



Caring for your car and the environment

Our everyday activities contribute to the pollution of our rivers, streams and lakes.

Storm drains collect rain, melted snow and the water we use on our lawns and to wash our cars. This water is called stormwater.

Oil, gas, soap, litter, animal waste and fertilizer that run over pavement also ends up in storm drains.

Polluted stormwater affects public health, harms fish and wildlife, kills vegetation and makes Nampa's waterways unsafe for swimming or fishing. Clogged storm drains also cause flooding during a storm.

You can reduce pollution in our storm drains. A few easy changes to start with are:

- ◆ Always take your car to a car wash where the rinse water is collected into an approved drain and properly treated.
- ◆ If you wash your car at home, use unpaved surfaces so dirty water won't flow into a driveway, street, gutter or storm drain.
- ◆ Fix car leaks as soon as possible. Leaks cause fluid to drip into the gutter.
- ◆ When changing motor oil or degreasing your car's engine at home, work in an area that is a safe distance from gutters and storm drains.
- ◆ Use drip pans when working on your car.
- ◆ Put used motor oil in a clear, one-gallon container such as a milk jug. Place it at your curb side on garbage pick-up day.
- ◆ Ask your repair shop if they properly dispose of excess fluids when taking your car in for maintenance.

Keeping Nampa's water bodies clean and safe is important for the health of our community.

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Nampa Stormwater Division
 Cheryl Jenkins, Stormwater Program Manager
 (208) 468-5476
stormwater@cityofnampa.us