

# WHAT DOES YOUR STORMWATER UTILITY FEE PAY FOR?

1. Fulfilling Federal permit requirements.
2. Water quality testing.
3. Cleaning, maintenance, and repair of storm drains, curbs, pipes, and catch basins.
4. Engineering and design for flood reduction projects.
5. Stormwater infrastructure inventory and mapping.
6. Construction site erosion prevention inspections.
7. Water pollution investigation and prevention.
8. Educational programs for schools, community groups, businesses, and the general public.

If you have a spill, please contact the ACC Stormwater Management Program at (706) 613-3440 to learn how to properly clean it up. This can prevent a violation.

To report illicit discharges and stream pollution, call our Stormwater Hotline at (706) 614-1282.

## For More Information

Stormwater Management Program (706) 613-3440

Email: [stormwater@athensclarkecounty.com](mailto:stormwater@athensclarkecounty.com)

Website: [www.athensclarkecounty.com/stormwater](http://www.athensclarkecounty.com/stormwater)

ACC Public Utilities Department (706) 613-3470

ACC Planning Department (706) 613-3515

ACC Solid Waste Department (706) 613-3512

ACC Landfill (706) 613-3508



Athens-Clarke County  
Transportation and Public Works Department  
Stormwater Management Program  
120 West Dougherty Street  
Athens, Georgia 30601

[www.athensclarkecounty.com/stormwater](http://www.athensclarkecounty.com/stormwater)

FROM STREET TO STREAM,  
LET'S PROTECT OUR  
WATER RESOURCES



Athens-Clarke County  
Stormwater Management Program



# PROTECTING THE CLASSIC CITY'S WATER RESOURCES

## What is stormwater?

Stormwater is water that runs off parking lots, roofs, driveways, and streets into our storm drains. What most people do not realize is that stormwater picks up pollutants that can contaminate our waterways.



## Why does stormwater matter?

Even if you live miles away from a stream, you may be polluting it without knowing it. When it rains, pollutants from our homes, yards, and cars get washed into gutters that lead to storm drains.

## Where do these pollutants go?

These pollutants flow through the stormwater system directly into our streams, rivers, and lakes. Stormwater does not go to a water reclamation plant for treatment.

## Substances that harm water quality:

- Oils
- Paints
- Fertilizers
- Pesticides
- Carwash suds
- Sediment
- Grass clippings
- Leaves
- Pet waste
- Trash
- Auto fluids
- Household cleaners



## What if one of these substances gets dumped or washed down the drain?

It is called an illicit discharge and is a violation of ACC ordinances. An illicit discharge is any discharge or dumping of materials into the stormwater management system that is not composed entirely of stormwater.



## Are there penalties for illicit discharges?

**Yes.** Violators will be required to remediate the discharge and may be fined.

**If you see an illicit discharge, call the Stormwater Hotline at (706) 614-1282**

## Why is stormwater pollution a concern?

Stormwater pollution negatively impacts our drinking water sources. In Athens-Clarke County, our drinking water comes from the Middle Oconee River and the North Oconee River. We use these water resources for recreation and enjoy their aesthetic beauty.

Humans are not the only ones who depend on our water resources for survival. Fish, birds, and other wildlife depend on them as well.

## What can I do to prevent stormwater pollution?

- Pick up after your pet and dispose of their waste in the trashcan.
- Compost your yard trimmings or take them to the ACC Landfill.
- Use pesticides and fertilizers according to the label. Do not overuse. Alternative methods are easy to use, work well, and are inexpensive.
- Take your car to a carwash, wash it on grass, or in an area that drains into the grass.
- Get your car checked regularly for oil, gas, and antifreeze leaks. Never dispose of these fluids in the driveway, street, or storm drain.
- Dispose of paint according to the label and take it to the ACC Landfill.
- Pick up your trash. Please do not litter.
- Install rain barrels to capture rain water for yard watering uses.
- Build rain gardens to filter out pollutants in stormwater.



**ONLY RAIN DOWN THE STORM DRAIN!**