer. Eventually, the runoff will deposit the pollutants into our local streams and oceans. This is called non-point source pollution.



Sewer System vs. Storm Water Drain

Sewer systems and storm water drains are two different things. Water that goes down a sink or toilet flows to a wastewater plant where it receives treatment. Storm water that flows down driveways and roads, or into a storm water drain, typically goes directly to a stream or the ocean with no treatment.



A Resident's Guide to Storm Water Management



Department of Public Works
www.mauicounty.gov/stormwater

Storm water runoff flows directly into our streams and the ocean without treatment

Do your part to be **Storm Water SMART**

Storm Water Matters

If storm water is not managed properly, it can harm the environment causing:

- Increased risk of flooding
- Impaired water quality
- Increased soil erosion
- High volumes of runoff

The goal of storm water management is to reduce the discharge of pollutants into our waterways. County residents can help reduce polluted runoff by taking steps at home to prevent contaminants from entering the storm drain system.



Household Waste Disposal

Leftover household products that contain corrosive, toxic, ignitable, or reactive ingredients are considered to be "household hazardous waste" or "HHW." Improper disposal of products such as paints, cleaners, oils, batteries, and pesticides can pollute the environment and threaten human health.

HHW Tips:

- Follow instructions for disposal on product label
- Utilize County of Maui Recycling Guide for locations that accept HHW
- Evaluate less toxic alternatives
- Do not pour chemicals down storm drains or allow wash water to enter a storm drain

Home Auto Care

Be sure to exercise wise do-it-yourself car maintenance to prevent automotive toxins from polluting our waterways.

- ✓ Recycle used oil and oil filters
- ✓ Use kitty litter to clean up spills
- ✓ Utilize an oil change box for disposal
- ✓ Choose a work area that is easy to clean up and use plastic tarps to capture any release



Car Wash: Utilize a recycled-water-car wash or wash your car at home on grass. Other Storm Water SMART methods include:

- ✓ Use a spray gun with flow restriction and direct runoff to a vegetated area
- ✓ Purchase environmentally friendly cleaning products and use sparingly
- ✓ Dispose leftover soapy water in a grassy area; don't allow dirty water to enter your storm drain

Water that flows down roads and into a storm drain is not treated and goes into the waters where we fish and swim.



Leaf & Lawn Management

Nutrients are essential for good plant growth but over application is not good for plants or storm water. Reduce contaminants from entering the storm drain with proper lawn management:

- ✓ Clear leaf litter away from storm drains and remove debris especially before periods of heavy rain
- ✓ Conduct a soil test to make sure you are applying the right amount of nutrients to your lawn
- ✓ Consider using compost to enhance or replace fertilizers
- ✓ Be careful not to spread fertilizer on sidewalks or driveways; sweep excess from paved surfaces
- ✓ Leave grass clippings on the lawn to act as a natural fertilizer



Be Wise when you Fertilize