

Our Actions Affect Our Rivers and Lakes

Actions Affecting Our Rivers & Lakes

Tips to Prevent Pollution

Maintaining lawns & gardens

Keep fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides off paved surfaces and out of drainage paths. Select a slow-release and low phosphorus formula.

Washing your automobile

Direct polluted wash water away from streets and storm drains. Wash your car on your lawn or better - go to a car wash.

Repairing your automobile

Only repair vehicles in areas where leaks and spills cannot flow toward storm drains, or better - take it to a mechanic.

Caring for pets & other animals

Clean up animal waste before it rains. Throw it in the trash or flush it down your toilet.

Disconnecting / redirecting downspouts

Disconnect downspouts from sewer systems. Direct them into a vegetated area away from building foundations.

Becoming a River & Lake Friendly Partner

Join one of several community organizations*, and / or participate in stream monitoring, storm drain stenciling, or other river and lake friendly neighborhood activities.

Cleaning up debris, spills & leaks

Do not use your hose as a broom. Do not wash or sweep debris, spilled, or leaked materials into storm drains.

Landscaping

Cover bare ground around vegetation with mulch and seed bare ground as soon as possible to reduce erosion.

Managing household hazardous waste

Properly dispose of household hazardous waste and use non-toxic alternatives when possible.

Installing & repairing plumbing

Only connect plumbing in your home to the sanitary sewer.

Installing driveways, walkways & patios

Use paving materials that are porous and / or sloped toward vegetated areas.

Maintaining septic systems

Properly operate, maintain, and clean septic systems.

* Friends of the Detroit River, Friends of the Rouge, and The Stream Team

For more information on preventing pollution to our rivers and lakes, please call the Wayne County 24-Hour Environmental Hotline at (888) 223-2363, or visit our website at <http://www.wcdoe.org>.

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