

# Stormwater Pollution Facts and Ways to Prevent it

1. Only let rain go down the storm drain. When it rains, water hits the grass, roads, and sidewalks and becomes stormwater runoff. After rain goes into the storm drain, it flows to our local creeks and can pick up pollutants along the way. Pollutants are things like trash, oil that leaks from a car, or loose soil particles.

2. Plants and soil filter water and improve water quality.

3. Remember to pick up all your trash and dispose it properly.

4. Sediment (mud, dirt, and soil) is the number one pollutant in Georgia's water.

5. Trash, like plastic rings from sixpacks of soda, bags, food containers, cans, and other garbage that gets into the stormwater runoff, hurts fish, plants, and animals. Litter is unpleasant for people, too.

6. Clean up after your pet when they go to the

bathroom. Too many nutrients in the water, caused by things like fertilizer and animal waste (poop), can create slimy, green algae that can kill fish and make the water smell bad.

8. There are several innovative ways to collect the water from gutter downspouts before it becomes runoff and use it to water plants in your garden.

