

Pet Care

- When walking your pet, remember to pick up the waste and dispose of it properly.
- Clean up after your pet. Bury or dispose of waste in the trash (not in a storm drain or canal). Pet wastes can be a source of bacteria and excess nutrients to local waterways.



Swimming Pool and Spa

- Drain your swimming pool only when a test kit does not detect chlorine levels.
- Whenever possible, drain your pool or spa into the sanitary sewer system.



Septic System Use and Maintenance

- Have your septic system inspected by a professional at least every 3 years, and have the septic tank pumped as necessary (usually every 3 to 5 years.)
- Care for the septic system drain field by not driving or parking vehicles on it.
- Don't flush Household chemicals like paint, pesticides, oil, anti-freeze and other items, such as diapers, paper towels, and cat litter.



“When it RAINS, it DRAINS”

CONTACTS

To report a **spill, illegal dumping** or learn more about **waste disposal** contact the City of Ft. Pierce at:

(772) 467-3782
(Pollution Prevention Hotline)

(772) 467-3794
(Public Works)

(772) 467-3720
(Code Enforcement)

(561) 686-8800
(SFWMD)



As stormwater flows over driveways, lawns, and sidewalks, it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt and other pollutants. Stormwater can flow into a storm system or directly to a lake, stream, river, wetland, or coastal water. Anything that enters a storm system is discharged into the water bodies we use for swimming, fishing, and providing drinking water. Polluted runoff is the nation's greatest threat to clean water.

By practicing healthy household habits, Homeowners can keep common pollutants like pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings, and automotive fluids off the ground and out of stormwater. Adopt these healthy household habits and help protect lakes streams, rivers, wetlands, and coastal waters.

Healthy Household Habits for Clean Water

Vehicle and Garage

- Use a commercial car wash or wash your car on the grass.
- Check your car, boat, motorcycle, and other machinery and equipment for leaks and spills.
- Clean up spilled fluids with an absorbent material like kitty litter or sand, and don't rinse the spills into a nearby storm drain.
- Recycle used oil and other automotive fluids at participating service stations.

Paint Cleanup

- Never clean brushes or rinse paint containers into a street, gutter or storm drain.
- For water-based paints, paint out brushes to the greatest extent possible and rinse in the sink.
- For oil-based paints, paint out brushes to the greatest extent possible, clean them with thinner and then, filter and reuse the thinner or solvent.

Lawn and Garden

- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly.
- Select native plants and grasses that are drought and pest-resistant.
- Sweep up yard debris, rather than hosing down areas. Compost or recycle yard waste when possible.
- Don't over-water your lawn. Water during the coolest times of the day.
- Cover piles of dirt and mulch to prevent these pollutants from blowing or washing off.
- Vegetate bare spots in your yard to prevent soil erosion.
- Do not blow or rake leaves into the street, gutter or storm drains.
- Use organic or non-toxic fertilizers.
- Do not over-fertilize and do not fertilize near ditches, streams or other water bodies.
- Store pesticides, fertilizers and other chemicals in a covered area to prevent possible runoff of these contaminants.

