## STORM WATER EDUCATION

Stormwater is precipitation that does not soak into the ground, but instead runs off the surface. As stormwater flows over driveways, lawns, and sidewalks, it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt and other pollutants. Stormwater flows directly into storm sewer systems and water bodies such as lakes, streams, rivers, wetlands, or coastal waters. In most cases, whatever enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the water bodies we use for swimming, fishing, and drinking water supply.

## KEEP OUR STORM DRAINS CLEAR OF TRASH & DEBRIS

When grass clipping, leaves, or other debris are washed or dumped into our storm sewer inlets, drainage can be delayed or blocked. To prevent this, sweep up grass clippings from paved surfaces and dispose of them properly. Compost or mulch yard waste when possible. Rake leaves regularly so they remain out of the streets and gutters. Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly so excess chemicals do not wash into the storm drain and pollute water bodies. Ensure all trash and recyclables are properly secured and disposed. Performing these standard practices will help keep the storm sewer clean from pollutants and help prevent flooding.

## STORM DRAINS ARE FOR

## **RAIN WATER ONLY**

By practicing healthy household habits, homeowners can keep common pollutants off the ground and out of the storm sewer system. Clean up spilled fluids with absorbent materials and don't rinse into a nearby storm drain. Recycle used oil and other automotive fluids at service stations. When walking your pet, pick up pet waste and dispose of it properly. Whenever possible, drain your pool or spa into the sanitary sewer system. Adopt these healthy household habits and help protect our water bodies.

If you observe pollution violations:

CALL: (281) 367 - 5511

MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS & CONSULTING

