CLEAN WATERWAYS IN WILMINGTON

Clean water – it is something that we simply cannot live without. Here in Wilmington, we are surrounded by waterways that flow to the Delaware River, and our drinking water comes from the Brandywine.
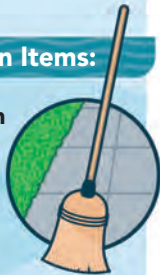
Urban areas like ours are covered in hard surfaces – buildings, sidewalks, parking lots and streets. When it rains, the water that cannot soak into the ground flows to storm drains and carries many pollutants to local streams and rivers. Sanitary sewers flow to treatment plants, but storm sewers flow directly to the waterways.

The City of Wilmington works hard to reduce stormwater runoff and water pollution, but we need everyone's help to keep Wilmington's water clean!

Citizen's Clean Water Action Items:

Sweep Walkways with a Broom Instead of a Hose
Sweeping creates no polluted runoff – and won't increase your water bill!

Wash Vehicles at a Car Wash
Oily grime and chemicals are rinsed into storm drains and pollute waterways when you wash cars on the street.

Catch Rain with Downspout Planters and Rain Barrels
Reduce runoff, beautify your home & water your plants without raising your water bill!

Use City-Issued Trash Cans with Lids
Trash in the street = trash in storm drains and streams.

Only Rain Down the Drain
Never use storm drains as waste dumps. Take household hazardous wastes to designated collection locations for proper disposal.

Maintain Vehicles
Engine fluids leaking on streets will wash into local creeks. Recycle used motor oil at participating service stations.

Reduce the Use of Toxic Substances
Rain carries lawn chemicals to local creeks, so use sparingly or switch to natural products.

Pick up Dog Poo – In the Park, In the Street, and in Your Yard
You can flush it or put it in the trash. Bacteria from dog waste pollutes local creeks.

Plant Trees and Gardens
Long roots from trees and other large plants capture much more water than lawn grass.

Prevent Pollution

Water Pollution is a Crime – and you can StoPPit!
Call or text **(302) STO-PPIT**
Visit *reportitiresolveit.wilmingtonde.gov*

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