

Stormwater Pollution Prevention

Did you know that storm drains are NOT connected to the sanitary sewer system or wastewater treatment plant.

The primary purpose of the storm sewer system is to carry rainwater and snowmelt away from developed areas to prevent flooding.

Storm drains flow directly into Stormwater ponds, ditches and the Red River without treatment.

Stormwater pollution comes from a variety of sources, including dirt, debris, automotive fluids, pet waste, pesticides, and other hazardous materials.

The City of Moorhead is committed to improving water quality and reducing the amount of pollution entering waterways.



TRASH

Trash not only pollutes water and can harm aquatic life, it can clog storm drains which results in floods during a heavy rain or snowmelt. Best Management Practices (BMPs) are procedures to help prevent pollutants from entering the storm sewer system. Please do your part to keep stormwater clean.

DUMPSTERS & CONTAINERS

All trash must be placed inside a dumpster or container until it can be hauled away. Dumpsters should always be kept closed to prevent rainwater from entering. Never place liquid waste, leaky garbage bags or hazardous waste in a dumpster. Routinely check the dumpsters for leaks. If a leak is found immediately contact the trash disposal company.

CLEANING

Sweep up around dumpsters frequently to prevent trash from accumulating. Try a dry cleanup method instead of using a hose or pressure washer. Use brooms and absorbents such as kitty litter or sawdust to clean up small spills. Dispose of spill materials properly.

ONLY RAIN IN THE STORM DRAIN

Identify and locate storm drains near your business or home where pollutants could flow from the dumpster or trash bin. Let everyone know that the storm drain flows to the Red River by placing a stencil. Contact the Fargo-Moorhead River Keepers for more information on the Storm Drain Marking Program. If a storm drain is on your private property, check it frequently and clean any debris from the grate. If your private storm drain is clogged, hire a professional to remove the debris.

RECYCLE

Most trash and debris can be recycled and used for other purposes. Items such as cans, plastic bottles, newspapers, office paper, and cardboard can be recycled. Check the Clay County webpage for local recycling centers and the types of materials accepted. (www.co.clay.mn.us)

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Do not place items such as paint, household cleaners, automotive fluids, lawn chemicals or other chemicals inside a dumpster or trash can. Take these items to the Clay County Household Hazardous Waste Facility. Visit the Clay County website for a list of items accepted at the facility.

SPILLS

Keep spill kits in places where they are easily accessible. Immediately report spills that have entered the storm sewer to the Stormwater staff at 218.299.5386. For hazardous spills contact the Moorhead Fire Department.

For more information or to report an illegal discharge, please call 218.299.5386